



THIRD
SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

DEC 12TH
10:30 AM

ST THOMAS'S
EPISCOPAL PARISH



ADVENT EVENING WORSHIP OFFERINGS 2021

- 11/28: Advent "stations" with prayers, instrumental music, and a hymn or two. The unique stations will help us feel a connection to our brothers and sisters in faith around the world and through time.
- 12/5: Evensong; a service of scripture, prayer, and music, sung regularly in the Anglican church since the sixteenth century.
- 12/12: Blue Christmas, also called the Longest Night, gives space for those who are feeling sorrowful this season, and their friends who support them, to come and sit with one another, light candles, and listen to music, in a liturgy that speaks of the love of God for the grieving.
- 12/19: "Son et lumiere" images and colors accompanied by verses and music of Advent- this should be an awesome sensory experience.

5:00PM ON SUNDAYS

ST THOMAS'S
EPISCOPAL PARISH



CHRISTMAS WORSHIP OFFERINGS 2021

- Sunday, 12/19 at 10:30am:
Children's Christmas Pageant included in
the Rite II service with music
- Friday, 12/24 at 5pm and 10pm:
Christmas Eve services with prayers and
carols
- Saturday, 12/25 at 10am:
Christmas Day service
- Sunday, 12/26:
standard 8am Rite I, and 10:30am Rite II
with music

ALL ARE WELCOME

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 on our website.

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 8am- Rite I, spoken**
- **Sunday 10:30am- Rite II, with music**
- **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, 8th grade
- 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: **StThomasNewarkDe.church**

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 online, speak with anyone in the pews around you 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!

Prelude

Procession

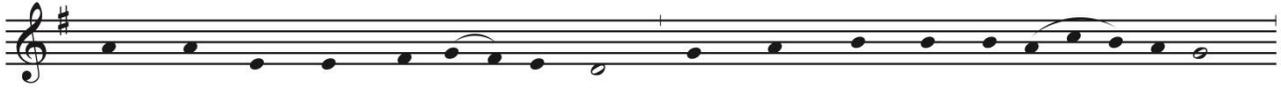
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Hymnal 56



5. O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen wide our heaven-ly home;

6. O come, thou Day-spring from ___ on high, and cheer us by thy draw - ing nigh;



make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to mis - er - y.

dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, and death's dark shad-ow put ___ to flight.



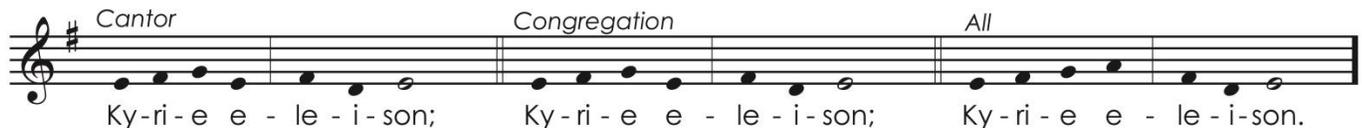
Re-joice! Re-joice! Em-man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

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.



Ky-ri-e e - le - i-son;

Ky-ri-e e - le - i-son;

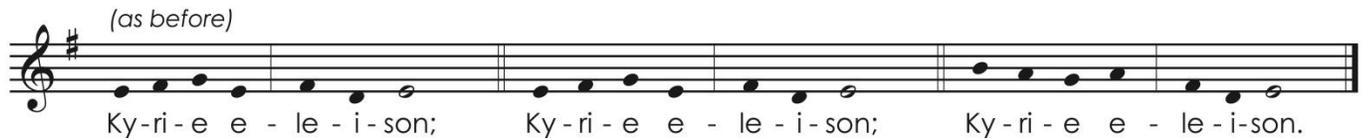
Ky-ri-e e - le - i-son.



Chri - ste e - le - i-son;

Chri - ste e - le - i-son;

Chri - ste e - le - i-son.



Ky-ri-e e - le - i-son;

Ky-ri-e e - le - i-son;

Ky-ri-e e - le - i-son.

Marc F. Cheban

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, 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.

All sit for the reading of the lessons.

The Lessons

First Lesson

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

The LORD has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.

The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing
as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.

And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;

for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,

when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the LORD.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand

The Gospel

Luke 3:7-18

Deacon The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

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

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

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

In joyful expectation of his coming to our aid, we pray to Jesus.

Come to your Church as Lord and judge. We pray for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Kevin, our Bishop. We pray also for the Anglican Church of Canada, and for All Saints' Church, Rehoboth Beach, and St. George's Chapel, Harbeson. Help us to live in the light of your coming and give us a longing for your kingdom. Maranatha:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to your world as King of the nations. We pray for Joseph, our President, John, our Governor, and Jerry, our Mayor. Before you rulers will stand in silence. Maranatha:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to our community as light and life. We pray for all our neighbors who are working to build your Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. Maranatha:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to the suffering as Savior and comforter. We pray especially for those listed in this morning's service leaflet and those we name now, aloud or in our hearts. Break into our lives, where we struggle with sickness and distress, and set us free to serve you for ever. Maranatha:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to those who go in harm's way for the safety and welfare of others as companion and protector. We pray especially for those serving in the armed forces listed in this morning's service leaflet and those we name now, aloud or in our hearts. Give them your grace and courage. Maranatha:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls. We remember especially those who have gone before us in this church and those we name now, aloud or in our hearts. Give us with all the faithful departed a share in your victory over evil and death. Maranatha:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come from heaven, Lord Jesus, with power and great glory. Lift us up to meet you, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Thomas, and all your saints and angels, we may live and reign with you in your new creation. Maranatha:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay;
give new courage to your people,
who trust in your love.

By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom
on earth as in heaven,
where you live and reign with the Father and the Spirit,
one God for ever and ever.

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

Let All Mortal Flesh

Hymnal 324



1. Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and
2. King of kings, yet born of ___ Ma - ry, as of old on
3. Rank on rank the host of ___ hea - ven spreads it van - guard
4. At his feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim with



trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,
earth he ___ stood, Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture,
on the ___ way, as the Light of Light de - scend - eth
sleep - less ___ eye, veil their fa - ces to the ___ Pres - ence,



for with bless - ing in his ___ hand Christ our God to
in the Bo - dy and the ___ Blood he will give to
from the realms of end - less ___ day, that the powers of
as with cease - less voice they ___ cry, "Al - le - lu - ia,



earth de - scend - eth, our full hom - age to de - mand.
all the faith - ful his own self for heav'n - ly ___ food.
hell may va - nish as the dark - ness clears a - way.
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Presentation of the Offerings

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

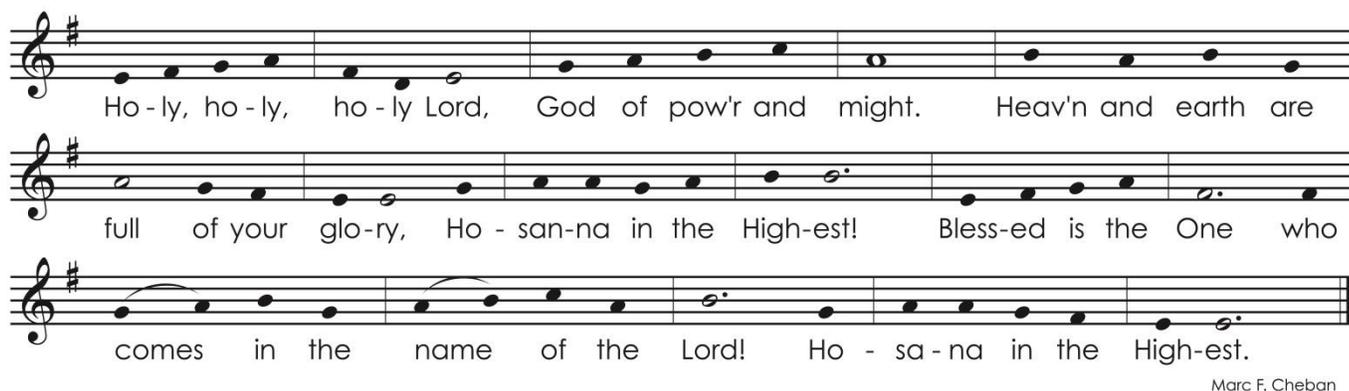
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry, Ho - san-na in the High-est! Bless-ed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord! Ho - sa - na in the High-est.

Marc F. Cheban

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.

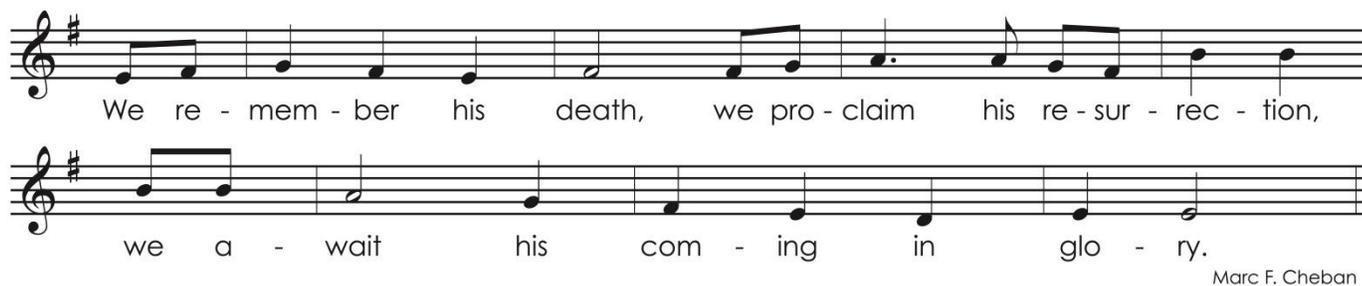
In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

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 re - mem - ber his death, we pro - claim his re - sur - rec - tion, we a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

Marc F. Cheban

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

My Flesh is Food Indeed

S-169

The musical score is written on four staves of music. The first staff is labeled 'Cantor or Choir first' and contains the lyrics 'My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord. My'. The second staff is labeled '2. Cantor or Choir' and contains the lyrics 'Lord. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood dwell in'. The third staff is labeled 'All' and contains the lyrics 'me, and I in them. My flesh is food in -'. The fourth staff contains the lyrics 'deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord.' The score includes various musical notations such as treble clefs, notes, rests, and repeat signs.

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

- silence -

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.

Rejoice! Rejoice Believers

Hymnal 68

1. Re - joice!, Re - joice, be liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!
2. See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple - nish them with oil;
3. Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
a - rise, thou Sun so longed - for, a - boye this dark - ened sphere!

The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;
The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! At mid - night comes the cry.
rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride - groom is at hand!
the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ey - er be with thee!

At the Procession

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Parish Prayer List

Alan L	Delores	Linda Alexis	Reginald
Alma	Dennis	Lisa	Reid
Amanda Walker	Donna E and family	Luke	Rick R
Amber Richardson	Doug H	Lynn Dunham	Rob
Andre	Elmer	Lynsey & Marcia	Roberta Bennett
Archer Family	Florette Harrison	Marge Cann	Roman
Arline	Fred & Lori	Maria	Roxanna
Alana Davies	Freda Reynolds	Marian & Family	Rue M
Austin A and family	Geoff Coons	Marie	Ruth
Ayla H	Gina M	Mary & Family	Samuel
Beverly and Larry	Giorgio & Family	Mary Lee Seward	Sande R
Becky	Greg	Mary Truslow	Sandy Sorenson
Beryl	Hale	Michael	Shirley
Bill & Sandy	Hailu He	Mike & Angie	Sondra & Jeff
Blackman Family	Harrison Family	Mike Reynolds	Sophia & Family
Bob T	Ina	Miles	South Family
Bob & Katheryn	Jane & Family	Morgan & Family	Susan & family
Brendan S	Jean & Richard Pawl	Nan	Stacy L
Bryan Allman	Jesse, Memphis & family	Nancy K	Stanley
Cassandra T	Jim	Nate	Stephanie W
Cathy	Jim G	Nathalie & Maya	Steven
Carol Mullinix	Jim T	Nelson	Stover
Carolyn Bowman	Johanna and Philip	Nicole	Sue James
Charles Baxter	John Rash	Nikki & Family	Terrie W
Charile, Ellen & family	Jon Tyler	Noah	Thadine
Chaun	Josh Moyer	Norman H	Tom
Chris & Ginger	Joyce Kee	Olivia	Thomas
Christine & Erich	Jude	Pam Devoe	Trey K
Christine & Francis	Jule & Family	Pat & Dan	Velda Pike
Christopher Corbin	June	Pat & Emmett	Vicki
Chuck	Katharine	Patricia J	Vivian
Cindy	Kelly & family	Paula	Wanda
Colin	Ken & Family	Perry Family	Wayne
Dale & Family	Ken Gavron	Peter & Mike	WeaverFamily
Dana Schewe	Kevin	Phil & Terri	William McClements
Darnell	Kiadii Harmon	Philip	WilsonFamily
David	Kizis family	Phyllis	
Dawn & Family	LaneFamily	Rashida	
Deacon Cecily	Larry	Ray Cook	

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.

12/6/2021



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
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

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