

\*Please note, this service is being live-streamed on YouTube. Anyone in the room may be "on camera"\*

SEPTEMBER 13TH  
2020 AT 9AM

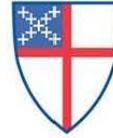
# 15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



LARGE PRINT

# God loves you. No exceptions.

The Episcopal Church Welcomes You.



Greetings! We're delighted you are here, and want for you to be comfortable so you can worship God and enjoy your visit today. We suspect you may have some questions. Everybody you see here was a newcomer at one time, and we've *all* had questions- probably some of the same you have today.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, St. Thomas's is alive and well. We are worshiping both in –person with appropriate precautions, and live streaming on YouTube. The full-text bulletins for our services can be found on our website, and by email request. We also continue to respond to the needs of the Newark Community through our collaboration with the Newark Empowerment Center and others. Those who would like to support our work may do so by going to our “Giving to St Thomas's” page.

Our prayers are with all those who are ill, all who are caring for them, and all who are striving to hear the voice of God in these challenging times.

## Our weekly services:

**Sunday 9am- Rite II (sung Eucharist)**

**Wednesday 12:00pm- Intercessory Prayer with Holy Eucharist**

**Thursday 7pm- evening Compline Prayer live via Zoom**

The Christian life is a source of endless fascination. Just when we think we have seen and heard everything it has to offer, something new turns up. Committing to a life of learning and growing in the faith is an excellent way to make sure there is always enough fuel in the spiritual tank.

There are many opportunities for Christian growth within our parish. During this time of social distancing, many of our meetings are happening online. Our groups include:

- Children's Ministries, age 18mo-6<sup>th</sup> grade
- Youth CREW, 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades
- Youth Confirmation, grades 7 and 8
- ECM, college age students
- The Parlor Class, adult ed
- Novel Theology, all ages
- Lectionary Bible Study, all ages

In addition to these groups, we also welcome the occasional guest speaker or activity during coffee hour, as well as special 6-week lecture series. For more information about any of our educational offerings, please visit our website: [www.stthomasparish.org](http://www.stthomasparish.org).

In the Episcopal Church, everybody doesn't always do things the same way. But, **when you're worshipping God, you can't get it wrong!** If you need help, ask your question in the Live Chat, or contact Fr Howie directly. We are friendly, helpful people here at St Thomas. Please bear in mind, regardless of what anybody else is doing, do what makes you comfortable.

Thank you for joining us today, and we hope to see you again soon!

# Procession

*instrumental*

## THE WORD OF GOD

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

**People** And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

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

### The Gloria

S-278

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, — and peace to his peo - ple on  
earth. — Lord God, heav'n - ly King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, — we  
wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise — you for — your glo - ry.  
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, — Lord God, Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are  
seat - ed at the right — hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.  
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, —  
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly - Spi - rit,  
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. — A - - - men.

## The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

**People** And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Most mighty and merciful God, in this time of great sickness, we flee to you for comfort. Deliver us, we pray, from our peril; give strength and skill to all who minister to the sick; prosper our efforts to protect and heal; and grant that, being aware of the frailty and uncertainty of our life, we may apply our hearts to that heavenly wisdom that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## First Lesson

Genesis 50:15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 103:1-13**                      Benedic, anima mea

1 Bless the Lord, O my soul, \*  
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.

2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, \*  
and forget not all his benefits.

3 He forgives all your sins \*  
and heals all your infirmities;

4 He redeems your life from the grave \*  
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;

5 He satisfies you with good things, \*  
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

6 The Lord executes righteousness \*  
and judgment for all who are oppressed.

7 He made his ways known to Moses \*  
and his works to the children of Israel.

8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.

9 He will not always accuse us, \*  
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \*  
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, \*  
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

12 As far as the east is from the west, \*

so far has he removed our sins from us.

13 As a father cares for his children, \*  
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

## **Epistle Lesson**

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.

**Gradual**

*Vespers)*

Laudate Dominum (*Solemn*

Helen Spence, *Soprano*

Laudate Dominum omnes gentes,

*Praise the Lord, all ye nations,*

Laudate Dominum omnes pouli;

*Praise Him, all ye peoples.*

Quoniam confirmata est

*For He has bestowed*

Super nos misericordia eius,

*His mercy upon us,*

Et veritas Domini manet in aeternum.

*And the truth of the Lord endures forever.*

Gloria Patri et Filio.....

*Glory to the Father and to the Son.....*

*All stand*

**The Gospel**

Matthew 18:21-35

*Deacon* The Lord be with you.

**People** And also with you.

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**People** Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven

times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

*Deacon*            The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*            **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon**

Fr Howie

**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.

Prayers of the People

*Leader* With faith and confidence, let us pray to the Lord.

We offer a prayer of thanks for people everywhere who labor for the spread of the Gospel. May we be joined with them heart to heart, and hand to hand. We ask for the grace to remember that every act of kindness, however simple, builds the Kingdom of God. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

We offer a prayer of gratitude for the bishops and others who lead Christian communities around the world, especially Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Kevin, our Bishop. May they be faithful pastors and wise guides. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

We offer a prayer of support for the leaders of the nations, especially our President, our Governor, our Mayor, and all those running for office this year. May they have zeal for justice and abundant mercy. We ask for the grace to recall that we also share in the stewardship of creation. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

We offer a prayer of hope for the needs of our nearest neighbors. May we have the eyes to see their needs and the hands to help meet them. We ask for the grace to follow in our Lord's footsteps, working to bring hope and new life to the world. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

We offer a prayer of fellowship with all human labor. We ask for the grace to be able to see in all work a reflection of the hand that created all things. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

We offer a prayer of safety for all who serve in the armed forces, all who go in harm's way to protect others, and all who carry the scars of their service. We remember especially those we name now, aloud or in our hearts. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

We offer a prayer of concern for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially those listed in this morning's service leaflet and those we name now, aloud or in our hearts. May they have comfort and hope, and may we be instruments of God's peace in their lives. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

We offer a prayer of fellowship with all our partners in mission, especially the Anglican Church of South America and for Christ Church, Delaware City. May we stand shoulder to shoulder with them in sharing God's redeeming love. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

We offer a prayer of thanks for all the blessings we have received. May they strengthen us to live with joy and gratitude. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

We offer a prayer of peace for all who have died, especially those who have gone before us in this church and all those we remember now, aloud or in our hearts. May they rest from all their labors, and may we join with them in the Communion of the Saints. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Father,  
**guide our hands,**  
**gladden our hearts,**  
**and accept these prayers for Jesus' sake.**  
**Amen.**

## **Confession of Sin**

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

## **The Peace**

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People** And also with you.

*At this point in the service the offerings of the faithful would normally be taken up. In this strange time, the church is aware that some of its members are struggling to make ends meet. If you are in this situation, please let the clergy know of your needs, pray for the church, and feel no guilt about your giving. But if you are able to give, options for giving include mailing a check to your church or online giving is available at [stthomasparish.org](http://stthomasparish.org).*

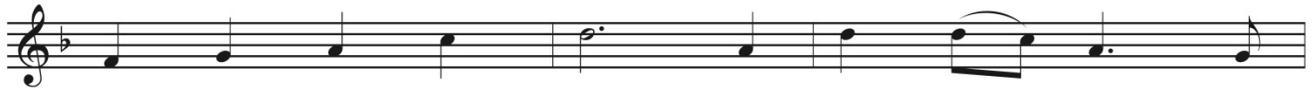
# Offertory Anthem

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive

Hymnal 674



1. "For - give our sins as we \_\_\_ for - give" you  
2. How can your par - don reach and \_\_\_ bless the  
3. In blaz - ing light your cross \_\_\_ re - veals the  
4. Lord, cleanse the depths with - in \_\_\_ our \_\_\_ souls, and



taught us, Lord, to pray; but you a - lone can  
un - for - giv - ing heart that broods on \_\_\_ wrongs and  
truth we dim - ly knew, how small the \_\_\_ debts are  
bid re - sent - ment cease; to God and \_\_\_ neigh - bor



grant - us - grace to live the words we say.  
will \_\_\_ not \_\_\_ let old bit - ter - ness de - part?  
owed to \_\_\_ us, how great our debt to you.  
then \_\_\_ re - con - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

vv. 3, 4 alt. Marc F. Cheban

## Presentation of the Offerings

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

**People** And also with you.

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

**People** We lift them to the Lord.

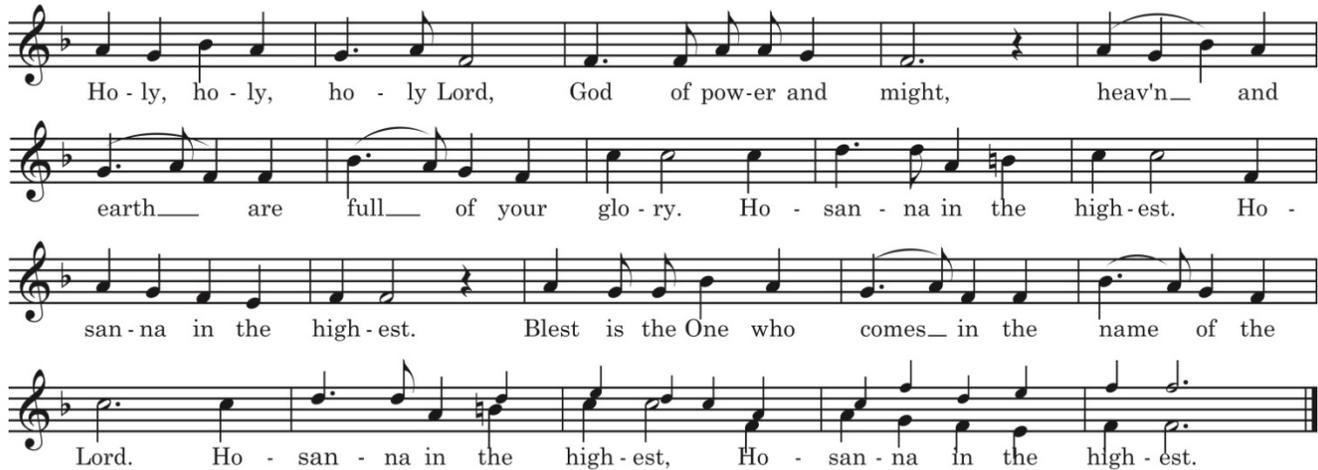
*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.  
[Proper Preface] Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with

Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

S-125



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav'n and  
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Blest is the One who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Richard Proulx

*The people stand or kneel.*

*The Celebrant continues* We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,  
*Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory.**

*The Celebrant continues* And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Thomas, Blessed Nicholas and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior  
Christ has taught us,  
we are bold to say,

**All 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.

### The Breaking of the Bread

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

### Fraction Anthem

### Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
grant us peace.

*Celebrant* Behold the Lamb of God,  
Behold Him who takes away the sins of the world;  
Happy are they who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

*O Lord, I am not worthy that you should  
come under my roof,  
but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.*

### The Communion

### Postcommunion Prayer

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**All** Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Announcements

### Blessing of Birthdays and Anniversaries

## The Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you always. Amen.

## At the Procession

O Bless the Lord, my Soul

Hymnal 411



1. O bless the Lord, my\_\_ soul! His\_\_ grace to\_\_ thee pro - claim!
2. O bless the Lord, my\_\_ soul! His\_\_ mer - cies bear in mind!
3. He will not al - ways chide; he\_\_ will with pa - tience wait;
4. He par - dons all thy\_\_ sins, pro - longs thy\_\_ fee - ble breath;
5. He clothes thee with his\_\_ love, up - holds thee with his truth;
6. Then bless his ho - ly\_\_ Name, whose grace hath made thee whole,



And all that is with - in\_\_ me\_\_ join to bless his\_\_ ho - ly Name!  
 For - get not all his ben - e - fits! The Lord to\_\_ thee is kind.  
 his wrath is ev - er slow to\_\_ rise and rea - dy\_\_ to a - bate.  
 he heal - eth thine in - fir - mi - ties and ran - soms thee from death.  
 and like the ea - gle he\_\_ re - news the vi - gor of thy youth.  
 whose lov - ing - kind - ness crowns thy\_\_ days: O bless the Lord, my soul!

## Dismissal

*Deacon* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

*The cover picture this morning is a stock photo of precious metal ingots.*



## LEADERSHIP OF ST THOMAS'S

StThomasParish.org 302.368.4644

### The Vestry

Rector's Warden: Joy Lynam  
Treasurer: Amy Keach

People's Warden: Mark Burchess  
Clerk of the Vestry: DJ Ferguson

#### Class of 2021

Denise Burgher  
Larry Duggan  
DJ Ferguson  
Joy Lynam

#### Class of 2022

Mark Burchess  
LaRue Manning  
Jamie Sloan  
Kelly Tompkins

#### Class of 2023

Barbara Graham  
Jill Englund Jensen  
Madeline Johnson  
Kristin Sausville

<b>RECTOR</b>		
The Rev. Howell Sasser	704.578.4724	howell.sasser@gmail.com
<b>DEACON</b>		
The Rev. Deacon Cecily Sawyer Harmon	302.530.3593	csawhar@udel.edu
<b>PRIEST ASSOCIATE</b>		
The Rev. Juan George	302.834.8341	georgevjtaurus@yahoo.com
<b>ORGANIST &amp; CHOIR DIRECTOR</b>		
Marc F. Cheban	302.220.9680	Alb2celeste@yahoo.com
<b>PARISH ADMINISTRATOR</b>		
Cana Hartman	302.354.3277	Cana.hartman@gmail.com
<b>REGISTRAR</b>		
Wendy Campbell	302.368.9562	Wjcampbell7@yahoo.com
<b>ECM (Episcopal Campus Ministry)</b>		
Denise Burgher, convening advisor	323.627.4782	dburgher@udel.edu
Devon Miller-Duggan, faculty advisor	302.388.4758	
<b>SEXTON</b>		
Brian Smith	302.368.4644	