

1 Hark! the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior
 2 He comes, the pri - soners to re - lease in Sa - tan's
 3 He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - ery heart pre -
bond - age held; the gates of brass be -
soul to cure; and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

pare a throne, and ev - ery voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

The Word of God

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP p. 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP p. 355

The Celebrant may say

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.*

SONG OF PRAISE

Lord, have mercy upon us

Hymnal S 91

The following is sung, all standing as able

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP p.212

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

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:1-10

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of Prophet Isaiah.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

Silence may follow.

PSALM: Canticle 15

Remain seated.

Please read with me the Psalm responsively by half verse.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, *
 and the rich he has sent away empty.
 He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
 for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
 The promise he made to our fathers, *
 to Abraham and his children for ever.

SECOND READING: James 5:7-10

The people sit.

A Reading from the Letter of James


Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

GRADUAL HYMN *On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry (Winchester New)* Hymnal 76



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make
 3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our
 4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -
 3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we
 4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy
 5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
 2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.
 3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.
 4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
 5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-11

All stand as able.

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

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.” As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

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

THE SERMON

Jessica Walker

Brief moment of silence to follow.

THE CREED

BCP p. 358

All stand as able.

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

All remain standing as able.

*Celebrant: Loving and Gracious God, in Christ you have promised to heal the world:
Strengthen our hearts and grant us patience to wait expectantly, rejoicing to see your work
among us, as we say: They shall see the glory of the Divine, the majesty of our God.*

Litanist: Grant to your Church, O God, faithful prophets and messengers who will strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees and say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear!" We pray especially for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Russell, our Bishop; Will, our Rector; and all other clergy and ministers of your church.

They shall see the glory of the Divine,

the majesty of our God.

Fountain of Wisdom and Mercy, give vision to our nation and to all in authority throughout the world, that all may share in your work to bring justice to those who are oppressed and food to those who hunger. We pray especially for Joe, our President; Kay, our Governor; Robert, our Mayor and Tony, Mayor of Orange Beach.

They shall see the glory of the Divine,

the majesty of our God.

Compassionate One, send forth your Spirit into the world, bringing sight to the blind, strength to the lame, cleansing to the unclean, hearing to the deaf, resurrection to the dead, and good news to the poor, that all the earth may obtain joy and gladness. We pray especially for our brothers and sisters in Ukraine and Russia and all victims of violence.

They shall see the glory of the Divine,

the majesty of our God.

Loving One, let your waters break forth as streams in the desert in our community; make a safe highway for the return of your people to you with singing and everlasting joy. We pray for all First Responders, Law Enforcement and Members of the Armed Forces, both at home and abroad, especially our parishioners Chris and Tyler.

They shall see the glory of the Divine,

the majesty of our God.

Healing One, let sorrow and sighing flee away, as we bring our prayers to you for all who suffer, especially our parishioners Cal, Mike, Norma, Ellie, Betty, Al, Fred, Peter, Norma, Kimberly, Wiley, Karan, Cyndi, Ann, Molly, Jane, Allie and all on our prayer list.

Hear our praise for your care and love; accept our gratitude for our manifold blessings.

Raise to your eternal light those who have died.

They shall see the glory of the Divine,

the majesty of our God.

Celebrant: Everlasting Light, visit us in the darkness of our personal prisons and comfort us with a vision of your coming kingdom, that we may rejoice with hopeful patience and walk safely upon your Holy Way, in the power of your Spirit given to us through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP p. 359

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

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.

The Priest stands and says

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

BCP p. 360

All stand as able.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY

BCP p. 376

The Celebrant says

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2

OFFERTORY HYMN *There's a voice in the wilderness crying (Ascension)*

Hymnal 75

1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a —
 2 O — Zi - on, that bring - est good tid - ings, get thee —
 3 but the word of our God — en - du - reth, the —

call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a
 up to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late
 arm of the Lord is strong; he stands in the midst — of

high - way, a high - way for our God! The —
 peo - ple the com - ing of their King. Like the
 na - tions, and he will right the wrong. He shall

val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the
 flowers of the field they — per - ish, like
 feed his — flock like a shep - herd, the

lof - ty hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed
 grass our works de - cay, the power and pomp of
 lambs he'll gent - ly hold; to pas - tures of peace he'll

pla - ces where the Lord our — God — may go!
 na - tions shall — pass like a dream — a - way;
 lead them, and — bring them — safe to his fold.

DOXOLOGY

*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.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP p. 367

The People remain standing as able.

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.

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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:

Celebrant and People

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of
Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -
ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The People stand or kneel as able.

The Celebrant continues

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;

The Celebrant continues

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 the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the 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. *AMEN.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

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.

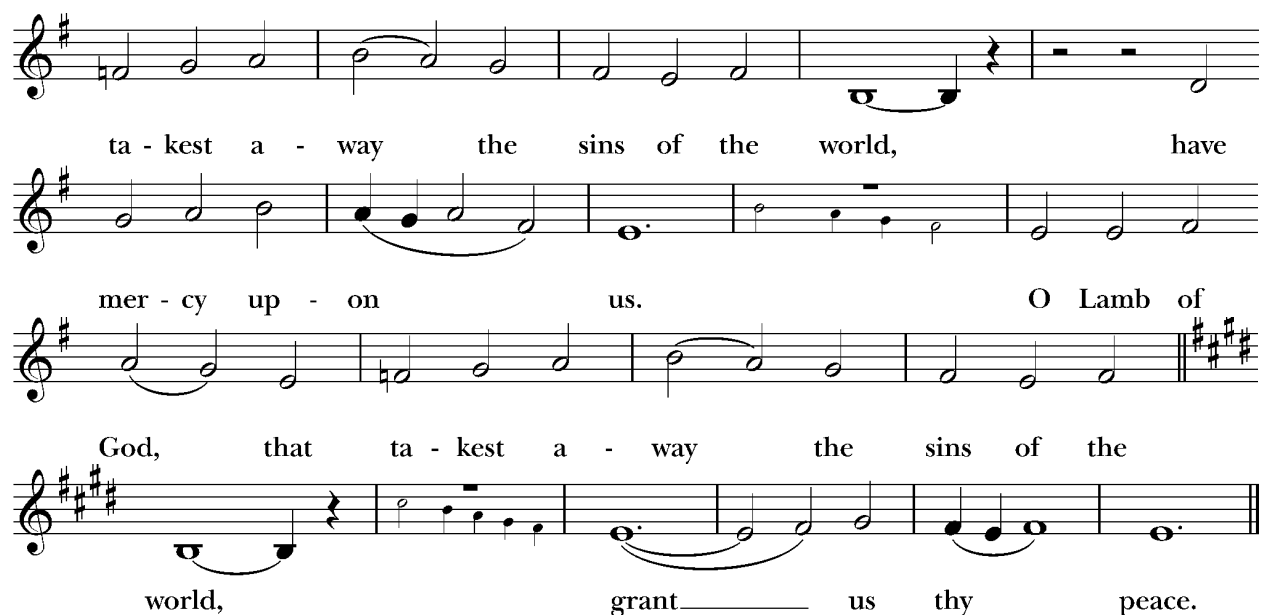
The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM

O Lamb of God (Willan)

Hymnal S 158

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -
way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
on us. O Lamb of God, that



INVITATION

The Celebrant says

This is the table, not of the Church but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love God and who want to love God more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little, You who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time or ever before, You who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, not because the Church invites you; It is Christ who invites you to be known and fed here.

DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.
Wine may be received by drinking from the chalice or by intinction.*

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [Amen.]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [Amen.]

COMMUNION HYMNS

Watchman, tell us of the night (Aberystwyth)

Hymnal 640

1 Watch-man, tell us of the night, what its signs of prom - ise
2 Watch-man, tell us of the night; high - er yet that star a -
3 Watch-man, tell us of the night, for the morn - ing seems to
are. Trav - eler, o'er yon moun-tain's height, see that glo - ry -
scends. Trav - eler, bless - ed - ness and light, peace and truth its
dawn. Trav - eler, dark - ness takes its flight, doubt and ter - ror

beam - ing star. Watch-man, does its beau - teous ray
course por - tends. Watch-man, will its beams a - lone
are with - drawn. Watch-man, let thy wan - derings cease;

ought of joy or hope fore - tell? Trav-eler, yes; it
gild the spot that gave them birth? Trav-eler, a - ges
hie thee to thy qui - et home. Trav-eler, lo! the

brings the day, prom - ised day of Is - ra - el.
are its own; see, it bursts o'er all the earth.
Prince of Peace, lo! the Son of God is come!

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP p. 365

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant 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.

BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people saying

As you leave this place, go forth in peace. Be assured that the past is forgiven and know that the future is in God's hands. Return no evil for evil, remember the poor, pray for the sick, and make no peace with injustice in this world. May the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen*

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord (Birmingham)

Hymnal 437

1 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord!
2 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of his Name!
3 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of his might!
4 Tell out, my soul, the glo - ries of his word!

Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spi - rit voice;
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
Powers and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.
Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.

ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word;
his mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;
Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,
Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord

in God my Sa - vior shall my heart re - joice.
his ho - ly Name— the Lord, the Might - y One.
the hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.
to chil - dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

WELCOME TO HOLY SPIRIT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

All who seek to know God in a deeper and more meaningful way are welcome to receive Communion. If you do not wish to receive the Sacraments, just cross your arms and a blessing will be given instead. Gluten free communion wafers are available. Please ask the priest as communion is distributed.

Those for whom we pray: Cal Hanson, Mike & Norma Minchew, Ellie Brandon, Katherine Stribling (Jan Waggoner), Roy Hermecz (Lillian Bemis), **Betty Huechtker**, Marilyn Lewis (Lillian Bemis), Carrietta Nelson (Lillian Bemis), **Al Vondrasek, Fred Waggoner, Peter Sanchez, Norma Black-Glossop**, Kathi Dolder (Sue Wiggins), Cindy Howell (Joy Howell), Judi Kuntz (Ann Lofaro), Sam Gilfillan (Christine Ashley), Martha Cole (Courtney Gibb Dardis), Bailey Powers (Cyndi & Jim Hill), **Kimberly Worthy**, Kevin Hermecz (Lillian Bemis), Matt Lawley (Karen Anderson), Logan Davis (Cyndi & Jim Hill), Deloma Bigham (Rhonda

Barber), **Wiley Ashley**, Bev Williams, **Karan Stomps**, Chris Hermecz (Lillian Bemis), **Cyndi Hill**, Chip Gurney (Karen Anderson), Helen Bender (Donna Workman Meehan), **Ann Lofaro**, **Molly Henry**, Laura Hermecz (Lillian Bemis), **Jane Taylor**, Rick Weldon (Ellie Brandon), Zyeire Ofield (Ellie Brandon), Nelson Groome (Lillian Bemis), Jayne Sharp (Lillian Bemis), Jeanine Miami (Jackie Jabour), **Allie Signa**, Clark Gordin (Marilyn & Bobby Quinn)

Prayer List Guidelines: If you would like to add someone to the Prayer List, please contact the office. Parishioners' names will be said in the Prayers of the People. All others will be added to the Prayer List in the bulletin. Names will be removed from the bulletin list after one month unless we are notified otherwise.

For all First Responders, Law Enforcement and Members of the Armed Forces: Phil Gurney (USN), Blake Buskens (USA), Dillon Johnson (USA), Charlie Conner (USA), **Chris Miller (GSPD)**, Joseph Callaway (USN), Savannah Isenburg (USAF), Jacob Wetzler (USN), Luc Lau (USM), Jack Taylor (USN), Snap Nelson (USMCR), Callaway Williamson (USN), Zachary Russell (USAF), Cailan Ross Ashley (USCG), **Tyler Arthur (ARNG)**

In Thanksgiving for Birthdays in December: Cliff Withers (3rd), Dick Blake (6th), Bill Marty (8th), Jane Vondrasek (8th), Norah Grace Lowry (12th), Janece Allgood (13th), James Howell (13th), Norma Black-Glossop (19th), Jeanie Blake (19th), Donna Workman Meehan (24th), Linda Martin (31st)

In Thanksgiving for Anniversaries in December: Pam & Ernie Westpheling (20th), Rhonda & Joe Barber (29th)

Servers

Acolyte/Chalice Bearer- Dave Liebenow

Lectors- Donna Workman Meehan & Millie Ericson

Ushers- Steve & Linda Martin

Altar Guild- Judy Allen, Nancy Campbell, Fr. Bill Ericson, Sara Walker, June Hayles

Flower Guild- Brenda Johnson

Beadle- Linda Martin

Vestry

Linda Martin ('23), Sr. Warden

Bob Swartz ('22), Jr. Warden

John Pierce ('23), Clerk, Chancellor

David Adams ('22)

Rhonda Barber ('22)

Linda Ryall ('23)

Ron Meehan ('24)

Gene Poole ('24)

Dick Reid ('24)

Staff

The Rev. Will Lowry, Rector-hsecrector@gmail.com

Jessica Walker, Intern

Dr. Julian Jesubatham, Music Director

Morgen Szapiel, Parish Administrator-holyspiritop@gmail.com

Ivee Lowry, Day School Director and Children & Families' Coordinator-hseds616@gmail.com

Pam Huerd, Thrift Shop Manager