

Welcome to St. John's Church



'The Purification of Mary and the Presentation of Jesus to the Temple'
Giotto, c. 1315-1320

The Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple

February 2, 2025
8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

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

St. John's YouTube Page:

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

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

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

Choral Prelude *Senex puerum portabat* William Byrd (c. 1540-1623)

Translation: "The old man carried the child, but the child ruled the old man. Him that a Virgin bore, remaining evermore a virgin, she adored."

The Call to Worship with the tolling of the church bell

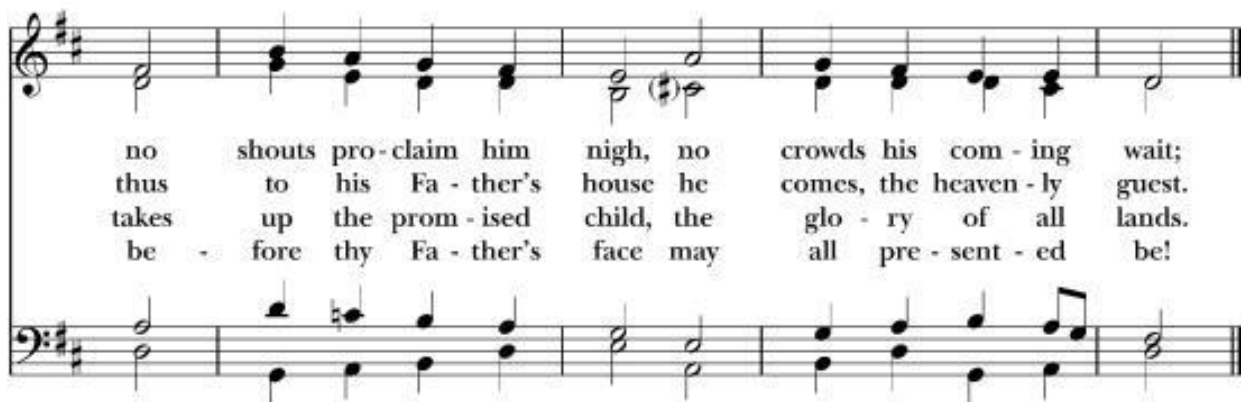
Opening Hymn # 259 *Hail to the Lord Who Comes*



1 Hail to the Lord who comes, comes to his temple gate;
2 but, borne up - on the throne of Ma - ry's gen - tle breast,
3 There Jo - seph at her side in rev - erent won - der stands;
4 O Light of all the earth, thy chil - dren wait for thee!



not with his an - gel host, not in his king - ly state;
watched by her du - teous love, in her fond arms at rest,
and, filled with ho - ly joy, old Si - meon in his hands
Come to thy tem - ples here, that we, from sin set free,



no shouts pro - claim him nigh, no crowds his com - ing wait;
thus to his Fa - ther's house he comes, the heaven - ly guest.
takes up the prom - ised child, the glo - ry of all lands.
be - fore thy Fa - ther's face may all pre - sent - ed be!

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

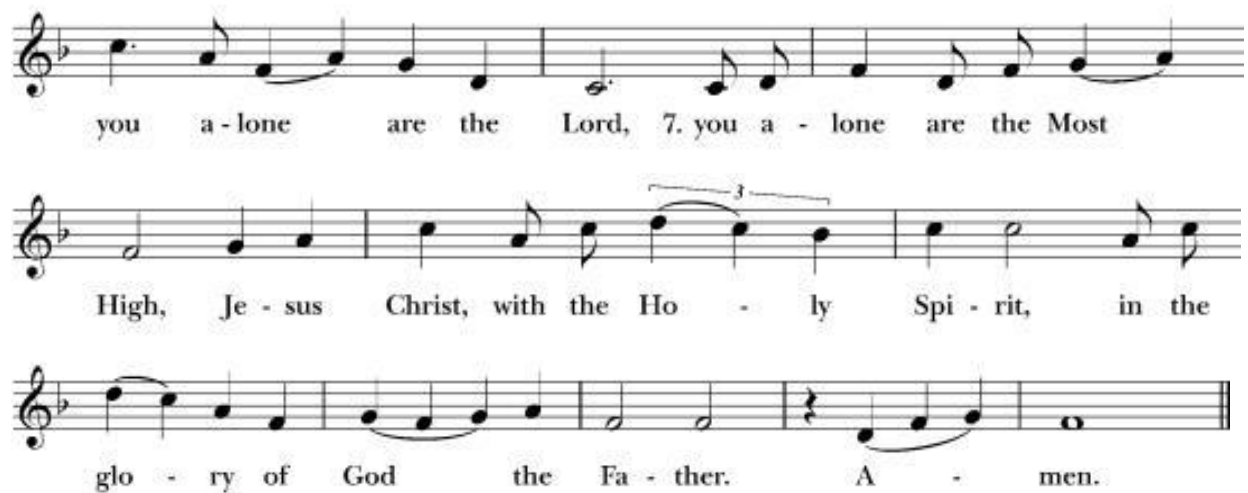
People ***Glory to God for ever and ever.***

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 S# 280

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 - mighty 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,



God be with you.

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

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

The Readings

INTRODUCTION: In this reading from the Hebrew Scriptures, the prophet Malachi promises that, as the day of the Lord's judgment nears, God will send a messenger to make ready the way.

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Malachi (3:1-5)

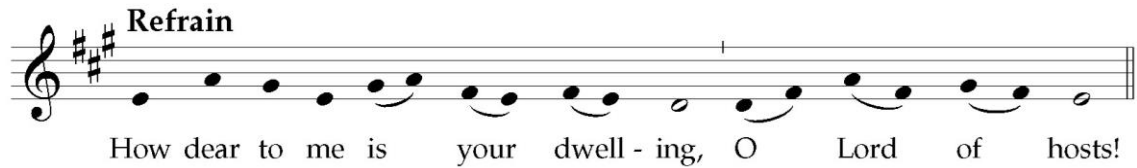
Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

The Word of the Lord.

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

Psalm 84

the congregation is invited to join in the Refrain.



- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 7 Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- 10 For the Lord God is both sun and shield; *
he will give grace and glory;
- 11 No good thing will the Lord withhold *
from those who walk with integrity.
- 12 O Lord of hosts, *
happy are they who put their trust in you!

INTRODUCTION: In this New Testament reading we are reminded that Jesus has now shared in all aspects of human life. By himself experiencing death, he has broken the bonds of death over humankind.

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews (2:14-18)

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Gradual Hymn # 499 *Lord God, You Now have set Your Servant Free*

Unison or harmony

Lord God, you now have set your ser - vant free to go in
peace as prom-ised in your word; my eyes have seen the
Sa - vior, Christ the Lord, pre-pared by you for all the

world to see, to shine on na - tions trapped in dark - est night,
the glo - ry of your peo - ple, and their light.

INTRODUCTION: In our Gospel the infant Jesus is brought to the temple to be presented to the Lord in accordance with the law of Moses.

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to St. Luke (22:22-40)

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.” Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.” And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul

too.” There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, Rector

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.*

*For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.*

*the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven*

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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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

Knit together with Mary, the Mother of God; Simeon; Anna; and all the righteous, let us offer our prayers, responding to each petition, “Hear us, O God of glory.”

The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the prayers

+ That our young people may be brought up in the mystery of faith, rooted in God’s Word, participants in the Holy Meal, honored by the community of the baptized, and participants in the life of the Church; for this we pray.

Hear us, O God of Glory.

+ In thanksgiving for those who give sacrificially to God’s mission in this place, supporting creative programs and good works, ministering to those in need, and revealing the divine kingdom in our time; for this we pray.

Hear us, O God of Glory.

+ That we may acknowledge our individual suffering, seeing the presence of Christ in the midst of our despair, and helping others who are experiencing their time of testing; for this we pray.

Hear us, O God of Glory.

+ That those who live in slavery may be freed from their bondage, especially the victims of human trafficking, children throughout the world, and all who are innocent victims of the evil ways of others; for this we pray.

Hear us, O God of Glory.

+ In thanksgiving for foster parents, who bring hope to young people who long for stable and loving family life; may they be worthy of the trust invested in them; for this we pray.

Hear us, O God of Glory.

+ That all who are dying may depart this life in peace, trusting in Christ’s promise of eternal life; for this we pray.

Hear us, O God of Glory.

Gathered together with all who serve with joy in the house of the Lord, let us continue our prayers either aloud in our midst or silently in our hearts.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin

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 God 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 Anthem *Nunc dimittis* - Richard Farrant (1530-1580)

*Text: Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace: according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen: thy salvation,*

*Which thou hast prepared: before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles: and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.*

The Great Thanksgiving

God 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 our thanks and praise.***

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing
and fed us with your constant love;
you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ
and knit us into one body.

Through your Spirit, you replenish us
and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels
and with the faithful of every generation,
we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Sanctus *Mass for Five Voices* William Byrd (c. 1540-1623)

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one 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

Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of the universe and giver of life.
You formed us in your own image
and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care
that we might be your faithful stewards
and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image
in one another and in ourselves;
we would not see your goodness in the world around us;

and so we violated your creation,
abused one another, and rejected your love.
Yet you never ceased to care for us,
and prepared the way of salvation for all people.
Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you.
You delivered us from slavery,
sustained us in the wilderness,
and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.
Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word,
made mortal flesh in Jesus.
Born into the human family,
and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory.
Giving himself freely to death on the cross,
he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.
On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you,
he broke it, and gave it to his friends,
and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."
As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me."
Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection,
we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine.
By your Holy Spirit may they be for us
the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.
Grant that we who share these gifts
may be filled with the Holy Spirit
and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage
of your daughters and sons,
that with the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John, our Patron,
and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come,
we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and 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.*

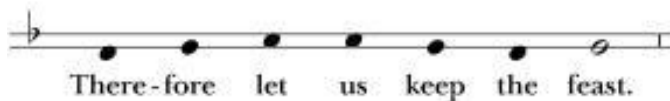
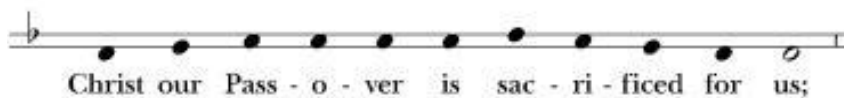
*Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.*

*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.*

Fraction Anthem S # 153

Christ Our Passover

Willan



Agnus Dei

Mass for Five Voices

William Byrd (c. 1540-1623)

*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 or upon the tongue of the recipient, as desired. If one wishes intinction, then either the chalice bearer or the communicant may take the host and dip it in the wine. 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 after receiving the bread so to indicate.

Communion Hymn # 304 *I Come With Joy to Meet My Lord*

Unison or harmony

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to
3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each
4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll

1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der
2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -
3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us
4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship
5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple

1 to re - call his life laid down for me.
2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.
4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.
5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

***Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.***

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

May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

Closing Hymn # 656 *Blessed Are the Pure in Heart*

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Blessed Are the Pure in Heart". It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The first system contains the first two lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the last two lines. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C).

1 Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God; the
2 The Lord, who left the heavens our life and peace to bring, to
3 he to the low - ly soul will still him - self im - part and
4 Lord, we thy pres - ence seek; may ours this bless - ing be; give

se - cret of the Lord is theirs, their soul is Christ's a - bode.
dwell in low - li - ness with us, our pat - tern and our King;
for his dwell - ing and his throne will choose the pure in heart.
us a pure and low - ly heart, a tem - ple fit for thee.

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Worship Ministers Today:

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman: *Celebrant & Preacher*

Tom Brand: *Organist & Choirmaster*

John Magee: *8:00 Reader*

Rebecca Bent: *10:00 Reader*

Rebecca Bent: *Chalicer*

Laura Daly: *VeeJay*

MB Witt, Susie Magee: *Altar Guild*

Bob Futh, Natalie Dyer: *Ushers/Greeters*

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AND
POTLUCK LUNCHEON FOLLOWS
THE SERVICE IN THE PARISH HALL.
ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND!**

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Staff

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, *Rector*

Tom Brand, *Organist & Choirmaster*

Dawn Rosiello, *Parish Administrator*

Joan Burgess, *Foundation Administrator*

Vestry

Mary Davis, Worth Bracken: *Wardens*

David Gillespie: *Treasurer*

Andris Kalnins: *Assistant Treasurer*

Justin Ormand: *Clerk*

Class of 2024

Rebecca Bent, Michael Del Nin, Susan McFeely

Class of 2025

MB Witt, Sara Coles, Andris Kalnins

Class of 2026

Laura Daly, Veronique Dulack, Justin Ormand

Diocesan Delegates: Sara Coles, MB Witt

Laura Daly: **Alternate**