



The Great Vigil of Easter
Saturday, April 4, 2026
6:30 p.m.

The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

In the darkness, fire is kindled;

The Presider says

Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

Let us pray.

O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

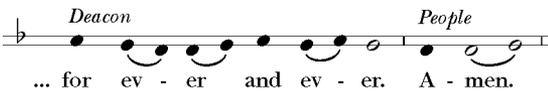
The Paschal Candle is then lighted from the newly kindled fire, and the Deacon or Presider bearing the Candle, leads the procession to the parish hall, pausing three times and singing



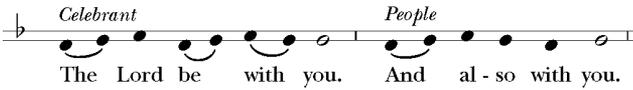
The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

Then Exultet is sung until this ending...

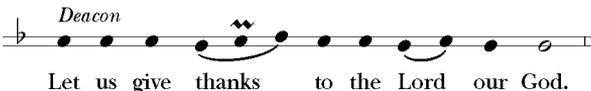
All you who stand near this marvelous and holy flame, pray with me to God the Almighty for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light; through Jesus Christ his Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,



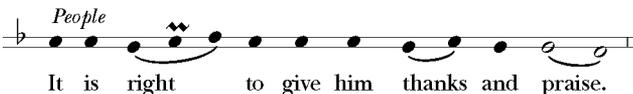
... for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Leader

It is truly right and good, always and everywhere, with our whole heart and mind and voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people.

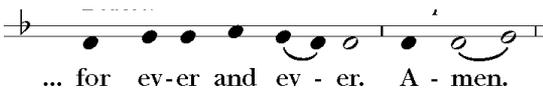
This is the night, when you brought our fathers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land. This is the night, when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin, and are restored to grace and holiness of life.

This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave. How wonderful and beyond our knowing, O God, is your mercy and loving-kindness to us, that to redeem a slave, you gave a Son.

How holy is this night, when wickedness is put to flight, and sin is washed away. It restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn. It casts out pride and hatred, and brings peace and concord.

How blessed is this night, when earth and heaven are joined and man is reconciled to God.

Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your honor. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning—he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns ...



The people sit.

The Liturgy of the Word

The Presider may introduce the Scripture readings in these words

Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how he saved his people in ages past; and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption.

The Flood

Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18, 8:6-18, 9:8-13

Lay Reader: Lissa Barker

Hymn 688 *A mighty fortress is our God*

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

Almighty God, you have placed in the skies the sign of your covenant with all living things: Grant that we, who are saved through water and the Spirit, may worthily offer to you our sacrifice of thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Israel's deliverance at the Red Sea

Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21

Lector: Doug Pittsenbarger

Hymn 425 *Sing now with joy unto the Lord*

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day, you once delivered by the power of your mighty arm your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, to be a sign for us of the salvation of all nations by the water of Baptism: Grant that all the peoples of the earth may be numbered among the offspring of Abraham, and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A new heart and a new spirit

Ezekiel 36:24-28

Lay Reader: Lissa Barker

Hymn 658 *As longs the deer for cooling streams*

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God, you have created all things by the power of your Word, and you renew the earth by your Spirit: Give now the water of life to those who thirst for you, that they may bring forth abundant fruit in your glorious kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The gathering of God's people

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Lector: Doug Pittsenbarger

Hymn 413 *New songs of celebration render*

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorable on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know the things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Processional Hymn to Baptismal Font *Wade in the water*

Wade in the wa - ter, wade in the wa-ter, chil - dren,

Fine

Wade in the wa - ter, God's a-gon-na trou-ble the wa - ter.

1. See that host all dressed in white,
2. See that band all dressed in red,
3. Look o - ver yon-der, what do I see? God's a-gon-na trou-ble the
4. If you don't be-lieve I've been re - deemed,

wa - ter.
1. The lead - er looks like the Is - ra - elite,
2. Looks like the band that Mo - ses led,
3. The Ho - ly Ghost a - com - ing on me,
4. Just fol - low me down to Jor - dan's stream,

D.C.

God's a - gon - na trou - ble the wa - ter.

Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual; arr. Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *The Haywood Collection of Negro Spirituals*.
Arr. Copyright © 1992 Carl Haywood.

The Celebrant may first address the people in these or similar words
Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, let us join with those being baptized and renew our the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

The Presider says

The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Infants and Younger Children

The candidates unable to answer for themselves are presented individually by their Parents and Godparents, as follows

Parents and Godparents

I present...to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

When all have been presented the Presider asks the parents and godparents

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Presider

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Then the Presider asks the following questions of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer **I renounce them.**

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer **I renounce them.**

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer **I renounce them.**

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer **I do.**

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer **I do.**

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer **I do.**

After all have been presented, the Presider addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support *this person* in her life in Christ?

People **We will.**

The Presider then says these or similar words

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Presider Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Presider Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Presider Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

- Presider* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
People **I will, with God's help.**
- Presider* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
People **I will, with God's help.**
- Presider* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
People **I will, with God's help.**
- Presider* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
People **I will, with God's help.**
- Presider* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Prayers for the Candidates

The Presider then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for this person who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

A Person appointed leads the following petitions

- Leader* Deliver *her*, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Leader* Open *her* heart to your grace and truth.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Leader* Fill *her* with your holy and life-giving Spirit.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Leader* Keep *her* in the faith and communion of your holy Church.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Leader* Teach *her* to love others in the power of the Spirit.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Leader* Send *her* into the world in witness to your love.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Leader* Bring *her* to the fullness of your peace and glory.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Presider says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Presider blesses the water, first saying

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Presider

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Presider touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Baptism

Each candidate is presented by name to the Presider pours water upon, the candidate, saying

N., I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

When this action has been completed for all candidates, the Priest, at a place in full sight of the congregation, prays over them, saying

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain her, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Then the Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying
N., you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

When all have been baptized, the Presider says
Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Presider and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The congregation now silently moves into the Sanctuary for the first Eucharist of Easter.

At the Eucharist

The candles at the Altar are lighted from the Paschal Candle.

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

Gloria in excelsis

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, hea-ven-ly King, al-
might-y 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.

Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

The Collect

The Presider then says

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Presider

Let us pray.

O God, who made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in your church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The people sit.

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans 6:3-11

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with

him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

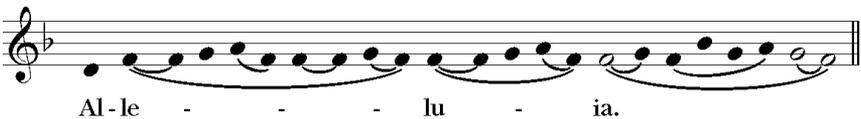
Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 114

- 1 Hallelujah!
When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
- 2 Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.
- 3 The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.
- 4 The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.
- 5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?
- 6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?
- 7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
- 8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

Gradual Hymn The Great Alleluia

After the Epistle, this Alleluia is traditionally sung three times by the Presider or by a Cantor, at successively higher pitches (one whole tone each time).



Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
 according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

Prayers of the People

Leader Let us pray for the Church and for the world.
 Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
People **That we all may be one.**

Leader Grant that every member of the Church
 may truly and humbly serve you;
People **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

Leader We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
People **That they may be faithful ministers
 of your Word and Sacraments.**

Leader We pray for all who govern and hold authority
 in the nations of the world;
People **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Leader Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
People **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Leader Have compassion on those who suffer
 from any grief or trouble;
People **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Leader Give to the departed eternal rest;
People **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Leader We praise you for your saints
who have entered into joy;

People **May we also come to share
in your heavenly kingdom.**

Leader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

(Silence)

Presider Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven
and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your peo-
ple, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

All stand. The Presider says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

*Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of
the Lord.*

Offertory Music *Now the green blade riseth, Paul Manz*

*Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings for-
ward. The people stand while the offerings are being presented and
placed on the Altar.*

The Doxology is sung as the offerings are brought forward:

[#]3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise
him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Then the Presider continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Presider and People

**We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

The Presider continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with Patrick and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Presider

**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 Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Hymn 370 vv. 6 *Christ be with me*

The Invitation

Facing the people, the Presider says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All persons are invited to the Altar.

If you choose to receive communion,

you may do so in one of the following ways:

- *Consume the bread first and then sip from the cup.*
- *Intinction is strongly discouraged, however if you choose to intinct please simply leave the wafer in your hands. The chalice bearer will dip the wafer for you then hand it back to you.*
- *Communion in one kind, or both, is acceptable.*
If you prefer to not receive the wine, you may proceed to your seat after receiving the bread.
- *If you would like to receive a blessing only, please cross your hands over your chest as a signal to the ministers.*
- *If you want a gluten free wafer, please place your palms down when you approach the ministers.*

Communion Hymns

306 *Come risen Lord and deign to be our guest*

316 *This is the hour banquet and of song*

After Communion, the Presider says

Let us pray.

Presider and 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 Priest blesses the people.

Recessional Hymn 182 *Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.*

The Deacon, or the Presider dismisses them with these words

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Alleluia, alleluia!

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude *Gaudeamus Pariter*, Robert Buckley Farlee

Easter Vigil Ministry Team

President: The Rev. Dr. Jason Emerson

Preacher: The Rev. Catherine Duffy

Deacon: The Rev. Vahagn Azizyan

Music Director: Jennifer Bell

Streaming: Thomas Clark

Lay Reader: Lissa Barker

Lector: Doug Pittsenbarger

Crucifer: Angel Cinco

Acolytes: Jack Magee, Ben Trotter

Ushers: Tom Jones, Bob Butler

Easter at St. Patrick's

Easter Sunday: April 5th

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist*

11:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt

11:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist*

**Nursery Available*

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Rev. Catherine Duffy, Associate Rector

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Jennifer Bell, Music Director

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Kati Glover, Minister of Communications

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