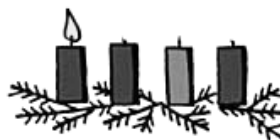


Grace Episcopal Church

The First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023

The Holy Eucharist: Rite I - 10:30 a.m.



PRELUDE

The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns - W. Held

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

INTROIT (vv. 1-2)

(Choir only)

O come, O come, Emmanuel

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #57 *(In the Blue Hymnal)*

Lo! he comes, with clouds descending

*Lo! he comes, with clouds descending,
once for our salvation slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia!
Christ the Lord returns to reign.*

*Every eye shall now behold him,
robed in dreadful majesty;
those who set at nought and sold him,
pierced, and nailed him to the tree,
deeply wailing,
shall the true Messiah see.*

*Those dear tokens of his passion
still his dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshipers;
with what rapture
gaze we on those glorious scars!*

*Yea, amen! let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the power and glory;
claim the kingdom for thine own:
Alleluia!
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.*

323 OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.



159 THE COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 64:1-9

Lector A Reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah.

O that you would tear open the heavens and
come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your
presence--
as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil--
to make your name known to your
adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your
presence!
When you did awesome deeds that we did not
expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at
your presence.
From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.

But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy
cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us
away.
There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our
iniquity.
Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

- The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 80:1-7, 16-18 (*responsively by whole verse*)

¹ Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

² **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us.**

³ Restore us, O God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

⁴ **O LORD God of hosts,
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?**

⁵ You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

⁶ **You have made us the derision of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

¹⁶ **Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand,
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.**

¹⁷ And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

¹⁸ **Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

THE EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Lector A Reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

- The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN #73 (vv. 1-3)

The King shall come when morning dawns

*The King shall come when morning dawns
and light triumphant breaks;
when beauty gilds the eastern hills
and life to joy awakes.*

*Not, as of old, a little child,
to bear, and fight, and die,
but crowned with glory like the sun
that lights the morning sky.*

*The King shall come when morning dawns
and earth's dark night is past;
O haste the rising of that morn,
the day that e'er shall last;*

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened,
 and the moon will not give its light,
 and the stars will be falling from heaven,
 and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

-- The Gospel of the Lord **People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

SEQUENCE HYMN #73 (v. 5)

The King shall come when morning dawns

*The King shall come when morning dawns
 and light and beauty brings:
 Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy people pray,
 come quickly, King of kings.*

THE ADVENT WREATH - The First Candle: The Candle of Hope

The congregation remains standing

The Reader:

Today is the First Sunday of Advent, the Sunday in which we recall the hope we have in Christ. The prophets of Israel spoke of the coming of Christ, of a Savior to be born, a King in the line of David. They spoke of how he would rule the world wisely and bless all nations. At Christmas, the hope of the world was born, Jesus Christ, the Son of God. On Good Friday He died. On Easter day He rose from the dead. He then ascended into heaven. On the last day, Jesus Christ, our hope, will come again to fulfill his Kingdom on the Earth and to bring to completion his mission among us.

We light this candle in HOPE to remember that, just as he came to us at Christmas, he will come again in power to deliver his faithful people. The light of this candle also reminds us to be alert and to watch in anticipation for his glorious return.

We now light the Hope Candle.

Here the candle is lighted.

The Reader:

Psalm 33:20-22

Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and shield. Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name. Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

Let us pray.

The People:

Loving God, we thank you for the hope you have given us in your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Help us to be ready and alert as we prepare our hearts for his glorious coming. Amen.

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Edward T. Kelaher

326 THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only
Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate
from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the
living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the
giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is
worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and
apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

328 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other Ministers, especially **Michael**, our Presiding Bishop, **Samuel and Jennifer** our bishops, and **Ed** our priest, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments. Lord in Your mercy **Hear our prayer**

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

Lord in Your mercy **Hear our prayer**

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land especially **Joe**, our President, **Roy** our Governor, **Jason** our mayor, and **John** our Councilman, **Tommy** our Councilman-Elect, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Lord in Your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty. Lord in Your mercy **Hear our prayer**

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Silence

We pray for all who are traveling, especially **Cameron** Klass, **Julia** Klass, and **Josey** Parker and those with special needs:

Lou Adkins, **Mark** Adkins, **Amanda** Amon, **Ella** Asebes, **David** Bankston, **Rhonda** Bralkowski, **Alice** Brandon & family, **Gayle** Burke, **Art** Burkhardt, **Emily** Duquette Byers, **Seraphina** Byers, **Lynne** Cleckley, **John** Clippard, **Joan** Clodfelter, **Linda** Clodfelter, **Morgan** Curia, **Tracy** Davis, **Susan** Dixon, **Renee** Ewbank, **Cathy** Farley, **Jenny** Gallen, **Shana** Garland, **Jane** Grimes, **George** Hanna, **Rob** Hare, **Kristen** Harris, **Nancy** Hinkle, **Lucy** Hodge, **Chris** Hodges, **Jon** Huff, **Jahiya** Huntley, **Greg** Hutchins, **Tanya** Johnson, **Chris** Kearley, **Lindsay** Layfield, **Cara** Lee, **Beattie** Logan, **Warren** MacKinstry, **Debbie** Mason, **Kate** McKenzie, **Roan** Mitchell, **Dan & Fran** Moore, **Ronnie** Moretz, **O'Lema** Morgan, **Chocolate** Myers, **Howard** Palmer, **Jerry** Peace, **Fred** Pfohl, **Gabby** Plott, **Pat** Plummer, **Libby** Robert, **Gail** Rogers, **Jacklyn** Rojas, **Lucas** Sanabria, **Suzy** Sheets, **Patty** Short, **Talmadge** Silversides, **Annabell** Smith, **Martha Ellen** Smith, **Jackie** Touchton, **Brenda** Tyndall, **Lou** Van Dyke, **Perry** Grimes Van Dyke, **Kathy** Watson, **Flynn** Williams, **Henry** Williams, **Mary & Jay** Williams, **Vickie** Wolfe, and **Charlotte** Young.

“Are there others?”

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate.
Amen.

331 CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SINS

Celebrant Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

Celebrant and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved thee with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Minister may then say one or more of the following sentences, first saying

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1:15*

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.

1 John 2:1-2

332 THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Zion Hears the Watchmen Singing - Walther/Schweizer

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

The offering is brought forward as the hymn is sung.

PRESENTATION HYMN #76 (v. 5)

On Jordan's bank

5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

340 THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Eucharistic Prayer II*)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

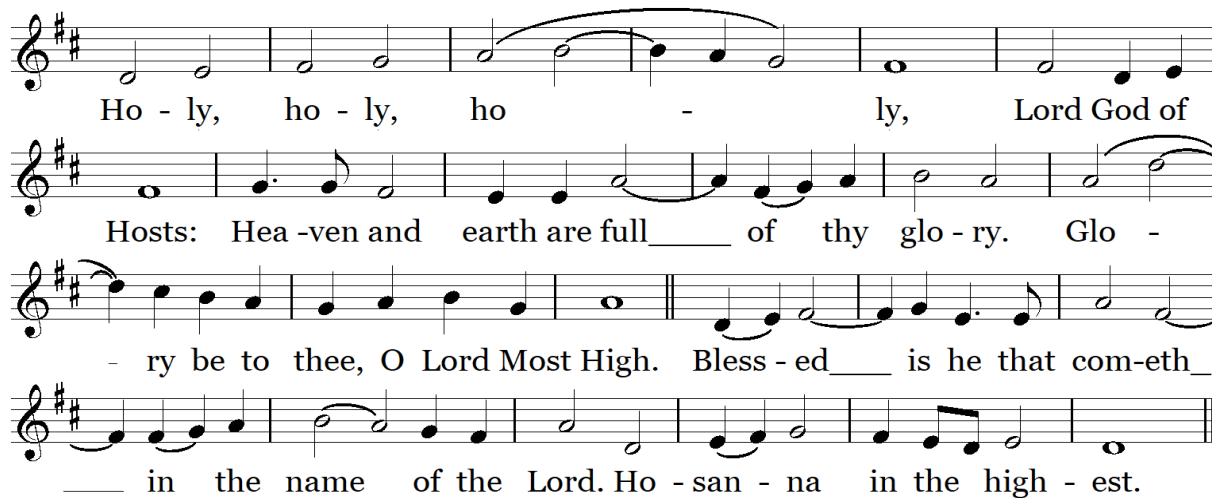
Celebrant

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because thou didst send thy beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and singing,

SANCTUS
#S114



The people may stand or kneel

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

336

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

337 THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People Therefore, let us keep the feast.

337 FRACTION ANTHEM AND PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

<i>Celebrant</i>	<i>People</i>
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,	have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,	have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,	grant us thy peace.

Celebrant and People

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

338 INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.
Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All baptized Christians are invited to come forward for Holy Communion at the Lord's Table.

You may receive both the bread and wine, or only the bread or only the wine.

Receiving Communion in one or both forms is sufficient sacramentally.

If you prefer neither bread nor wine, you also are invited to come forward and to simply cross your arms over your chest as a sign for the minister to provide you with a holy blessing of the Lord.

339 POST-COMMUNION PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom.

And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE ADVENT BLESSING

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you in holy light as you remain steadfast in faith, filled with joy, encouraged in hope, and constant in love. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION HYMN (*Hymn #14 from Lift Every Voice and Sing II*)

Soon and very soon

*Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!*

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

*No more cryin' there we are goin' to see the King,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!*

*No more dyin' there we are goin' to see the King,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!*

*Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King;
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!*

339 THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Wake, Awake - C. Callahan

*The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God
by Shirley Remsburg
in loving memory of my daughter, Robin E. Remsburg,
and my husband, Clinton "Bill" Remsburg.*

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Lector: Kathy Young
Intercessor: Staley Nance
LEMs: Pam Harvey, Tommy Black
Greeter: Sandy Reynolds
Ushers: Joe Wallace, Sims Riggan
Acolytes: Kate Inabinett, Ward Inabinett, Analise Petruzzi



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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The Most Reverend Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop
The Right Reverend Samuel Rodman, Diocesan Bishop
The Right Reverend Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, Assistant Bishop

The Reverend Edward T. Kelaher, Rector
Joan Clodfelter, Minister of Music
Kathy Johnson, Christian Education Director
Maureen Tincher, Parish Administrator
John Taylor, Facilities Manager

THE VESTRY

2024
Lynn Meeks Treasurer
Sandy Reynolds Asst. Clerk
Logan Sheets
Susan Terrell

2025
Wes Allred Sr. Warden
Thompson Miller Asst. Treasurer
Marjorie Parker Jr. Warden
Marilyn Taylor

2026
Karl Bolstad
Bright Carter
Sally Dodd Clerk
Henry Duquette Asst. Jr. Warden

Vestry Person of the Month for December is Karl Bolstad.