St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another in Christ www.sjparish.net



The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II
July 30, 2023
10:30 a.m.

Welcome!

It is our custom to be silent before the service, so as you take some time to pray, please turn off all electronic devices. All you need to participate in the service is found in this bulletin and in the blue hymnals in each pew.

If you are new to St. John's, or have been attending a while but the parish office doesn't yet have your information, please fill out our online newcomer form by scanning the QR code or going to sjparish.net/newcomer

Our ushers are here to create a welcoming and safe space for worship; please let them know if you have questions, need assistance, or become aware of a health or safety concern. They have hearing assist devices available for those who need them. We're glad you're here!



Scan to fill out onlin newcomer form.

Children are always welcome to be in church with their families. We encourage you to sit up front, as children will be more engaged if they can see and hear what's going on. Children are welcome here just as they are; please don't feel you must leave every time your little one makes a sound! We have children's bulletins, books, and other quiet activities available in the narthex (the entrance with the red doors) for children's use during the service. We do not offer staffed nursery care over the summer, but a changing table and couches are available in the Education Wing for parents to use as needed.



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY Short Prelude & Fugue in D minor, BWV 554

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 388 O worship the King, all glorious above *All stand and sing*.

HANOVER

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Celebrant 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 HYMN OF PRAISE

All sing.



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong,

nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever

and ever. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

All sit.

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 29:15–28

aban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her. Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is

completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Psalm 105:1–11, 45b

The people say the words in **bold**.

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; * make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, * and speak of all his marvelous works.
- 3 Glory in his holy Name; * let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
- 4 Search for the Lord and his strength; * continually seek his face.
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done, * his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, *O children of Jacob his chosen.
- 7 He is the Lord our God; * his judgments prevail in all the world.
- 8 He has always been mindful of his covenant, * the promise he made for a thousand generations:
- 9 The covenant he made with Abraham, * the oath that he swore to Isaac,
- 10 Which he established as a statute for Jacob, * an everlasting covenant for Israel,
- 11 Saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan * to be your allotted inheritance."

45b Hallelujah!

THE SECOND LESSON Romans 8:26–39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We

know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 635 If thou but trust in God to guide thee

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

All stand and sing.

THE GOSPEL *Matthew* 13:31–33, 44–52

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

All Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened. The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Minister The Gospel of the Lord.
All Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Margie Baker

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 AND THE CONFESSION

The people say the words in **bold**.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our presiding bishop, for Jeff and Laura our bishops, and for all bishops and other ministers; For all who serve God in the Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence. The people may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence. The people may add their own thanksgivings.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, especially David St. George, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence. The people may add their own petitions.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

All Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

in your compassion forgive us our sins,

known and unknown,

things done and left undone;

and so uphold us by your Spirit

that we may live and serve you in newness of life,

to the honor and glory of your Name;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

All And also with you.

THE WELCOME

All sit.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY MUSIC Chorale Prelude on Wer nur den lieben Gott

Mark Fax (1911–1974)

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

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLift up your hearts.

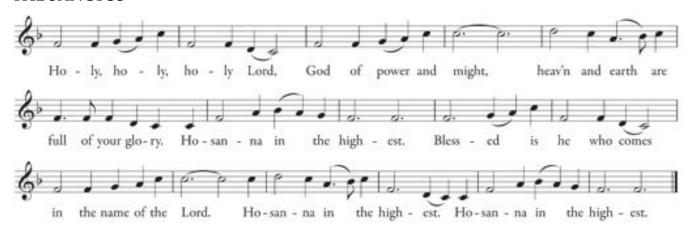
People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues.

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. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world. 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:

THE SANCTUS



Music: Land of Rest, arr. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889–1983)

All remain standing or kneel.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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**.

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.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God.

Everyone is invited to receive Holy Communion at St. John's. To receive, please kneel or stand at the altar rail. You may choose to receive bread only, intinct (dip) your wafer in the wine, or drink from the cup.

If you would like a blessing, cross your arms over your chest.

If you have mobility limitations and would like a priest to bring Communion to you in your seat, please let an usher know. If you would like to pray with our healing prayer volunteer, go to the baptismal font at the back of the church after receiving Communion.

THE COMMUNION HYMN 324 Let all mortal flesh keep silence

PICARDY

All remain seated and sing.

THE PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Those worshipping online are invited to offer this prayer silently or aloud.

Gracious and risen Lord, we believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. We love you above all things and we desire to receive you into our souls. Since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into our hearts. We embrace you and unite ourselves wholly to you. Never may we be separated from you. Amen.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

All stand or kneel.

Celebrant Let us pray.

People

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 BLESSING

The Celebrant gives the blessing and the people respond, Amen.

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 488 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart *All sing*.

SLANE

THE DISMISSAL

The Minister dismisses the people, and the people respond. Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE VOLUNTARY Fugue in C minor, BWV 549b

Johann Sebastian Bach

The closing voluntary is a part of worship, extending the beauty of holiness so that the congregation can remember and give thanks for God's Word as it has been experienced this day. All are invited to say **Amen** at the end of the Voluntary as a conclusion to our worship.

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

Celebrant and Preacher: The Reverend Margie Baker

Layreader: Jyothsna Diaz **Organist:** Scott Lamlein Ushers: Jo Anne Burgh, Ellen Flynn Healing Prayers: Enid Oberholtzer Livestream Oversight: Ray Giolitto Altar Guild: Nancy Pedersen, Barbara Roos

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of John Amamoo.

The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA, and used by permission.

Hymns used by permission of OneLicense, No. A-724992. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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. Residents of the Caleb Hitchcock Center at Duncaster, and the George Beach Apartments, Allen Place, Hartford. All those whose hurts, burdens, and fears are unspoken or unknown.

Those in need of healing, help, and comfort:

Kim Green	Susan	Ellie Brown	Paul Epstein
Janet Ray	Sue	Anita Winters	Wendy
Brad Babbitt	Whitney Lynch	Mary Jo Keating	Bob Norton
Ward Farrell	Tom Reichenbach	Robert Connolly	Emma Pinney
Paul L. Peck	Tessa Trussell Wolf	Anne Beyersdorfer	Sean Kuruvilla
Virginia Skeele	Gina Giusto	Alison Gillespie	Joseph
Grant Loevenbruck	Mima Esponda	Joyce Flynn	Sarah Carroll
John & Barbara Spannaus	The Yelland family	Steve Chambers	Greg Highland
Jennifer Blean	Nick Willke	Rachel Boccio	Jane Nelson
Tori	Harry Barber	Joan Ackley	Rachel
Deborah	Doug Larson	Guy Russo	Larry Ackley

Those serving in the military:

Alex Thaxton Christian Dahlstrom

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Michael Mei John Ineson

Ryan Honyotski Thomas Whittemore **David Beers Brooklyn Marchion** Jim Sharp Samantha Spillman

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Lyn Walker & Tyler Smith Susan & Brad Thomas Enid & Tom Oberholtzer

Those who have died:

The Rev. Dr. David St. George, member of St. John's

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for Good Shepherd, Shelton; St. Paul's, Shelton; and for Christ Church Cathedral's ministry in Hartford, the Cathedral Chapter, and honorary canons of our Cathedral.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America.

Camp support volunteers still needed for Kids Community Music Camp, August 21–25, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. We have more than 25 campers signed up for our week-long day camp in August, and we need lots of help to make it happen! Contact Ellen in the parish office if you can be a camp support volunteer. More details in the graphic on page 13. *Note that we already have enough lunch volunteers*.

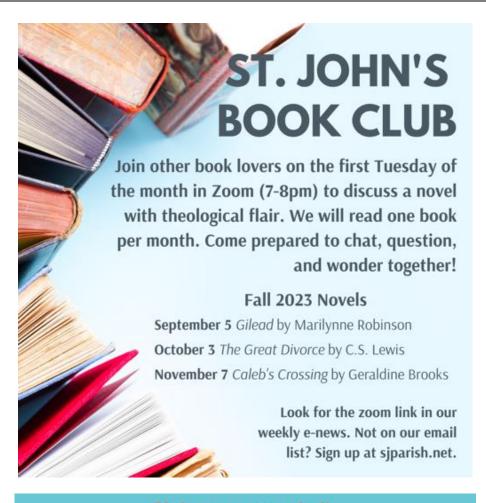
Summer Singers, rehearsal at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays in August. The Summer Singers will sing at 10:30 services on the four Sundays in August. This is an opportunity to give choir a try — novices and experienced singers are all welcome! Rehearsal begins at 9:30 a.m. in the church each Sunday. Contact Scott Lamlein at music@sjparish.net to RSVP or if you have questions.

Support our neighbors this summer. With fewer donations going to food pantries and no school breakfast and lunch programs, many of our neighbors struggle to have enough to eat over the summer. Help feed our neighbors by donating food to our Blessing Box and our collection for the West Hartford Food Pantry. **We can also use full-size toiletries (deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste)** to keep on hand in the office for people in need. Go to siparish.net/blessingbags for our Amazon wish list or pick up these items locally and drop them at the church office.

Blessing of the Backpacks at both services on Sunday, August 27. The annual Blessing of the Backpacks will take place on Sunday, August 27 at both the 9:00 and 10:30 services. Everyone returning to school this fall—students, educators, administrators, school employees—are invited to bring your backpack (or tote bag, laptop, lunch bag, or whatever you bring to school each day!) to receive a blessing and prayers for a fruitful new school year.

Kick-off Sunday activities with acolyte training and ice cream social for children, youth & families. On Sunday, September 10, we return to our program year schedule with two services at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., along with Sunday School, nursery care, choir, and adult education. To celebrate and prepare for a new year ahead, we have two special activities planned for children, youth, and families. Immediately following the 10:30 service, we'll have an acolyte training with pizza lunch. Children and teens in 3rd grade and above, including those in the Choir School, are eligible to serve as acolytes, and we ask that both new and returning acolytes attend the training. Then at 1:30 p.m., ALL children, youth, and parents/caregivers are invited for an ice cream social and a sneak peek at the program year ahead.

Online St. John's book club to start in September. The brand new St. John's book club will meet monthly on the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. online (Zoom), starting in September. In the graphic on page 13 are the first three books we will read and discuss, so you can get a head start on reading over the summer! The Zoom link will be included in the e-newsletter on the Thursday before each book club meeting.



Volunteers needed!

Help give our campers a wonderful week of music, creativity, and friendship.



AUGUST 21 - 25 9AM TO 3PM HOW YOU CAN HELP:

PROVIDE A LUNCH: Homemade or purchased, for kids and volunteers (30 to 40 people). We can provide guidelines/ideas on what to serve. We ask that you help SERVE and CLEAN UP the lunch you provide if possible! Lunch happens around noon.

BE A CAMP SUPPORT VOLUNTEER: Help supervise and support campers as they move through different activities, including music and dance classes and outdoor play time. While we would love volunteers to commit to all 5 days, if that's not possible you can commit to mornings only, afternoons only, 2-3 days out of the week, etc.

ADULTS, COLLEGE STUDENTS, & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE ALL WELCOME. CONTACT ELLEN IN THE PARISH OFFICE (ELLEN@SJPARISH.NET OR 860.523.5201).





Kick-Off Sunday

for children, youth, and families



Sunday, September 10

Sunday School, Nursery, and Choir School return!
PLUS Acolyte Training for new and returning
acolytes at 12:00 & an Ice Cream Social for ALL
families at 1:30

Sunday School and Nursery

- · Nursery open 9am-noon
- Sunday School for primary (ages 3-6), elementary, middle, and high school 9:30-10:15

Choral Holy Eucharist 10:30

Acolyte Training 12:00-1:30

- · new and returning acolytes
- · lunch will be provided
- · all children and teens grades 3+ are eligible

Ice Cream Social 1:30-2:30

- · for ALL children, youth, and families
- visit with one another and learn about upcoming events
- ice cream sundaes and non-dairy options



St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another in Christ www.sjparish.net

679 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, Connecticut 06119 860 523 5201 office@sjparish.net



SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9 a.m. Sunday: Holy Eucharist in the Cloister Garden 10:30 a.m. Sunday: Holy Eucharist in the church and livestreamed Daily Morning Prayer by phone at 6:45 a.m. Monday through Friday Contact parish office for call-in details.

STAFF

The Rev. Todd FitzGerald (todd@sjparish.net) The Rev. Margie Baker (margie@sjparish.net) Scott Lamlein (scott@sjparish.net) The Rev. Walter McKenney Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net) Dwight Latif (dwight@sjparish.net) Peggy O'Toole (peggy@sjparish.net) Christa Rakich	
Ralph Valentine	Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus
VESTRY Cingar Cillagnia	Wardon
Ginger GillespieStewart Murchie	Warden
Anne Harney and David McCary	Co-Treasurers
2021–23: Annabel Clapp, Robert Eikel, Julia O'Brien	CO Treasurers

2022–24: Lissie Brooks, Marcos Donnelly, Rosa Guzzo, Mary Honyotski

2023–25: Angela Allen-Peck, Eleanor Barnes, John Nowacki, Tom Oberholtzer