



WELCOME TO THIS
WORSHIP CELEBRA-
TION of the living
Christ's presence in
our midst. Christ
comes to us with new
life and strength for
Christian living in
daily life through the
hearing of the Word,
preaching, prayer,
song, and community.

*As the Confession and
Forgiveness begins, all
may make the sign of
the cross, the sign that
is marked at baptism.*

*Congregational re-
sponses are in bold*

** Asterisks through-
out the order of
worship indicate
the people stand-
ing, in body and/or
in spirit.*

GATHERING

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Linda Anne Goethe, reader

PRELUDE "Be Thou My Vision"

Shirley Newhart, organ

arr. Wood

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

People: **Amen.**

Leader: Let us confess our sin to God.
Silence is kept for reflection

Leader: Compassionate God.

People: **we confess to you all our sins.**
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.

Leader: Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."
In the name of God,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.

People: **Amen.**

***GATHERING SONG** “My Lord of Light”

Hymn 832



1 My Lord of light who made the worlds, in wis - dom you have spo - ken;
2 My Lord of love who knew no sin, a sin - ner's death en - dur - ing;
3 My Lord of life who came in fire when Christ was high as - cend - ed:
4 My Lord of lords, one Trin - i - ty, to your pure name be giv - en



but those who heard your wise com-mands your ho - ly law have bro - ken.
for us you wore a crown of thorns, a crown of life se - cur - ing.
your burn - ing love is now re - leased, our days of fear are end - ed.
all glo - ry now and ev - er - more, all praise in earth and heav-en.

Text: Christopher Idle, b. 1938
Music: BARBARA ALLEN, English folk tune
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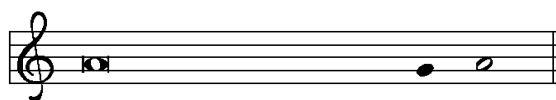
***GREETING**

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

"Kyrie" is a Greek word meaning "Lord." In Christian liturgy, particularly in Kyrie Eleison, it's used as a plea for God's mercy. The full phrase, "Kyrie eleison," translates to "Lord, have mercy," and has a common element in various Christian worship services since the 4th century.

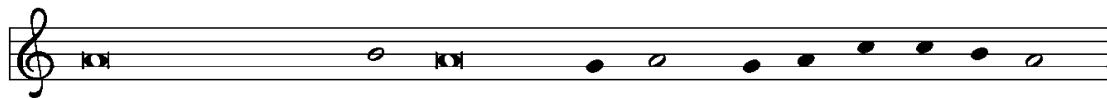
*KYRIE



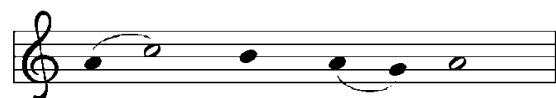
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



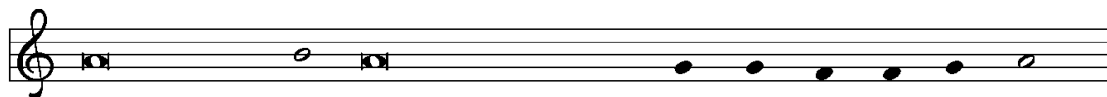
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*The reading of Scrip-
ture is the time that
God makes known his
will: God desires mercy
and salvation.*

*Ultimately, this word
points us to the Word,
the incarnate Son of
God.*

*Through Christ —
God's only Son — are
we able to know the
Father's favor and
grace.*

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Leader: Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People: **Amen.**

ANTHEM "Come, Share the Lord"

Leech

Chancel Choir

We gather here in Jesus' name, his love is burning in our hearts like living flame.

For through the loving Son, the Father makes us one.

Come take the bread, come drink the wine, come share the Lord.

No one is a stranger here, everyone belongs. Finding our forgiveness here, we in turn forgive all wrongs.

He joins us here, he breaks the bread, the Lord who pours the cup is risen from the dead.

The one we love the most, is now our gracious host.

Come take the bread, come drink the wine, come share the Lord.

We are now a family, of which the Lord is head.

Though unseen he meets us here in the breaking of the bread.

We'll gather soon, where angels sing. We'll see the glory of our Lord and coming King.

Now we anticipate the feast for which we wait.

Come take the bread, come drink the wine, come share the Lord.

WORD

Linda Anne Goethe, reader

FIRST READING: Isaiah 5:1-7

Old Testament 594

The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God's loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth "rotten grapes" of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.

¹ I will sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.

² He dug it and cleared it of stones
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded rotten grapes.

³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.

⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield rotten grapes?

⁵ And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.

⁶ I will make it a wasteland;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.

The reading of Scripture is the time that God makes known his will: God desires mercy and salvation.

Ultimately, this word points us to the Word, the incarnate Son of God.

Through Christ — God's only Son — are we able to know the Father's favor and grace.

⁷ For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his cherished garden;
he expected justice
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness
but heard a cry!

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY: Psalm 80:7-15

Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine. (Ps. 80:14, 15)

Leader: ⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

**People: ⁸ You have brought a vine out of Egypt;
you cast out the nations and planted it.**

Leader: ⁹ You cleared the ground for it;
it took root and filled the land.

People: ¹⁰ **The mountains were covered by its shadow
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.**

Leader: ¹¹ You stretched out its tendrils to the sea
and its branches to the river.

People: ¹² **Why have you broken down its wall,
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?**

Leader: ¹³ The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it,
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

People: ¹⁴ **Turn now, O God of hosts,
look down from heaven;**

Leader: ¹⁵ behold and tend this vine;
preserve what your right hand has planted.

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14

New Testament page 175

Paul reviews some of his supposed credentials, which no longer have any bearing in comparison to the right relationship he has been given through the death of Christ. The power of Christ's resurrection motivates him to press on toward the ultimate goal, eternal life with Christ.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

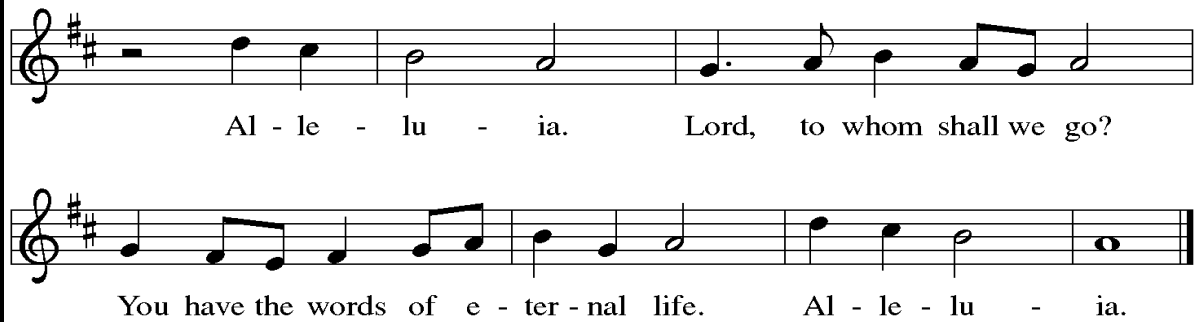
⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*GOSPEL: Matthew 21:33-46

New Testament page 20

Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.

Leader: The Gospel according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ³³ “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹ They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:
‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes’?

⁴³ “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Jason Talsness

*One vase of last week's
Altar Flowers was do-
nated by Pat Cooper
“in celebration of the
Kairos Prison Minis-
try, October 1-4.”*

*Today's Altar Flowers
(both vases) are given
by Shirley Stiber and
by Judy, Jeff, Susan,
and Barbara Stiber
“in loving memory of
Carol Stiber.”*

*Lynn & Ken McLau-
chlan donated the Oc-
tober Eternal Candle
“for the glory of God.”*

*HYMN OF THE DAY “There in God’s Garden”

Hymn 342

Verses 1-4



1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,
2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"
3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;
4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;



whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:
There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;
our greed has starved it, our de - spite has choked it.
hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!



Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -
see there the ten - drils of our hu - man
Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -
Give me your sick - ness, give me all your



pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.
self - hood feed on its life - blood.
stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.
sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

5 This is my ending
this my resurrection;
into your hands, Lord,
I commit my spirit.
This have I searched for;
now I can possess it.
This ground is holy.

6 All heav'n is singing,
"Thanks to Christ whose passion
offers in mercy
healing, strength, and pardon.
Peoples and nations,
take it, take it freely!"
Amen! My Master!

Text: Király Imre von Pécselyi, c. 1590–c. 1641; tr. Erik Routley, 1917–1982

Music: SHADES MOUNTAIN, K. Lee Scott, b. 1950

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*APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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. Amen.

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(In between the petitions of the prayers, the following response is offered.)

Leader: Hear us, O God,

People: Your mercy is great.

(Final petition and response.)

Leader: Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these
spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ
our Lord.

People: Amen.

In the Apostles' Creed, the phrase "holy catholic Church" refers to the universal Christian church, not exclusively the Roman Catholic Church. It signifies the belief in a single, unified body of believers across time and space, united by their shared faith in Christ.

That Christ visited the dead after his crucifixion is based on 1 Peter 4:6 "For this is the reason the gospel was proclaimed even to the dead, so that, though they had been judged in the flesh as everyone is judged, they might live in the spirit as God does."

During Pentecost there is Holy Communion on the first and third Sunday of each month. All who are seeking Christ and his grace are welcome at our communion table.

Today, we will receive Communion by intinction (dipping the bread into the wine or juice).

Here is the process:

Approach: Please follow the direction of the ushers to come forward via the center aisle.

Receive the Bread: Extend your hands to receive a piece of bread or a wafer from the minister.

Dip: Hold the bread carefully and dip a portion into the chalice.

Consume: Place the intincted bread directly into your mouth and reverently return to your seat by the side aisles.

Note: If you prefer a gluten-free option or a blessing instead, please let the minister know as you approach.

MEAL

*DIALOGUE

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

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ...

We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

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

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

*LORD'S PRAYER

People: 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, forever and ever. Amen.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

COMMUNION SONG "Lamb of God"



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Leader: Compassionate God,

People: **through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.
Amen.**

SENDING

***PASTORAL BENEDICTION**

Leader: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, † one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.

People: **Amen**

***SENDING SONG “All Creatures, Worship God Most High”**

Hymn 835

Verses 1-4



1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev-'ry voice in earth and
2 Sing, broth-er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and
3 Sing, broth-er fire, so mirth-ful, strong; drive far the shad-ows, join the
4 All who for love of God for-give, all who in pain or sor-row



sky: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Sing, broth-er sun, in splen-dor
grain: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Dear sis-ter wa-ter, use-ful,
throng: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Dear moth-er earth, so rich in
grieve: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis-ter moon and stars of night:
clear, make mu-sic for your Lord to hear: Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-
care, praise God in col-ors bright and rare:
fears; still make your song a-mid the tears:



lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

5 And you, most gentle sister death,
waiting to hush our final breath:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
fair is the night that leads us home.
Alleluia.

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
Alleluia.

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; tr. composite
Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623
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***DISMISSAL**

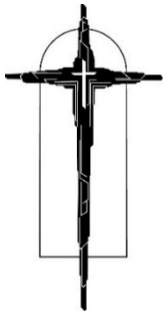
Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

***POSTLUDE** “All Creatures of Our God and King”

arr. Hopson

Shirley Newhart, organ



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, October 4	8:30 am Chancel Choir Warmup 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship 10:20 am Adult Discipleship Class 10:20 am Confirmation Class
Monday, October 5	10:00 am Women's Bible Study 1:00 pm VENHUIZEN SERVICE 5:00 pm Ronald McDonald House Dinner
Tuesday, October 6	
Wednesday, October 7	8:30 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 9:00 am <i>SNC Mosaic Workshop</i> 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, October 8	3:00 pm <i>Skidaway Abigails</i> 3:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal
Friday, October 9	PEPER FAMILY WEDDING
Saturday, October 10	PEPER FAMILY WEDDING

Italics indicate outside group

MESSIAH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday-9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Closed for lunch from 12:00 to 1:00 pm

Wednesday-8:30 am to 11:30 am

Friday-Closed

ONLINE GIVING

Please consider making a one-time or recurring gift to Messiah using the secure online portal at the website (messiahsi.org) and clicking on the Give tab. Another option to reach the portal is to scan this QR code using your smartphone's QR reader. This link may be used for paying for altar flowers and other church-related activities. Questions? Contact the Church Office.



If you would like to give the old-fashioned way, the offering plate is on the table as you exit the Sanctuary.



THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Ministers	The People of Messiah
Pastor	Jason Talsness
Pastor, Congregational Care	Karen Scheib
Director, Faith Formation	Ken Ritz
Pastor Emeritus	James Peper
Presiding Bishop ELCA	Yehiel Curry
Bishop, SE Synod ELCA	Kevin Strickland
Director of Music & Organist	Shirley Newhart
Choral Director	Rodney Powers
Altar Guild	Jane Holst & Kay Yablecki
Reader	Linda Anne Goethe
Communion Assistants	Diane Munroe & Marcia Stinson
Evangelism Greeters	Jane & Steve Holst
Ushers	George Lawrence and Phil Nack
Audio Visual	Steve Allen and Ken McLauchlan
Coffee Hour	Christine Lind (host) TBD (treats)

MILESTONES THIS WEEK

Birthdays: Eve Wells 10/4; Christine Lind 10/6; Karen Scheib 10/10

Anniversaries: Mike & Kathy Wordell 10/10

SERMON PREVIEW

Jesus tells a story about a vineyard, its owner, and the tenants entrusted with its care. It is a story about what happens when those who have been given something to tend begin to believe it belongs to them.

This week, we will consider the vineyards that sustain our own lives, including the often unseen labor of those who plant and harvest our food—and what they reveal about our dependence upon others. And we will encounter the owner's rejected son, Jesus, whose authority is revealed not through domination or violence, but through mercy, peacemaking, and self-giving love.

Questions for reflection: What do the tenants forget about their relationship to the vineyard and its owner? What are some things in our lives that we think of as “ours” but are really gifts entrusted to our care? How often do we think about the people whose labor provides the food we eat and the other necessities of daily life? How is the owner's son's authority different from the power exercised by the tenants?

CHURCH COUNCIL 2026

Jason Talsness, Pastor

(912) 556-8056
skidawaypastorj@gmail.com

Peggy Pearson (2026)

Education & Discipleship Ministry
443.995.1146
parkpear@aol.com

Claire Cornwell-Williams (2028)

President
Evangelism Ministry
912.658.4114
cwilliams17@comcast.net

Vacant

Finance Ministry

Lisa Oswald (2026)

Secretary
Outreach Ministry
203.554.5845
laoswald@icloud.com

Gayle Denny (2026)

Parish Life Ministry
513.604.0764
gdgardener@comcast.net

Rick Tallon (2028)

Property Ministry
417.294.2002
rick.tallon@gmail.com

Greg Stinson (2026/2027)¹

Staff Support/Mutual Ministry
912.704.4084
gtstinson@comcast.net

George Lawrence (2026/2028)²

Stewardship Ministry
912.484.2818
mppggl13@gmail.com

Parker Pearson (no term)

Treasurer
410.349.7704
parkpear@aol.com

Pat Cooper (2027)

Worship & Music Ministry
912.508.4250
cooperpat5@gmail.com

¹ Greg Stinson is serving the second year of a three-year term that ends in 2027.

² George Lawrence is serving the first year of a three-year term that ends in 2028.

