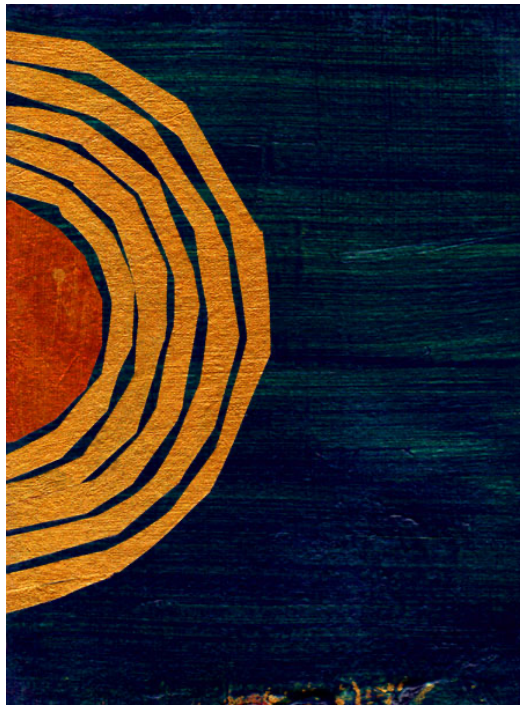


St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another in Christ

www.sjparish.net



The Last Sunday after the Epiphany

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

February 15, 2026

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



Scan to fill out online newcomer form.

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!

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: An Ancient Light by Jan Richardson



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY Adoro te devote and Laudate Dominum Victor Togni (1935–1965)

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 135 Songs of thankfulness and praise SALZBURG
All stand and sing.

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 for ever. 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.

People **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

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,
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Title: Canticle 20, *Gloria to God: Gloria in excelsis*

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Copyright © Church Publishing, Inc

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

- 8 O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; *
 you were a God who forgave them,
 yet punished them for their evil deeds.
- 9 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
 and worship him upon his holy hill; *
 for the Lord our God is the Holy One. **Antiphon**

THE SECOND LESSON

2 Peter 1:16–21

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 129 Christ upon the mountain peak

MOWSLEY

All stand and sing.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 17:1–9

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

All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

Minister The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

Todd FitzGerald

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

The people say the words in bold.

Let us worship the Savior with joy and make our prayers to God.

The magi came from the east to worship your Son: Grant to Christians everywhere the spirit of worship and a readiness to seek and follow you always. Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

The infant Christ received gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh: Accept the offering of our hearts and minds as we strive to faithfully follow Jesus in the year ahead. Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ: Inspire our leaders to work for an abundance of peace, justice, and compassion, and strengthen all peacemakers, especially in places overwhelmed by violence and conflict. Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

The Holy Family lived in exile and in the shadow of death: Look in mercy on all who are poor and powerless, all immigrants and refugees, and those without a safe place to call home. Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

Your Son shared the life of his home and family in Nazareth: Protect in your love our families and neighbors, and comfort all who are struggling, especially those on our parish prayer list. Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

Jesus reigns with you in eternal life: Welcome those who have died into your realm of everlasting love and peace. Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant 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.**

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 ANTHEM Christ, whose glory fills the skies

T. Frederick Candlyn (1892–1964)
Text: Charles Wesley (1707–1788)

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
Triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near,
Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn
 Unaccompanied by Thee;
 Joyless is the day's return
 Till Thy mercy's beams I see,
 Till Thou inward light impart,
 Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine,
 Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
 Fill me, Radiance divine,
 Scatter all my unbelief;
 More and more Thyself display,
 Shining to the perfect day.

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 our thanks and praise.**

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time, you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices as we sing:

THE SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
 might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

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 FRACTION ANTHEM

Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant Take this bread, share this wine. In these Christ comes to us with love from God. 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 instead of receiving Communion, 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.

Confidential prayers are available with a trained healing prayer minister at the back of the church near the baptismal font. If you would like to pray with someone about life's challenges or joys, go to the font after receiving Communion.

THE COMMUNION ANTHEM O nata lux

Thomas Tallis (1505–1585)

Text: Office hymn for the Feast of the Transfiguration

O nata lux de lumine,
Jesu redemptor saeculi,
Dignare clemens supplicum
Laudes precesque sumere.

Qui carne quondam contegi
Dignatus es pro perditis,
Nos membra confer effici
Tui beati corporis.

*O Light born of Light,
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
with loving-kindness deign to receive
suppliant praise and prayer.*

*Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh
for the sake of the lost,
grant us to be members
of thy blessed body.*

THE COMMUNION HYMN 383 Fairest Lord Jesus

ST. ELIZABETH

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 Alleluia, song of gladness

DULCE CARMEN

All stand and sing.

1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, Voice of joy that can - not die;
 2 Al - le - lu - ia, thou re - sound - est, True Je - ru - sa - lem and free;
 3 Al - le - lu - ia, we de - serve not Here to chant for ev - er - more;
 4 There - fore in our hymns we pray thee, Grant us, bless - ed Tri - ni - ty,

Al - le - lu - ia is the an - them Ev - er dear to choirs on high;
 Al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er, All thy chil - dren sing with thee;
 Al - le - lu - ia, our trans - gres - sions Make us for a while give o'er;
 At the last to keep thine Eas - ter In our home be - yond the sky;

In the house of God a - bid - ing Thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.
 But by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters Mourn - ing ex - iles now are we.
 For the ho - ly time is com - ing Bid - ding us our sins de - plore.
 There to thee for ev - er sing - ing Al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

Text: Latin, 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale (1818–1866)

Music: DULCE CARMEN, *An Essay on the Church Plain Chant* (1782)

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Alleluia

Victor Togni

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.

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THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY**Celebrant:** The Reverend Margie Baker**Preacher:** The Reverend Todd FitzGerald**Seminarian:** Katherine Leary**Lector & Chalice Bearer:** Dave Derby**Intercessor & Chalice Bearer:** Lauren Mascola**Acolytes:** Alvin Mani, Allison Mani, Eden Baker**The St. John's Adult Choir****Organist & Choirmaster:** Nick Capozzoli**Organ Scholar:** Elijah Morris**Ushers:** Ryan Honyotski, Don Polk (greeter), John Roche, Laura Roche**Livestream Operator:** Mary Honyotski**Altar Guild:** Matteo Donnelly, Brenda Zanta**Healing Prayer Minister:** Dave Grimaldi**Sunday School Teachers:** Enid Oberholtzer, Erica Weinstock**Nursery Staff:** Sheryl Simoni Caroline Thaxton, Olivia Thaxton

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Teresa Chung, William E. Knorr, Robert W. Knorr, and Florence and Ben Renz.

Notes on today's music: This is the last Sunday to sing or say "Alleluia" until Easter, hence the music that incorporates this celebratory word. Our final hymn, an 11th century Latin text, alludes to our deliberate fast from the word starting this Wednesday: "For the holy time is coming bidding us our sins deplore." The composer of the prelude and postlude, Victor Togni, was a Swiss Canadian organist who tragically died in a car accident at the age of 30. These short vignettes weave Gregorian chant melodies with 20th-century French harmony.

Join us in Hubbard Hall after the service for coffee hour.

This week, coffee hour food is provided by those with last names starting M through R.

Next week, food will be provided by those with last names starting S through Z.

EVENSONG



**St. John's Adult Choir
and Choir of
St. James's Church**

February 15, 5pm

St. John's Episcopal Church, West Hartford

Events are available
livestreamed at
www.reddoormusic.org



**MUSIC AT THE
RED DOOR**

In your prayers this week, please pray for:

Peace in our world, those serving our country in the armed services, and 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	Joyce Flynn	Wendy
Virginia Skeele	Sue	Rachel Boccio	Bob Norton
Grant Loevenbruck	Tessa Trussell Wolf	Joan Ackley	Joseph
John & Barbara Spannaus	Harry Barber	Jon Nelson	Sarah Carroll
Jennifer Blean	Doug Larson	Ned	Greg Highland
Hale Walkoff	Miranda	Roger	Rachel
Rod Farrell	Allison and Family	Daniel Zoltan	Lucas
Hillary Lord	Linda	Jim & Kathlyn Schofield	Amy Bittinger
Helen Rosen	Tom Tata	John Scott	Mike
Nick Willke	Timothy Foga	Eric Zoltan	Rick
Tracie O'Brien	Shoemaker Family	Elizabeth Myers	Richard Myers
Naya	Elsa	Rob Roy	Carol
Amy	Heidi	Meghan	Paul Thaxton
Cora	Alondra	Bonnie Evans	Stephanie
Beth	Andrew Worrell	Barbara	Ann
Katie	Sam Wiley	Dennis	Chris
Anne	Gracie	John Murray	Alberto Guzman
Martha Babbitt	Jackie Harding	Spencer Rothman	Kathy & Pete Beynor
Linda	Cynthia Wannace	Rosow Family	Sara Enright
Jamie Blean	Lisa Sheehan	Stacy Wagner	Bob Norton
Emily Brielle Clark	Ken Potter	Meg	Jeff Hilliard
Brendan	Will S.	Tom Lauterbach	Ruth
Jacob Stanton	Betsy Smith		

Those serving in the military:

Alex Thaxton

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Ryan Hill
Isla McAuslan
Isabel Castillo
George Giannios

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Mary & Ryan Honyotski
Laura & George Hicks

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for Christ Church, Greenwich; St. Barnabas', Greenwich; Christ Church, Guilford; and for the Reparations Fund Board and The Racial Healing, Justice & Reconciliation Ministry Network.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean.

Midweek contemplative Eucharist, every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in the chancel. All are welcome to attend this brief weekly service including scripture readings, prayer, silence, and communion. No regular weekly Eucharist on Ash Wednesday (February 18).

EYC (Episcopal Youth Community) is our youth group for middle and high school students. EYC meets most Sunday evenings from 5 to 7 p.m. with dinner provided. There is no EYC tonight due to the holiday weekend. **Schedule change next Sunday, February 22:** St. John's will host youth from other Connecticut churches at Youth Group on the Move from 3 to 6 p.m.

Upcoming Events

More information in each week's Thursday e-news and in the graphics in this bulletin.

- **Choral Evensong featuring the St. John's Adult Choir with the choir of St. James's Episcopal Church (West Hartford)** — TODAY at 5 p.m.
- **Shrove Tuesday pancake supper & family-friendly Ash Wednesday Eve service** — Tuesday, February 17 with dinner at 6 p.m., worship at 7 p.m.
- **Ash Wednesday services** — Wednesday, February 18 at 7 a.m., 12 noon, and 7 p.m.
- **Episcopal/St. John's 101 class** — Sundays from February 22 through March 29, after the 10:30 service

Sign up to help with the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper! All are invited to the annual Shrove Tuesday pancake supper to mark the end of the Epiphany season and the beginning of Lent. Supper will be followed by a family-friendly Ash Wednesday Eve service with the imposition of ashes. To help with the pancake supper, go to sjparish.net/pancakes.



Shrove Tuesday & Ash Wednesday at St. John's

Tuesday, February 17

6 pm - Shrove Tuesday pancake supper

Suggested donation to support youth group fundraiser: \$7/person, \$20/family

7 pm - Family-friendly service w/ imposition of ashes

Wednesday, February 18

Services with imposition of ashes at 7 am, 12 noon, and 7 pm

The St. John's youth group (EYC) is once again raising money for Dignity Grows.

Dignity Grows provides period and hygiene products to people in need. Our youth group is raising funds to fill several hundred bags with these much-needed products.

NEW THIS YEAR: CHECK OUT OUR CASH DONATION BOARD IN HUBBARD HALL!

The board has 100 envelopes, each marked with a dollar amount from \$1 to \$100. **Choose an envelope and return it (via the offering plate or to the office) with a donation equal to the amount on that envelope. Cash is preferred!** If you'd rather write a check to St. John's, please put "Dignity Grows" in the memo. Be aware that we will not deposit checks until the fundraiser ends in late March, and your donation will not appear on your annual church giving statement because we will pass the funds along to Dignity Grows. THANK YOU!



EPISCOPAL 101: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH & ST. JOHN'S

LEARN MORE ABOUT:

EPISCOPAL PRACTICE &
THEOLOGY

HOW WE LIVE OUT OUR FAITH HERE AT ST.
JOHN'S CHURCH

BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION, OR BECOMING A
MEMBER OF ST. JOHN'S

Join Todd FitzGerald, rector, for a class to learn more about the church and explore what it means to be a part of this faith community. The class will meet on six consecutive Sundays after the 10:30 service; bring a bag lunch if you wish. All are welcome regardless of how long you've been worshipping at St. John's.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22 – SUNDAY, MARCH 29
AFTER THE 10:30 SERVICE/COFFEE HOUR
IN THE LIBRARY (2ND FLOOR)
PLEASE RSVP TO THE CHURCH OFFICE



St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another in Christ

www.sjparish.net

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860 523 5201 office@sjparish.net



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays at 8 a.m.: Spoken Holy Eucharist

Sundays at 10:30 a.m.: Choral Holy Eucharist

Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.: Spoken Holy Eucharist

STAFF

The Rev. Todd FitzGerald (todd@sjparish.net).....	Rector
The Rev. Margie Baker (margie@sjparish.net).....	Associate Rector
Katherine Leary.....	Seminarian Intern*
Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net).....	Director of Operations & Communications
Dwight Latif (dwight@sjparish.net).....	Sexton
Nick Capozzoli (nick@sjparish.net).....	Director of Music
Peggy O'Toole (peggy@sjparish.net).....	Financial Administrator
Elijah Morris.....	Organ Scholar
Christa Rakich.....	Organ Artist-in-Residence*
Ralph Valentine.....	Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus*
The Rev. Rebecca Bourret.....	Priest Associate*
The Rev. Mary Lynn Dell.....	Priest Associate*
The Rev. Joseph Pace.....	Priest Associate*
The Rev. Nancy Wright.....	Priest Associate*

*These positions are non-stipendiary.

VESTRY

Susan Fay.....	Warden
Tom Oberholtzer.....	Warden
Jeff Kinney and John Wilcox.....	Treasurers

2024–27: Lauren Mascola, Stacey Samuel Bannon, Brenda Zanta

2025–28: Kim Byrd, Matteo Donnelly, Jeff Verney

2026–29: Betsy Chicares, Matt Ciscel, Young Hee Derby, Don Polk