St. John's Episcopal Church

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



The Fifth Sunday in Lent HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

March 17, 2024

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 siparish.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 online 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. Our professionally staffed nursery located in the Education Wing is open on Sunday mornings from 9 a.m. to 12 noon; parents/caregivers are welcome to drop off children in the nursery for part or all of the service. The Education Wing and nursery also have changing tables and seating that parents/caregivers may use as needed.

Cover art: Lenten Labyrinth by Mike Moyers. From the artist: "Labyrinths are ancient meditation tools. Unlike mazes, labyrinths are not puzzles to solve. They have the same entrance and exit point. The traveler merely wanders to the center and then journeys back out. The purpose is to journey into prayer and meditation while traveling through the labyrinth's many twists and turns...Because this labyrinth is meant to trigger your own contemplation, I won't go into great detail explaining its meaning. I will, however, get you started. The labyrinth begins and ends with the black path at the bottom. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with Good Friday. Both are services about darkness, and death. Likewise, this Lenten labyrinth begins and ends with the darkness of the cross...The center is left blank. Empty, unpainted canvas. That is your place."



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY Erbarm dich mein, o Herre Gott, BWV 721

J.S. Bach (1685–1750)

Have mercy on me, O Lord God

THE SILENT PROCESSION

All stand at the ringing of the bell.

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People God's mercy endures forever.

Celebrant If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we

confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all

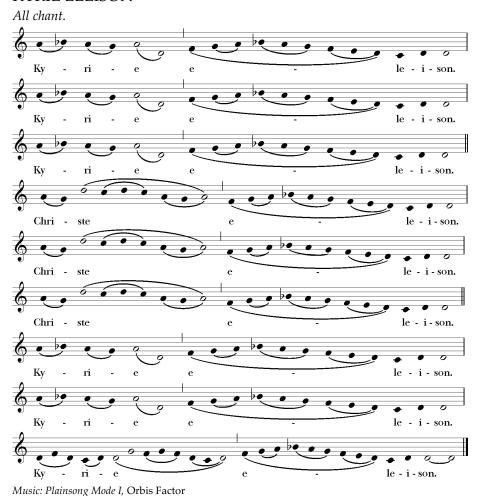
unrighteousness. Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All remain standing or kneel.

All Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

KYRIE ELEISON



Translation: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of

sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you

and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People Amen.

All sit.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 31:31–34

he days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

THE PSALTER

Psalm 51:1–13

The people say the words in **bold** and sing the antiphon as indicated.



- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; * in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness * and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions, * and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned * and done what is evil in your sight.
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak * and upright in your judgment.

- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, * a sinner from my mother's womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, * and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

Antiphon

- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; * wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, * that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 Hide your face from my sins * and blot out all my iniquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, * and renew a right spirit within me.
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence * and take not your holy Spirit from me.
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again * and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

Antiphon

THE EPISTLE

Hebrews 5:5–10

hrist did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek." In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

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

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 393 Praise our great and gracious Lord *All stand and sing.*

Maoz Zur

THE GOSPEL John 12:20–33

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

All Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Tow among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. "Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour.

The Reverend Margie Baker

Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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

THE SERMON

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.

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.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

With confidence and trust let us pray to God.

For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, especially for Michael, our presiding bishop; Jeff and Laura, our bishops; our parish clergy; and the people of St. John's. Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness we may share the good news of God's love in our words and our actions. Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

For peace in the world, especially in the Holy Land, Ukraine, South Sudan, and all places consumed by violence and chaos, that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples. Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer, especially those on our parish prayer list, and for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger, that they may be relieved and protected. Lord of compassion, in your mercy hear us.

For those whom we have injured or offended, and those who have injured or offended us. Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

For grace to amend our lives and practice the loving, humble, and merciful way of Jesus. Lord of compassion, in your mercy hear us.

In communion with all the departed who have walked in the way of holiness, let us pray to God. Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

Celebrant

God of love, you have taught us to come close to you in penitence with prayer, fasting, and generosity; accept our Lenten discipline, and when we fall by our weakness, raise us up by your unfailing mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you.

THE WELCOME

All sit.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM Create in me a clean heart, O God

Carl Mueller (1892–1982) Words: Psalm 50:10–13

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from thy presence and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation and uphold me, uphold me with thy free Spirit.

Then will I teach transgressors thy ways, and sinners will be converted unto thee.

Create in me a clean heart, O God.

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.

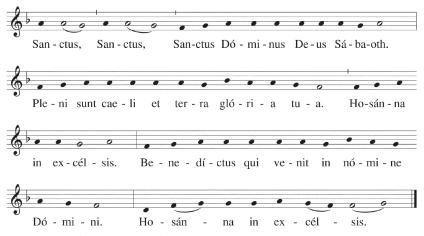
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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 was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. 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

All chant.



Music: Gregorian Chant, Deus Genitor alme

Translation: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts. 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.

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.

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.

A - men.

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 Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

All chant.



Music: Gregorian Chant, Deus Genitor alme

Translation: Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

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.

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.

THE COMMUNION ANTHEM When rooks fly homeward

Arthur Baynon (1889–1954) Text: Joseph Campbell (1879–1944)

When rooks fly homeward and shadows fall, hen roses fold on the hay-yard wall, when blind moths flutter by door and tree, then comes the quiet of Christ to me.

When stars look out on the Children's Path, and grey mists gather on earn and rath, when night is one with the brooding sea, then comes the quiet of Christ to me. Arthur Baynon was born in Bristol, England, and educated at the cathedral school and university there. He was later appointed music master at Truro College, and was afterwards (1913–1916) organist and music master at St. Michael's College, the school for English church music. After four years in service in the first World War, he became director of music at Caterham School.

THE COMMUNION HYMN 691 My faith looks up to thee

OLIVET

All remain seated and sing.

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 473 Lift high the cross *All sing*.

CRUCIFER

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Fugue in C minor, BWV 549b

Johann Sebastian Bach



Johann Sebastian Bach was a German composer and musician of the Baroque period. He is known for instrumental compositions such as the Brandenburg Concertos and the Goldberg Variations, vocal music such as the St. Matthew Passion and the Mass in B minor, and thousands of keyboard works, especially organ. Since the 19th-century Bach Revival, he has been generally regarded as one of the greatest composers of all time, and is

certainly one of the most influential composers, as none of the music we know today would exist without his innovations.

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: The Reverend Todd FitzGerald **Preacher:** The Reverend Margie Baker **Deacon:** The Reverend Walter McKenney

Layreader: Jo Anne Burgh Psalterer: Ann Hutchinson The St. John's Adult Choir

Organist and Choirmaster: Scott Lamlein

Acolytes: Caleb Worrell, Brielle Worrell, Jx Eikel

Ushers: Eleanor Barnes, Annabel Clapp, Bette-Jane Hardersen, Virginia Van Dyk

Healing Prayers: Wes Winterbottom Livestream Director: Mary Honyotski Altar Guild: Eti Akpan, Barbara Roos Sunday School Teacher: Taffy Wilcox

Nursery Staff: Nichole Segar, Caroline Thaxton, Olivia Thaxton

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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	Wendy
Brad Babbitt	Sue	Anita Winters	Bob Norton
Paul L. Peck	Whitney Lynch	Alison Gillespie	Joseph
Virginia Skeele	Tessa Trussell Wolf	Joyce Flynn	Sarah Carroll
Grant Loevenbruck	Gina Giusto	Rachel Boccio	Greg Highland
John & Barbara Spannaus	The Yelland family	Joan Ackley	Rachel
Jennifer Blean	Harry Barber	Guy Russo	Lucas
Tori	Doug Larson	Jon Nelson	Amy Bittinger
Hale Walkoff	Brenda	G.F.	William Bittinger
Rod Farrell	Jeff Lewis	Ned	Ben Mabrey
Hillary Lord	Miranda	Roger	Mike
Madeline	Allison and Family	Everett	Dan Minster
Helen Rosen	Erin Roben	Randy McCord	Rick
Nick Willke			

Those serving in the military:

Alex Thaxton

Christian Dahlstrom

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Ginny Kemp	Atlas Higelmire	Margaret Thomas
Jo Anne Burgh	John Hardy	Andrew Worrell
Emily Hardy	Atticus Finkell	Cricket Booker
David Grimaldi	Jenn Baker	Livvy Lorenzo

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for All Saints', Ivoryton; St. Andrew's, Kent; Emmanuel, Killingworth; Trinity, Lime Rock; and for our bishops, ECCT staff, parish employees, and their families.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Church in Wales.

Sign up to help with sandwiches next Sunday. After the 10:30 service on Palm Sunday, March 24, we will make 200 sandwiches for the Loaves & Fishes feeding ministry. Please sign up to provide supplies or help with set-up at siparish.net/sandwiches

Help fill eggs for the Easter egg hunt! We welcome donations of filled Easter eggs for our annual children's egg hunt after the 10:30 service on Easter Day. Pick up a bag of empty eggs on 3/17 or 3/24 from the narthex or Hubbard Hall and take them home to fill with candy (no nuts!), stickers, or other trinkets. If you prefer, you may purchase and fill your own eggs, or buy pre-filled eggs. Please return filled eggs by 10 a.m. on Easter (March 31).

Easter flower memorials due by Monday, March 25. If you would like to honor or remember a loved one by donating toward the cost of Easter flowers to adorn the church, please either fill out a flower offering envelope (available at both entrances to the church and in the pews) and put it in the offering plate with your donation, or email Ellen with the names of those whom you would like to honor, and send in your donation. Donations of any amount are welcome. Names must be received by March 25 to be included in the Easter service bulletins.

Holy Week devotionals available. Copies of *Understanding the Cross*, a home-based Holy Week devotional from the Salt Project, may be picked up in the narthex or from the red information cart in Hubbard Hall.

Save the dates! More information about all of these events is forthcoming. For now, mark your calendars!

- **Trivia Night, Friday, April 5, 5:30 p.m.** Hosted by the EYC (youth group), this fun event is open to everyone! Bring your own team or be assigned to one. Pizza provided; bring a snack or sweet to share.
- Spring Fling & Food Auction fundraiser, Friday, May 31, 6:30 p.m. All parish adults and friends are welcome. Enjoy good conversation, live music, appetizers, beverages, and silent and live auctions.
- St. John's at the Yard Goats, Sunday, June 16, 1:05 p.m. Come cheer on Hartford's favorite minor league ball team at Dunkin Donuts Park with your St. John's friends. The Choir School will sing *America*, the Beautiful before the game starts.
- Vacation Bible School for all ages, June 17 to 20, 5:30 to 8 p.m. Prayer, Scripture, activities, and dinner centered on the theme of how God nourishes us. Open to everyone, regardless of age or affiliation with St. John's. Children age 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult. \$30 per person, maximum \$100/family. Registration via Realm will be open soon.



FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT 15

Good Friday for Children

Friday, March 29, 10:00-11:15am



Parents and children of all ages are invited to a prayerful walk through the three Holy Days leading up to Easter:
Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday.

Together we will tell the story of Jesus' last meal with his friends, his prayers in the garden, and his arrest and death, while always looking ahead to the hope of Easter morning. We will begin in the church at 10:00am.

Questions? Email margie@sjparish.net

Holy Week & Easter at St. John's



Palm Sunday - March 24 Holy Eucharist at 8 and 10:30am



Maundy Thursday - March 28

Holy Eucharist at 7pm



Good Friday - March 29 Children's walk through Holy Week at 10am Good Friday worship at 12 noon



Easter Day - March 31
Festal Eucharist at 8 and 10:30am
Easter egg hunt after the late service

St. John's Episcopal Church

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



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8 a.m. Sunday: Spoken Holy Eucharist
9:30 a.m. Sunday: Christian education for all ages
10:30 a.m. Sunday: Choral Holy Eucharist (also livestreamed)

5 p.m. on the second Sunday of the month (*October – May, no service in December*): Celtic Eucharist in Hubbard Hall 5 p.m. on select fourth Sundays of the month: Choral Evensong

STAFF

The Rev. Todd FitzGerald (todd@sjparish.net)	Priest in Charge
The Rev. Margie Baker (margie@sjparish.net)	
Scott Lamlein (scott@sjparish.net)	Director of Music
The Rev. Walter McKenney	Deacon
Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net)	Director of Operations & Communications
Dwight Latif (dwight@sjparish.net)	Sexton
Peggy O'Toole (peggy@sjparish.net)	Financial Administrator
Christa Rakich	Organ Artist-in-Residence
Ralph Valentine	Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus

VESTRY

Eleanor Barnes	Warden
Stewart Murchie	Warden
Anne Harney and David McCary	Co-Treasurers

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

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

2024–26: Ginger Gillespie, Lauren Mascola, Linda Schatz, Brenda Zanta