The Episcopal Church of St. Peter by-the-Lake



The 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

October 25, 2026

8:30 AM & 10:30AM Holy Eucharist

Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent; for this is the house of God.
Before the service, speak to the Lord; during the service, let the Lord speak to you;
after the service (and during the peace) speak to one another.

Lay Witness Sunday

In our Gospel Lesson for today, Jesus encapsulates all of the commandments of his own Hebrew tradition (and there were 613 of them) down to an essential two: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment, and the second is like it, you shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Love of God manifests itself in prayer, worship, reverence and humility. Love of neighbor manifests itself in action, kindness, compassion, forgiveness and reconciliation. The two commandments are intrinsically linked together. We cannot say we love God if our actions towards God's creation is neglect or hostility. Part of the essence of our faith is to see ourselves as 'stewards' of all that God has given us in the wonder of creation.

To that end, on this Lay Witness Sunday we welcome our Stewardship chair, Diane Johnson, to the pulpit. Her passion for God's love and presence in the world, and her love of sharing the Good News of the giving of our 'time, talent and treasure' is well known! As she shares today, may we ponder these two great commandments as we prayerfully consider our own gifts that we will share with God, and our neighbors.

Faithfully,

Father Ron

The Liturgy of the Word

PRELUDE May God bless you during this time of quiet reflection and personal prayer.

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Simple Gifts – Shaker Tune*

ENTRANCE *Love Divine All Loves Excelling* **Hymnal 657**

GENERAL ACCLAMATION **BCP pg. 355**

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen**

The Collect for Purity **BCP 355**

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

8:30 am: *Celebrant:* Lord have mercy **BCP Pg. 356**
People: **Christ have mercy**
Celebrant: Lord have mercy

The Gloria (10:30 am) **Hymnal S 280**

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father, Amen

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Let us pray

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

The First Lesson **Deuteronomy 34:1-12**

Reader: A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

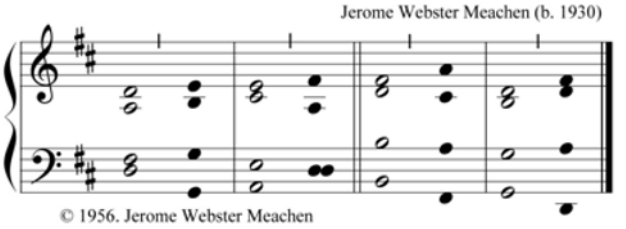
Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. The Lord said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants'; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there." Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord's command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses.

Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. He was unequaled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

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

Psalm 90: 1-2, 12-17



1 Lord, you have been our **refuge** *
from one generation to **another**.
2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were **born**, *
from age to age you are **God**.

12 So teach us to number our **days** *
that we may apply our hearts to **wisdom**.
13 Return, O Lord; how long will you **tarry**? *
be gracious to your **servants**.

14 Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the **morning**; *
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our **life**.
15 Make us glad by the measure of the days that you a**fflicted us** *
and the years in which we suffered ad**versity**.

16 Show your servants your **works** *
and your splendor to their **children**.
17 May the graciousness of the Lord our God be **upon us**; *
prosper the work of our hands; prosper our **handiwork**.

The Second Lesson **1 Thessalonians 2:1-8**

Reader: A reading from Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians.

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we

have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

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

The Sequence Hymn: *The Gift of Love* **Songbook 71**

The Gospel *(standing)* **Matthew 22:34-46**
Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

> 'The Lord said to my Lord,
> "Sit at my right hand,
> until I put your enemies under your feet"'?

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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

Kingdom Kids dismissal

The Sermon **Diane Johnson, Stewardship Chair**

The Nicene Creed *(standing)* **BCP pg. 358**

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 Form VI **BCP pg. 392**

(said responsively by celebrant and congregation)

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

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

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and our Supply Bishop, Rob; and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.
Silence The People may add their own petitions
Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
Silence The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
Silence The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

Confession and Absolution **BCP pg. 393**
Celebrant: We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.
Leader and People:

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
In your compassion forgive us our sins, Known and unknown,
Things done and left undone; And so uphold us by your Spirit
That we may live and serve you in newness of life,
To the honor and glory of your Name;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord

Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: **And also with you.**

Announcements

The Liturgy of the Table

The Offertory ***Roll Down, Justice*** – *Mark Miller*

There's a voice, strong and clear, ringing out far and near
"Let justice roll down, let justice roll down!"
Like the rush of a stream, comes a powerful dream
Let justice roll down, Justice rolls down!
Let the earth be restored, ev'ry soul be reformed;
Let the healing renew, creation reborn.
Here in this sacred space with the strength of God's grace;
Let justice roll down, Justice rolls down!

Roll down! Roll down justice! Roll like an ever-rolling stream.
Let your heat soar, open the doors wide,
let your mind be transformed, Let it be opened by love,
On this glorious day give us courage we pray that justice roll down.
Let the vision take flight and God will delight as the waters flow down justice abounds.

At the Presentation (8:30) **All things come of thee, O Lord.**
And of thine own have we given thee.

Doxology **Hymnal 380, stanza 3**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

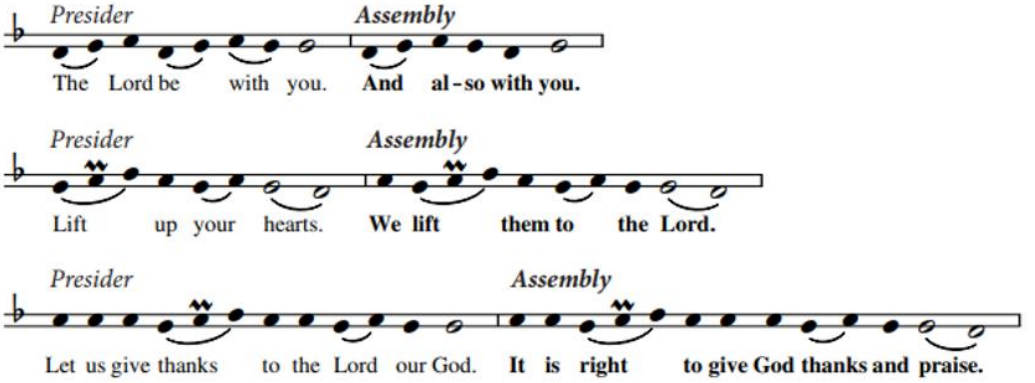
The Bidding Prayer

Celebrant: This is the table of our Lord, Jesus Christ. It is made ready for all. So, come,

you who have much faith and you who have little, You who have been here often and you who have not been here long, You who have tried to follow and those who struggle to find the path. Come, because it is God who invites you. It is God's will that those who desire to do so should meet God here.

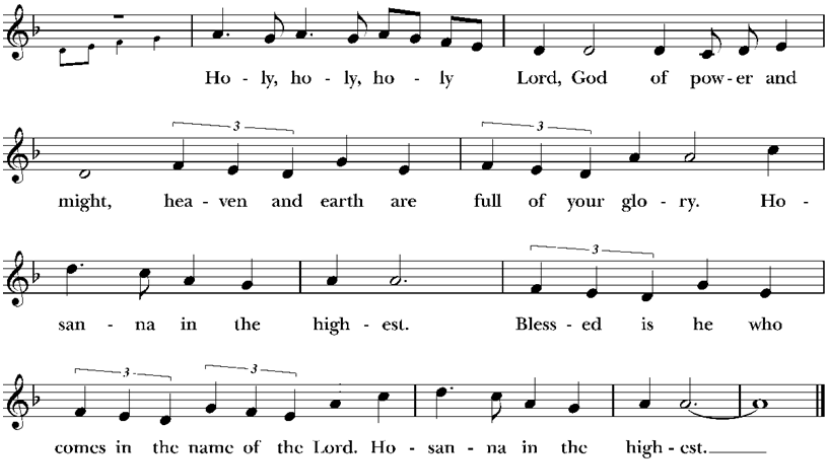
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer B) **BCP pg. 367**

Sursum corda – S-120 ***(10:30am)***



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 him thanks and praise.**
Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. (Preface of the day.) 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:

SANCTUS **S - 129**



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

The people kneel or sit.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People: **We remember his death,**
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

Celebrant: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God,

to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. 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.

Danish 3-fold AMEN (10:30)

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

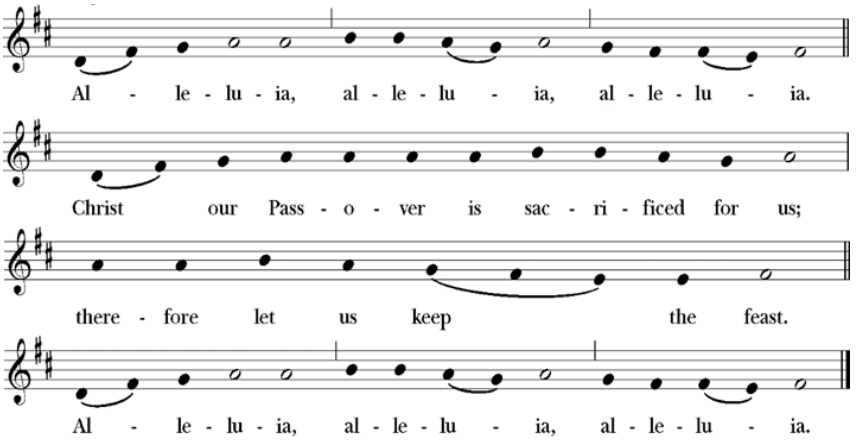
THE LORD'S PRAYER **BCP 364**

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

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

The Fraction Anthem



Administration of the Sacrament

Communion of the People

Communion Hymn *Pass It On* **Songbook 72**

Post Communion Prayer (Celebrant and People) **BCP pg. 365**
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

Sending Hymn: *Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service* **Songbook 73**

The Dismissal **BCP pg. 366**

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Voluntary: *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Ron & Karen Horne in thanksgiving and celebration of their 53rd wedding anniversary.

SPBTL NEWS AND EVENTS

CENTERING PRAYER 10AM, Meets in the parlor every Wed. Please join us!

COFFEE HOUR Sign up in Fotinos Hall or call the office.

MUSIC MINISTRY: **Chancel Choir** practice –Wednesdays at 7pm and **Handbell Choir** Wednesdays at 6pm.

AED and CPR Classes at SPBTL fee/donation of $10/person. These are the classes to be offered at SPBTL on Nov 7th.Two hour-long classes will be held, one at 2pm and another at 3pm. Each class has a maximum of 15 participants. If you are interested, sign up using this link CLICK HERE or Contact Pat Racz or Kate at the office to sign you up. Please contact Pat Racz with any questions at pat.racz01@gmail.com or 704-748-3327.

ADVENT 2026 - Advent Season begins November 29th**,** and we are looking forward to celebrating the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ. We are starting preparations to publish **the 26th edition of the Advent Devotional. We would really like to have you participate by writing a devotion about memorable past Christmases / traditions , Advent Season thoughts, and favorite scriptures**.

One of the things that makes our Advent devotional so special is that it comes from the hearts and faith experiences of our own parish family. As we read a different reflection each day, we are reminded of the many ways God is working in the lives of those around us, enriching our own Advent journey. So please take a few moments and write a devotion. It does not have to be long or a "Biblical Epistle", **just from you!** This year we would like to make an extra special request to **help your children write a devotion also! Devotions written by our youth are "special" and enriches our Advent experience.**

Also, Continuing from last couple of years. We are also asking the SPBTL artistic community to create Nativity Artwork of various forms which will be included in this year's devotional. (We are not looking for "Hallmark card art". Just productions of Nativity scenes / Christmas artwork created by you or your family). Artwork from your children are very special treasures to include & share with all!

Please complete and **submit by November 11th**. If you have any questions, please contact us at **(704) 663-9004**. Please place devotions in our Church mailbox, or email in Word format to **budhawkins@charter.net**. Thanks, in advance, for your support!

Jeanne & Bud Hawkins

ALTAR FLOWER SIGNUP FOR 2027 It's that time again…to sign up for altar flowers for next year. Once again, we are using an online signup via SignUpGenius. Click on this link, or scan the QR code:

UNDERSTANDING THE BIBLE Join Fr. Ron and Fr. Nick as they guide the group in an exploration of the Bible. All are welcome for any or all of the sessions! Sessions will be every Tuesday in November (3, 10, 17, 24), 6:30-8PM in Fotinos Hall. NO SIGNUP REQUIRED!

BLANKETS NEEDED FOR ANSWERED PRAYERS MINISTRY The recent change in the weather means the need for blankets for the unhoused is once again upon us. St. Mark's has already given out all of the extra blankets that they had remaining from last winter season. If you are able, please consider donating gently used or new blankets to this ministry. Please place your donations on the Answered Prayers table located in Furr Hall.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS —- Please check your calendars in advance so we don't have missing servants. We will see these Special Servants next week, 11/1/26:

8:30 AM

Chalice Bearer - Michele Moss
Ushers – Cathy Melesh
Acolytes – A.J. Beeker
Reader - Susan Schuman

10:30 AM

Chalice Bearers – Mary Sansbury, Christine Scaglione
Ushers – David Plyler, Mike Scaglione
Acolytes – Madison Ireland, Isabelle Dalton
Reader – Jenny Hunter
LLR – Cyndi Jarvis
Livestream – Beth Lunney, Cha Wuerdeman

Aug YTD	Actual	Budget	Variance YTD
Revenue	$325,003	$319,886	$5,117
Expenses	$353,292	$319,886	-$33,406
Net Total	-$28,289	$0	-$28,289

Notes: - Contributions given for support clergy are excluded from Revenue since non-budgeted
- Paid in full annual pledge contributions received are pro-rated for YTD Revenue

To give online, scan the PayPal QR code with your phone – this will take you directly to St. Peter's gift entry screen.

Please use the "NOTE" field to indicate where the gift is to be directed (pledge, tithe, flowers, etc.)

The Episcopal Church of St. Peter by-the-Lake
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https://www.saintpeterbythelake.net/

Jesus Christ, Head of the Church
Ministers: All members of the Church
The Rt. Rev. José A. McLoughlin, **Bishop**
Rector: The Rev. Dr. Ron Taylor
Assisting Priest: The Rev. Nick McDonald
Christian Formation Director: Ginia Edwards
Director of Music: David Wilcox
Director of Music Emeritus: Leigh Ann Johnston
Licensed Lay Reader: John Stewart
Chalice Bearers: Cathy Melesh, Diane Davis, Sheryn Fletcher
Ushers: Mike & Angela Matousek, Frances Smith, Che Wuerdeman
Acolytes: Cathy Melesh, Zachary Ireland, Grace Finch
Readers: Karen Horne, Bonnie Grant
Altar Guild Team 4 – Beckye Smith, Karen Horne, Pamela Weed, Jenny Hunter, Chuck Hunter, Scott Major, Emily Gentry, Kathryn Graham, Patsy Roosa
Livestream Tech: Walter Smith, Andy Halasz
Coffee Hour:

THE VESTRY

Senior Warden – Stephanie Heil
Junior Warden – Mary Sansbury

Pat Higbie, Steve Hiney, Gary Jarvis, Connie Mathis, Michelle Moss, John Stewart

Clerk of the Vestry: Daphne Wagner



MISSION STATEMENT:
BE DISCIPLES:
ENGAGE THE WORLD

THE STAFF

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