

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

LARGE PRINT

MAY 9TH
AT 9AM

LIVE ON YOUTUBE



6TH SUNDAY OF
EASTER

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-6th grade
- Youth CREW, 7th-12th 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.

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!

PSB: Praying Shapes Believing

Whether it is your first time, or your thousandth, reading, reciting, and praying the traditional Rite II worship, it is worthwhile to ask why. In this section of the leaflet, we will examine some of our prayers and collects to help us find more meaning and connection in the ritual.

The Lectionary

In most cases, we read one lesson each from the Old Testament, the letters and other documents of the New Testament, and the Gospels. During the Easter season, the Old Testament lesson is replaced by one from the Acts of the Apostles.

What is it?

The public reading of portions of the Bible comes to Christian worship from the synagogue service of Judaism. The three-year cycle of readings that we follow covers much of the four Gospels and writings of St Paul and others, but only touches on a few significant stories in the Old Testament.

Why do we do it?

Scripture is our library of the history of God's relationship with humankind. Reading it week by week reminds us of God's past actions and shines a light on our lives today. The combination of story, poetry, wisdom, and visionary dreaming shows us something new even after many years of hearing.

What it says about God

God speaks truth to us in many ways.

It is a paradox that God is both mysterious and wishes to be known.

Messages for how we live

Every aspect, every emotion of our lives is part of God's story. Daily contact with God's story blesses and changes our own.

For more – Read a Bible story and think about who you are in it.

Prelude

Procession

O Love of God

Hymnal 455



1. O Love of God, how strong and true, e - ter - nal
2. O wide - em - brac - ing, won - drous Love, we read thee
3. We read thee best in him who came to bear for
4. We read thy power to bless and save e'en in the



and yet ev - er_ new; un - com - pre - hend - ed and un -
in the sky a - bove; we read thee in the earth be -
us the cross of_ shame, sent by the Fa - ther from on
dark - ness of the grave; still more in re - sur - rec - tion



bought, be - yond all know - ledge and all thought.
low, in seas that swell and streams that flow.
high, our life to live, our death to die.
light we read the full - ness of thy might.

THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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

Gloria in excelsis

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 - might - y 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.

William Mathias

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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

Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 98

Cantate Domino

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,
*
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

Epistle Lesson

1 John 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

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

Gradual

One Thing I Ask of Thee

H. Schutz (1585-1672)

Helen Spence, *Soprano*

Laura Czekaj, *Mezzo-Soprano*

One thing I ask of thee, Lord, and this is my prayer,
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord forevermore,
Beholding the holy presence of the Father
within the holy temple of the Lord God.

All stand

The Gospel

John 15:9-17

Deacon The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

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

The Sermon

Fr Sasser

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

With joy and gladness, let us pray to the Lord.

For the Church throughout the world, that it may be a sign of new life to the weary and the lost, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, show us your light.

For all the leaders of the Church, that they may lead us in paths of peace and renewal, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, show us your light.

For the nations of the world and those who lead them, that they may strive for justice and a new birth of freedom, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, show us your light.

For the peace of the world, that those who use violence and those who condone it may have a change of heart, mind, and soul, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, show us your light.

For all whose labor eases our lives, especially those who work in health care, long-term care, and hospice, that they may know themselves to be the hands of God, and may see God's holy angels at work among them, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, show us your light.

For the sick, the disabled, and all who suffer, especially those we name now, aloud or in our hearts, that they may see new growth from branches long barren, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, show us your light.

For The Anglican Church of Kenya, and for St Paul's Church, Camden, that they may know and share the joy of the empty cross and empty tomb, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, show us your light.

For all who serve in the armed forces and all who go in harm's way to protect others, especially those we name now, aloud or in our hearts, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, show us your light.

For those who have died, especially those we name now, aloud or in our hearts, that they may have light and peace, and rest with all the saints, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, show us your light.

With saint and angels, we proclaim:

[All say together]

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death with death, and bringing life to those who dwell in tombs. 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.

Offertory Hymn

New Songs of Celebration

Hymnal 413



1. New songs of cel - e - bra - tion ren - der to him who
2. Joy - ful - ly, heart - i - ly re - sound - ing, let ev - ery
3. Riv - ers and seas and tor - rents roar - ing, hon - or the

has great won - ders done; awed by his love his
in - stru - ment and voice peal out the praise of
Lord with wild ac - claim; moun - tains and stones look

foes sur - ren - der and fall be - fore the Might - y One.
grace a - bound - ing, call - ing the whole world to re - joi - ce.
up a - dor - ing and find a voice to praise his Name.

He has made known his great sal - va - tion which
Trum - pets and or - gans set in mo - tion such
Right - eous, com - mand - ing, ev - er glo - rious, prais -

all his friends with joy con - fess; he has re - vealed to
sounds as make the hea - vens ring: All things that live in
es be his that nev - er cease; just is our God, whose

ev - ery na - tion his ev - er - last - ing right - eous - ness.
earth and o - cean, make mus - ic for your might - y King.
truth vic - to - rious es - tab - lish - es the world in peace.

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:

Sanctus 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 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

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

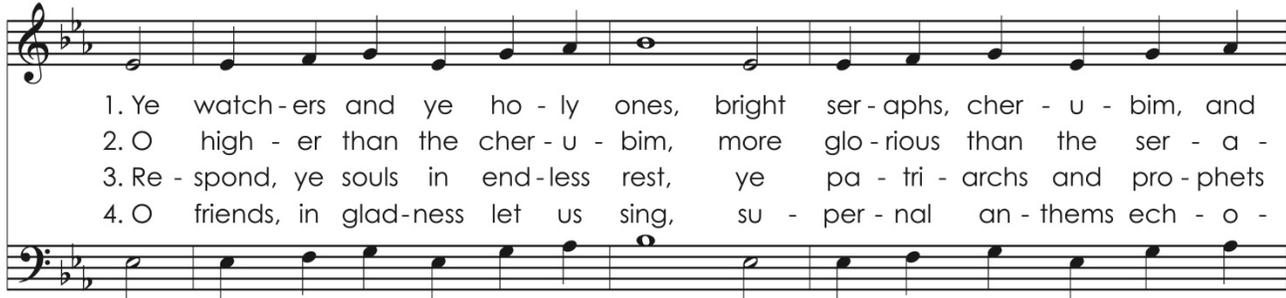
The Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

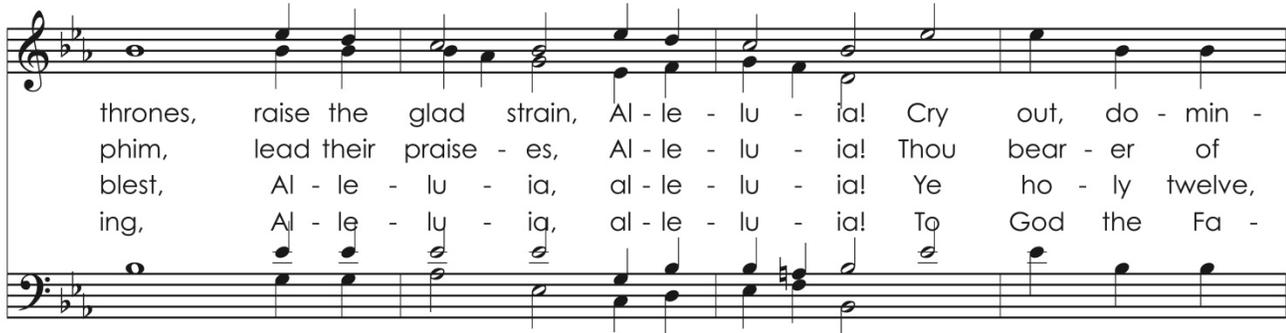
At the Procession

Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

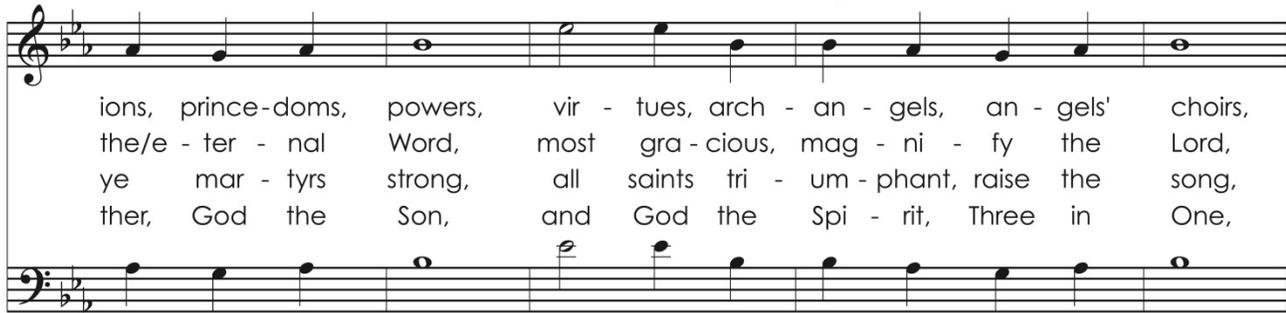
Hymnal 618



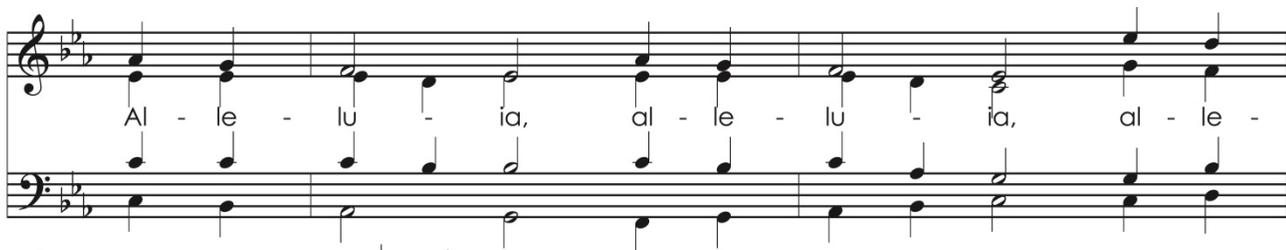
1. Ye watch-ers and ye ho - ly ones, bright ser - a - phs, cher - u - bim, and
2. O high - er than the cher - u - bim, more glo - rious than the ser - a -
3. Re - spond, ye souls in end - less rest, ye pa - tri - archs and pro - phets
4. O friends, in glad - ness let us sing, su - per - nal an - thems ech - o -



thrones, raise the glad strain, Al - le - lu - ia! Cry out, do - min -
phim, lead their praise - es, Al - le - lu - ia! Thou bear - er of
blest, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Ye ho - ly twelve,
ing, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! To God the Fa -



ions, prince - doms, powers, vir - tues, arch - an - gels, an - gels' choirs,
the/e - ter - nal Word, most gra - cious, mag - ni - fy the Lord,
ye mar - tyrs strong, all saints tri - um - phant, raise the song,
ther, God the Son, and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Dismissal

A Prayer for the Parish's Strategic Planning Group

Holy God, you raise up laborers for your harvest, sending them out as sowers of your good news, workers of healing, and caretakers of new life: Bless those engaged in the tending and renewing of your Church; equip them for service, enliven them with your joy, and help them remember and trust that it is you who will bring in the harvest; through Jesus Christ, the Savior of souls. Amen.

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Postlude

*The leaflet picture this morning is a photograph of the so-called
Antioch Chalice, produced between AD 500 and 550,
now in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.*

Parish Prayer List

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Alan L | Delores | Luke | Rick R |
| Alma | Doug H | Lynn Dunham | Rob |
| Amanda | Elmer | Margurite | Roman |
| Andre | Erin L & babies | Maria | Roxanna |
| Archer Family | Fred & Lori | Marian & Family | Ruth |
| Arline | Freda Reynolds | Marie | Samuel |
| Alana Davies | Giorgio & Family | Mary & Family | Sandy |
| Ayla H | Greg | Michael | Sandy Sorenson |
| Beverly and Larry | Hale | Mike & Angie | Shirley |
| Becky | Hailu He | Mike Reynolds | Sondra & Jeff |
| Beryl | HarrisonFamily | Morgan & Family | Sophia & Family |
| Bill & Sandy | Ina | Nan | South Family |
| Bob T | Jane & Family | Nancy & Family | Susan & family |
| Bosco Family | Jean & Richard | Nate | Stacy L |
| Brian Smith | Pawl | Nathalie & Maya | Stanley |
| Cathy | Geoff Coons | Nelson | Steven |
| Carol | Jim | Nicholas & Family | Stover |
| Carol Mullinix | Johanna and Philip | Nicole | Sue James |
| Carolyn Bowman | Josh Moyer | Nikki & Family | Terrie W |
| Charles Baxter | Jude | Noah | Thadine |
| Chaun | Jule & Family | Noah P | Tom |
| Chris & Ginger | June | Norman H | Thomas |
| Christine & Erich | Kelly & family | Olivia | Tim & Family |
| Christine & Francis | Ken & Family | Pat & Dan | Vicki |
| Christopher Corbin | Kevin | Pat & Emmett | Vivian |
| Cindy | Kizis family | Peter & Mike | Wanda |
| Colin | LaneFamily | Phil & Terri | Wayne |
| Dale & Family | Larry | Phyllis | WeaverFamily |
| Darnell | Laurie J | Rashida | William McClements |
| Darrell | Linda Alexis | Ray Cook | WilsonFamily |
| Dawn & DW | Lisa | Reginald | |
| Deacon Cecily | Liz & Family | Reid | |

We pray for all who serve our country abroad, in the military, in embassies, and in non-governmental organizations, especially...

| | | |
|----------|-------|----------|
| Adam | James | Marvin |
| Annie | Joe | Matthew |
| Ben | Josh | Nate |
| Bob | Kagen | Nicholas |
| Bradley | Kate | Stuart |
| Brett | Kathy | Tina |
| Brian | Kevin | Tyler |
| Christie | Luke | Victoria |

Lord, hear the prayers of thy people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

5/4/2021



The Vestry

Rector's Warden: Connie Cooper
Treasurer: Amy Keach

People's Warden: Jill Englund Jensen
Clerk of the Vestry: Madeline Johnson

Class of 2022
Mark Burchess
LaRue Manning
Jamie Sloan
Kelly Tompkins

Class of 2023
Barbara Graham
Jill Englund Jensen
Madeline Johnson
Kristin Sausville

Class of 2024
Larry Duggan
Cami Seward
Phillipa Sunnergen

| | | |
|--|--------------|----------------------------|
| RECTOR | | |
| The Rev. Howell Sasser | 704.578.4724 | howell.sasser.jr@gmail.com |
| DEACON | | |
| The Rev. Deacon Cecily Sawyer Harmon | 302.530.3493 | csawhar@udel.edu |
| PRIEST ASSOCIATE | | |
| The Rev. Juan George | 302.834.8341 | georgevjtaurus@yahoo.com |
| ORGANIST & CHOIR DIRECTOR | | |
| Marc F. Cheban | 302.220.9680 | a1b2celeste@yahoo.com |
| PARISH ADMINISTRATOR | | |
| Cana Hartman | 302.354.3277 | cana.hartman@gmail.com |
| REGISTRAR | | |
| Wendy Campbell | 302.368.9562 | wjcampbell7@yahoo.com |
| ECM (Episcopal Campus Ministry) | | |
| Denise Burgher, convening advisor | 323.627.4782 | dburgher@udel.edu |
| Devon Miller-Duggan, faculty advisor | 302.388.4758 | |
| SEXTON | | |
| <i>position open</i> | | |