

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net



The Sixth Sunday of Easter

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II and
BLESSING OF THE GARDEN

May 6, 2018

10:30 a.m.

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen!

People **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia.**

Celebrant Let us pray. 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.

People **Amen.**

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.

People **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 10:44–48

All sit.

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.

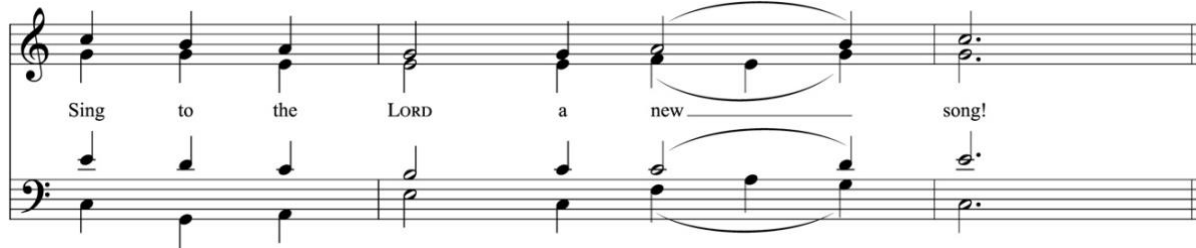
Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Psalm 98

The People say the words in **bold** and sing the Antiphon where indicated.



Leader: Sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.

People: **With his right hand and his holy arm
has he won for himself the victory.**

Leader: The LORD has made known his victory;
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

People: **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.** *Antiphon*

Leader: Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

People: **Sing to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.**

Leader: With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.

People: **Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,
the lands and those who dwell therein.**

Leader: Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.

People: **In righteousness shall he judge the world
and the peoples with equity.** *Antiphon*

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 455 O love of God, how strong and true

DUNEDIN

All stand and sing. Children are invited to follow the acolyte to the Word Alive program. They will return at the Peace.

THE GOSPEL

John 15:9–17

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

All **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.”

Minister The Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

Rabbi Stephen Fuchs

All sit.

THE NICENE CREED

All stand.

**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

A period of silence is kept. The people say the words in bold.

Give your grace, O Lord, to your Church. Endue its ministers with righteousness and build our fellowship with one another. Guide the Vestry of St. John's, the staff and volunteers who serve here and make us a beacon of light in this world. **With righteousness you judge the world and the peoples with equity.**

Watch over our country, O King eternal; correct us when we are arrogant; strengthen us to support the weak; lead us to work for liberty and justice for all. **That the ends of the earth will see your victory.**

Pour your Holy Spirit upon all who govern. Give them a vision of your Kingdom, the wisdom to forge peace, and the will to cooperate for the welfare of all people. **May the hills ring out with joy when you come to judge the earth.**

We commend to your loving care all who are in need. Heal the sick, give peace to the troubled, comfort the sorrowful, especially those on our parish prayer list and those we now name. *[Pause for silent or spoken prayers.]* Bless those who have no one to pray for them and those we have forgotten. **We remember your mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel.**

Turn the hearts of those who are tempted and those who have fallen into sin and make your love known to them. Forgive our failures and faithlessness and give us courage to trust in your mercy and begin again. **We cry to you with the harp and the voice of song.**

Bless our Community Garden, that it may feed the hungry and enrich the hearts of those who plant and water the land. **Let the rivers clap their hands, the lands and all who dwell therein.**

Almighty God, you made us in your own image to find meaning and purpose in creative work. Give hope to the unemployed and those whose work is dull, and help us to order our common life so that all people may have productive jobs and find joy in their labors. **We sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things.**

Lord of the living and of the dead, we commit those who have died into your loving arms, especially Waylon Mumma and those in whose memory the altar flowers are given, trusting in your promise that we will dwell with you for ever. **With trumpets and the sound of the horn we shout with joy before you.**

Celebrant O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

We greet one another in the name of Christ.

THE WELCOME

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM Cantate Domino

Claudio Monteverdi (1567–1643)

Words: Psalms 96 and 98

Cantate Domino canticum novum, cantate et benedicite nomini eius, quia mirabilia fecit. Cantate et exultate et psallite, psallite in cithara et voce psalmi, quia mirabilia fecit.

O sing unto the Lord a new song, sing and praise his name: for he hath done marvellous things. Sing, rejoice, and give thanks. Sing to the harp with a psalm.

The text for this motet is liberally adapted from Psalm 98 and Psalm 96, which are both songs of celebration for God's victory over the enemies of Israel. Monteverdi's abbreviation of Psalm 98 focuses on the musical imagery of songs and instruments, and compresses the text into two groups of three verses, each ending with the phrase, "for he has done wonderful things." This setting is also in six parts with continuo.

THE PRESENTATION HYMN

OLD 100TH

All stand and sing.

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

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 God thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant continues. The People say the words in bold.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

THE SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From A Community Mass; Richard Proulx (b. 1937); Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

All remain standing or kneel.

And so, God, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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." After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; Lord God of our Mothers: God of Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.
AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

3 *f* Forcefully

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ our Pass - o - ver has been
 sac - ri - ficed for us; There - fore let us keep the feast,
 Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

Music: Jeffrey Rickard, 1986; used by permission.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant 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 are invited to receive Holy Communion at St. John's.

Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask the clergy at the communion rail.

If you would like a blessing instead of Communion, please cross your arms over your chest.

If you would like to receive Healing Prayers, go to the baptismal font at the rear of the nave after receiving Communion.

You are also welcome to light a candle, located near the baptismal font, in memory of a loved one or to lift a prayer to God.

THE COMMUNION MOTET Ubi Caritas

Maurice Duruflé (1902–1986)

Words from the Maundy Thursday liturgy

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
 Exsultemus, et in ipso jucundemur. Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.
 Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

*Where charity and love are, God is there. Christ's love has gathered us into one.
 Let us rejoice and be pleased in him. Let us fear, and let us love the living God.
 And may we love each other with a sincere heart.*

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

All stand or kneel.

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 412 Earth and all stars

EARTH AND ALL STARS

All stand and sing. The service continues with a blessing of the Community Garden, located near the rear parking lot, behind the sexton's house. On verse 5, the choir will begin processing out of the church. Please follow them to the garden.

THE DEDICATION AND BLESSING OF
 GOD'S GARDEN

An interfaith project of St. John's, Congregation Beth Israel and Jessie's Community Gardens

The People say the words in bold.

PSALM 65: 5b, 9–14

O God of our salvation, O hope of all the ends of the earth ... you visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water.

**You prepare the grain,
 for so you provide for the earth.**

You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
 with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

**You crown the year with your goodness,
 and your paths overflow with plenty.**

May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
 and the hills be clothed with joy.

**May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;
 let them shout for joy and sing.**

A READING

Genesis 2:4b–9,15

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground—then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

THE LITANY OF BLESSING

God of all creation, bless this garden through which your glory will shine.

May we see the splendor of your grace in its abundance.

Bless this soil, rich and teeming with life.

May we see the promise of new creation in its fertility.

Bless our toil as we plant and hoe and weed.

May we be good stewards of the earth in our labors.

Bless each seed and plant that will grow here.

May we see the hope of transformation in their flourishing.

Bless the rains and the water that will sustain life in this place.

May we see your faithful care in the refreshment they provide.

Bless the harvest, bountiful in due season.

May we give thanks for your generosity and be moved to share your gifts.

Bless this garden as you bless all creation with your love. May the hungry be fed here, strangers become friends here, community be grown here. So may this garden both be blessed and a blessing. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

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

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY**Celebrant:** The Reverend Susan Pinkerton**Preacher:** Rabbi Stephen Fuchs**Assisting:** The Reverend Hope Eakins, the Reverend William J. Eakins**Deacon:** The Reverend Walter McKenney**Layreader:** Paul Shaker**Psalterer:** Christine Babbitt**The St. John's Youth and Adult Choirs****Organist/Choirmaster:** Scott Lamlein**Acolytes:** John O'Brien, Claire O'Brien, Ethen Worrell, Caleb Worrell**Ushers:** Geoff and Karan Emerick, Ben and Ellen Flynn, Wes Winterbottom

Matt Ciscel, Nazra Ali

Healing Prayers: Marie Montas**Altar Guild:** Carol Sonne and Bess Amamoo**At Hughes Health and Rehabilitation Center****Layreader:** Jeff Verney**Musician:** Joyce Burke

**The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God
and in memory of Charles Paul Hardersen, Amanda Tietjen Hardersen, and Carsten Peter Hardersen**

Happening Today

Stephen Fuchs, rabbi emeritus at Congregation Beth Israel, is our guest preacher today and will also lead a Faith Forum at 9:30. He will have copies of his latest book, *Who Created God? and Other Essays* available for purchase and signing.

Christian Education roundtable, after the 10:30 service. The Christian education staff and clergy have been hosting a series of discussions, inviting parents and other interested parishioners to brainstorm and discuss the future of our programs for our youngest members. This final session is focused on programs for children (birth through elementary school). All are invited to come to the session in the Education Wing immediately after the garden blessing that ends the 10:30 service.

Pipes Alive! at 12:30 p.m. Our popular series of short organ concerts continues with Ezequiel Menendez from the Cathedral of St. Joseph. A light soup lunch will be available for those who are staying after the service for the concert. As always, the concert is free and open to the public, and donations are welcome.

The monthly Celtic service begins with a period of silence at 4:30 p.m. Celtic services include reflection, meditation, chanting, live music from a variety of traditions, prayer and silence. All are welcome.

In your prayers this week, please pray for:

Peace in our world, for those serving our country in the armed services, and for all victims of war and violence.

The parish of Santa Cruz del Norte, our companion parish in Cuba, and Saint Sauveur School, Les Cayes, Haiti.

Séminaire de Théologie d'Église Épiscopale d'Haïti (STEEH), the Episcopal Seminary in Haiti.

Residents of the Caleb Hitchcock Center at Duncaster; the George Beach Apartments, Allen Place, Hartford; and the Hughes Health and Rehabilitation Center.

Our postulant, Michael Corey, and our missionary in Haiti, Dr. Lucinda Mosher.

All those whose hurts, burdens and fears are unspoken or unknown.

Those in need of healing, help, and comfort:

Jim Evans	Cheryl Trahan	Jeff	Ida McKenney
Kim Green	Andrew Lee	Chas	Janis Milroy
Carol Grieco	Dorothy Nelson	Meg	Clark Hendley
Janet Ray	Susan	Kent Lawrence	Janet Cochran
Susan Murray	Helen Moore	Naomi Cipriano	Michael Scripko
Cait Semanie	Vicky	Emma Bass	
Kenneth			

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Cait Semanie	Kirsten Gilbert	Jack Barnes
Judy Schaffer	Jan Hickcox	Sidney Cech
Georgia Lovas	Emma Pinney	Robert Eikel
Bette-Jane Hardersen	Callan Farrell	

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Anglican Church of Kenya.

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for St. Peter's, Monroe; St. Mark's, Mystic; St. Michael's, Naugatuck; and for retirement communities, especially Seabury and Armsmead, and chaplains at retirement communities.

Save the Date

Pentecost, Youth Sunday and Parish Picnic, May 20

On Sunday, May 20, we will celebrate Pentecost—the birthday of the church. Please wear red, the symbolic color of the Holy Spirit that fills us with the love of the Risen Christ. There will be special decorations made by our church school children, and music from the St. John's Youth Orchestra. We will also celebrate all that our young people contribute to the parish through the choir, acolyte and Christian education/youth programs. After the service we'll have the annual parish picnic, rain or shine. **Last name A-M:** Please bring a dessert or chips. **Last name N-Z:** Please bring a salad or fruit. Hot dogs, beverages and paper goods will be provided.



Blessing Bag donations: Blessing Bags are small bags of necessities that we offer to people in need who come to St. John's looking for help. We are always in need of the following:

- Small size toiletries: Toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, body wash, soap, deodorant, wet wipes
 - Non-perishable single-serving snacks: Fruit sauce, dried fruit, trail mix, granola bars, cookies, crackers, candy bars, small bottles of water or juice
 - Clothing accessories for both men and women: Durable socks, hats and gloves
- Please leave Blessing Bag donations in the marked bin in Hubbard Hall.

Food Pantry donations: While the first Sunday of the month is our "official" collection day for food donations, you may bring them in any Sunday. The food is delivered once a month to the Grace Seventh Day Adventist Food Pantry on Prospect Avenue. They particularly need protein sources (such as peanut butter and tuna), dry cereal, and canned fruit and vegetables. They also have limited refrigerated space for donations of fresh fruit and vegetables. If you'd like to donate fresh produce, please let Ellen in the parish office know so we can make sure that a St. John's volunteer can deliver it to the food pantry ASAP. Please leave non-perishable food donations in the wagon in the back of the church.



Spring 2018 Music at the Red Door Events

Two final Pipes Alive! concerts will finish out the program year. Today we welcome Ezequiel Menendez from the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford. A light soup lunch will be provided for those staying after church for the concert. The final Pipes Alive! concert of the year, on June 3, features Susan Carroll from Asylum Hill Congregational Church.

All Music at the Red Door events are free and open to the public, and donations are accepted. Please come and invite a friend.

Youth Sunday Service & Parish Picnic

Sunday, May 20

10:30 a.m.

with picnic to follow, rain or shine

Last name A-M:

Bring chips or dessert

Last name N-Z:

Bring salad or fruit

Beverages, paper goods and hot dogs provided



St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. each Sunday morning
4:30 p.m. Celtic contemplative service on the first Sunday of the month (Oct – June)
5:00 p.m. Evensong on selected last Sundays of the month
5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer each Monday, Wednesday and Friday
Christian Education at 9:30 a.m. September – May

STAFF

The Rev. Susan Pinkerton (susan@sjparish.net) *Rector*
Scott Lamlein (scott@sjparish.net) *Director of Music*
The Rev. Walter McKenney* (walter@sjparish.net) *Deacon*
The Rev. Hope Eakins* (hope@sjparish.net) *Priest Associate*
The Rev. William Eakins* (bill@sjparish.net) *Priest Associate*
Janet Babbitt (janet@sjparish.net) *Director of Religious Education*
Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net) *Parish Manager and Assistant to the Rector*
Dwight Latif (dwight@sjparish.net) *Sexton*
Peggy O'Toole (peggy@sjparish.net) *Financial Administrator*
Mary Scripko (mary@sjparish.net) *Religious Education Assistant*
Ralph Valentine *Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus*

**These positions are non-stipendiary. These clergy give generously of their time and expertise to support St. John's mission and ministries.*

VESTRY

Buffy Ineson *Warden*
Wes Winterbottom *Warden*
Tim Goetz and John Roche *Co-Treasurers*
Ellen Painter Dollar *Scribe*

2016-18: Bess Amamoo, Ginny Kemp, Will Smith

2017-19: Geoff Emerick, Douglas Hyland, Virginia Van Dyk, Andrew Worrell

2018-20: Steve Crocker, Ann Hutchinson, Sonia Michel, Alex Nelson