

# Welcome to St. John's Church



*Peter von Cornelius (1813-1816)*

## The Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

*November 12, 2023  
8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.*

**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**P.O. Box 1278**

**78 Green Hill Road**

**Washington, CT 06793**

**Parish Office Telephone: (860) 868-2527**

**Parish Office Hours: Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

**St. John's Email: [stjohnschurch@snet.net](mailto:stjohnschurch@snet.net)**

**St. John's Website: <http://stjohnswashington.com/>**

**St. John's YouTube Page:**

**<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoOwTnqIRss4BT8VwFul4qg>**

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

*The Liturgy for the Proclamation of the Word of God  
and Celebration of the Holy Communion*

**Choral Prelude**      *Teach Me Thy Way, O Lord*      John Blow (1649-1708)

**The Call to Worship with the tolling of the church bell**

**Opening Hymn # 690**      *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a basso continuo line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this  
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun-tain, whence the heal - ing  
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y;  
stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar  
fears sub - side; death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with thy power - ful hand; bread of hea - ven,  
lead me all my jour - ney through; strong de - liv - erer,  
land me safe on Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es,

bread of hea - ven, feed me now and ev - er -  
 strong de - liv - erer, be thou still my strength and  
 songs of prais - es, I will ev - er give to

more, shield, feed me now and ev - er - more.  
 thee, be thou still my strength and shield.  
 thee, I will ev - er give to thee.

*Celebrant* Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

*People* ***Glory to God for ever and ever.***

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

Powell

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
 King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we

give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
 on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. 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

God be with you.

*People* ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again

with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## **The Readings**

*INTRODUCTION: In our Hebrew scripture reading, Joshua, like Moses before him, acts as a mediator between the people of Israel and God at Shechem.*

### **A Reading from the Scroll of Joshua (24:1-3a, 14-25)**

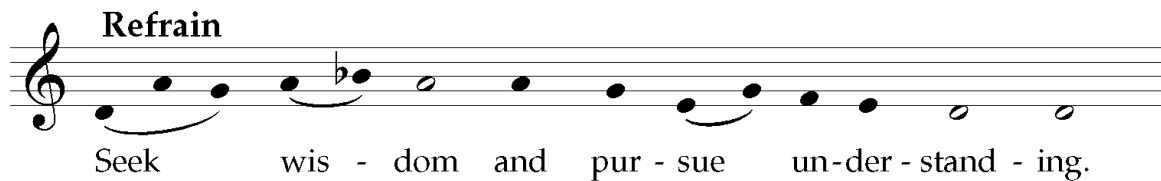
Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. “Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.” Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.” But Joshua said to the people, “You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good.” And the people said to Joshua, “No, we will serve the LORD!” Then Joshua said to the people, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him.” And they said, “We are witnesses.” He said, “Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel.” The people said to Joshua, “The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey.” So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

*People*

***Thanks be to God.***

**Psalm 78:1-7**     *the congregation is invited to join in the Refrain.*



- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; \*  
    incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; \*  
    I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- 3 That which we have heard and known,  
    and what our forefathers have told us, \*  
    we will not hide from their children.
- 4 We will recount to generations to come  
    the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, \*  
    and the wonderful works he has done.
- 5 He gave his decrees to Jacob and established a law for Israel, \*  
    which he commanded them to teach their children;
- 6 That the generations to come might know, and the children yet unborn; \*  
    that they in their turn might tell it to their children;
- 7 So that they might put their trust in God, \*  
    and not forget the deeds of God, but keep his commandments;

*INTRODUCTION: In this reading, Paul offers a vision of how the dead in Christ will rise together with those who are alive to meet the Lord at his coming.*

**A Reading from the First Letter to the Thessalonians (4:13-18)**

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People *Thanks be to God.*

**Gradual Hymn # 436**

*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the  
2 O blest the land, the ci - ty blest, where Christ the  
3 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a  
\*4 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to  
5 So come, my Sov - ereign; en - ter in! Let new and

1 King of glo - ry waits! The King of kings is  
2 ru - ler is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and  
3 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for  
4 thee: here, Lord, a - bide! Let me thy in - ner  
5 no - bler life be - gin; thy Ho - ly Spi - rit

1 draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the world is here.  
2 hap - py homes to whom this King of tri - umph comes!  
3 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.  
4 pres - ence feel: thy grace and love in me re - veal.  
5 guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

*INTRODUCTION: Our Gospel reading this morning is the parable of the wise and foolish maidens, those prepared and unprepared for the bridegroom's sudden coming.*

**The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ  
according to St. Matthew (25:1-13)**

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.'"

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

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

## **The Sermon**

The Reverend Robert (Woody) Woodroffe

## **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.*

### **The Prayers of the People**

Joining with the bridesmaids waiting for the Bridegroom's coming, we offer our prayers in the presence of God, responding, "Lord, hear our prayer."

#### **The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the prayers**

+ Keep us ever watchful for your presence shining through the faces of the poor and the downtrodden, the stranger in our midst, and the alien in our land, lest that in missing them we may not see you; let us pray.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

+ Place your wisdom in the hearts and minds of the leaders of the nations of the world, that the decisions they make may bring righteousness and justice to all peoples everywhere; let us pray.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

+ Inspire us with a sense of urgency that we be agents of reconciliation in the midst of a troubled world; let us pray.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

+ In thanksgiving for those who serve in our armed forces, defending our country in times of war, and ensuring peace in places where there is instability; let us pray.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

+ Comfort those who are sick and suffering, remembering especially Kathy Coe and Bob Coles, Sr. and those who care for them; let us pray.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

+ In thanksgiving for those we love but see no more, especially our beloved ones remembered on All Saints' Sunday, that they and all the faithful departed live in the Lord's presence forever; let us pray.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

As we await the coming of the Bridegroom, let us pause to continue our prayers and thanksgivings, either silently in our hearts or aloud in our midst.

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

O God, the Father of all, whose Son commanded us to love our enemies: Lead them and us from prejudice to truth; deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your good time enable us all to stand reconciled before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

## **Confession of Sin**

*The Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

***The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the confession***

***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.***

*The Priest, stands and says*

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, but also time for true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. ***Amen.***

## **The Peace**

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Christ be always with you.

*People*      ***And also with you.***

*Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## **The Holy Communion**

*The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with one of the sentences of Scripture.*

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,  
an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

**Offertory**      *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning* (spiritual), arr. Tom Brand

## The Great Thanksgiving

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 God.

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

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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

*Missa in G*

Josef Rheinberger (1839-1901)

*Translation: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

### **The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the consecration prayer**

*Then 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;***

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, St. John, our Patron, 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.**

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

***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.***

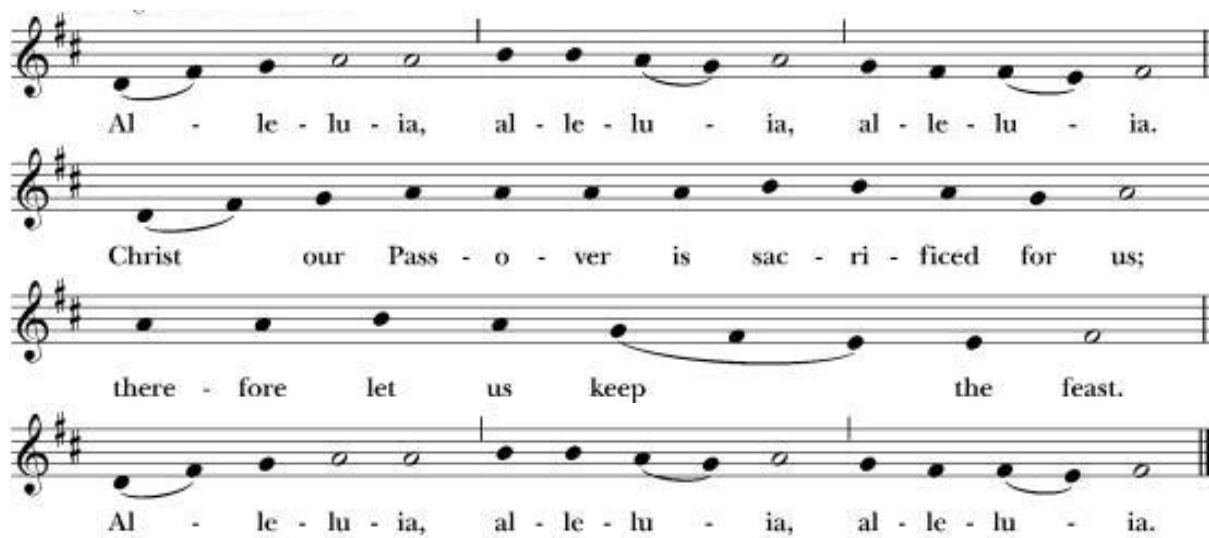
***And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.***

***For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.***

## **The Breaking of the Bread S # 154**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung or said*



**Agnus Dei**      *Missa in G*      Josef Rheinberger (1839-1901)

*Translation: 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.*

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation.*

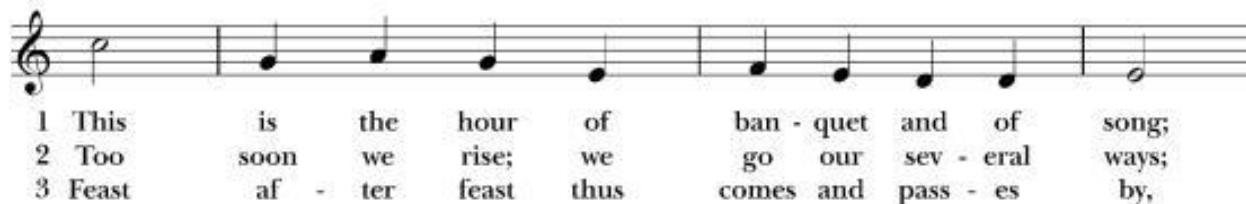
The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*All baptized Christians of all ages and denominations are welcome to receive Communion in this place. This is God's house and the Lord's table, not ours*

**INSTRUCTIONS:** *Those wishing to receive Communion should come forward to the Altar rail as directed. Please speak with an Usher if you need to receive Communion in the pew. The consecrated host will be placed in the hands of the recipient. If they wish intinction, then the chalice bearer will take the host and dip it in the wine for them. Otherwise, communicants may sip from the chalice, assisting by taking hold of its base. If the communicant does not wish to receive the wine, one can simply cross their arms across their chest so to indicate.*

*Gluten free wafers are available. Just ask at the altar rail if you wish one.*

**Communion Hymn # 316**      *This Is The Hour Of Banquet And Of Song*





for online worshippers, and for those who for other reasons choose not to receive, here is a Prayer for Spiritual Communion:

### A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

*In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is celebrated, we desire to offer our praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest desire that we may always be united to you. And since we are not now receiving you physically, we ask you to come into our hearts spiritually. We embrace you with all the affections of our souls, confident that nothing can ever separate us from the love God, in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.*

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

***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.***

*The Bishop when present, or the Priest, gives the blessing*

The peace of God, which surpasses 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 the Eternal Majesty, the Incarnate Word, and the Abiding Spirit be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## Closing Hymn # 620

## Jerusalem My Happy Home

1 Je - ru - sa - lem, my hap - py home, when  
2 Thy saints are crowned with glo - ry great; they  
3 There Da - vid stands with harp in hand as  
4 Our La - dy sings Mag - ni - fi - cat with  
5 Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - ru - sa - lem, God

1 shall I come to thee? When shall my sor - rows  
2 see God face to face; they tri - umph still, they  
3 mas - ter of the choir: ten thou - sand times would  
4 tune sur - pass - ing sweet, and bless - ed mar - tyr's  
5 grant that I may see thine end - less joy, and

1 have an end? Thy joys when shall I see?  
2 still re - joice in that most hap - py place.  
3 one be blest who might this mu - sic hear.  
4 har - mo - ny doth ring in ev - ery street.  
5 of the same par - ta - ker ev - er be!

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People *Thanks be to God.*

## Organ Postlude



*There is a Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall following the Service.  
All are invited. Please join us.*

**Worship Ministers Today:**

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman: *Celebrant*

The Reverend Robert (Woody) Woodroffe, *Preacher*

Tom Brand: *Organist & Choirmaster*

John Magee: *8:00 Reader*

Penny Bardel: *10:00 Reader*

Laura Daly: *VeeJay*

MB Witt, Corinne Johnson: *Coffee Host*

MB Witt, Ginny Reynolds: *Altar Guild*

Bob Futh, Natalie Dyer: *Ushers/Greeters*

**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH****Staff**

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, *Priest-in-Charge*

Tom Brand, *Organist & Choirmaster*

Dawn Rosiello, *Parish Administrator*

Joan Burgess, *Foundation Administrator*

**Vestry**

Mary Davis, Jay Bauer: *Wardens*

David Gillespie: *Treasurer*

Andris Kalnins: *Assistant Treasurer*

Laura Daly: *Clerk*

*Class of 2023*

Laura Daly, Veronique Dulack, Joseph Claro

*Class of 2024*

Rebecca Bent, Michael Del Nin, Susan McFeely

*Class of 2025*

Worth Bracken, Sara Coles, Andris Kalnins

**Diocesan Delegates:** Sara Coles, MB Witt

Laura Daly: **Alternate**



*next Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.*