

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

JANUARY 18TH, 2026 YEAR A

Welcome

Welcome to St. Mark's Episcopal Church! Whether this is your first time or thousandth time in worship with us, we are so glad you are here. St. Mark's is an inclusive community of faith, committed to celebrating God's creative love in all people. Together, we strive to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God. You are welcome here—in worship, at the communion table, and in our walk together.

As we prepare our hearts and minds for worship each week, you are invited to find a comfortable space to sit quietly and listen to the prelude. The prelude is the first part of worship, setting the tone for what is to come and helping God's people to unplug from the rhythms of daily life and prepare for a time of worship. We hope this musical offering will resonate in your soul and invite you into our worship practice.

Prelude “Prélude sur l’Introït de l’Épiphanie” Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)
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THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Hymn 51 “We the Lord’s people”

Blue 1982 Hymnal

Opening Acclamation

Presider: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: Glory to God for ever and ever.

The Collect for Purity

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.***

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's 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

Presider The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Presider Together let us pray.

(In Unison) *Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

The Lesson: Isaiah 49:1-7

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away!

The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God." And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength--he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the

earth.” Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, “Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 40:1-12

see next page

The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn WLP 752 (v. 1-2) “There's a sweet spirit in this place”

See page 13

Psalm 40:1-12

Expectans, expectavi

Thomas Norris

1 I waited patiently up- | on the | LORD; *
he stooped to | me and | heard my | cry.

3 He put a new song in my mouth, a song of | praise • to our |
God; *
many shall see, and stand in awe, and | put their | trust • in the |
LORD.

5 Great things are they that you have done, O LORD my
God! how great your wonders and your | plans for | us! *
there is none who can | be com- | pared with | you.

7 In sacrifice and offering you | take no | pleasure *
(you have | given • me | ears to | hear you);

9 In the roll of the book it is written con- | cerning | me: *
"I love to do your will, O my God; your | law is | deep • in my |
heart."

4

2 He lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the | mire and |
clay; *
he set my feet upon a high cliff and | made my | footing | sure.

4 Happy are they who | trust • in the | LORD! *
they do not resort to evil spirits or | turn to | **false** | gods.

6 Oh, that I could make them | known and | tell them! *
but they are | more than | I can | count.

8 Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have | not re- | quired, *
and so I said, "Be- | hold, I | come.

10 I proclaimed righteousness in the |
great • congre- | gation; *
behold, I did not restrain my lips; and | that, O | LORD, you |
know.

11 Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart; I have
spoken of your faithfulness and | your de- | liverance; *
I have not concealed your love and faithfulness from the | **great**
| congre- | gation.

12 You are the LORD; do not withhold your com- |
passion • from | me; *
let your love and your faithfulness | keep me | safe for- | ever.

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

The Gospel: John 1:29-42

John saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.” The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!” The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

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

The Homily

The Rev. Dr. Pamela Stuerke

The Nicene Creed (*from Enriching our Worship*)

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

Litany in the Words of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Leader: Let us before all else give thanks for the love of God revealed to the world in the life and death of Jesus Christ:

MLK: *The Cross is the eternal expression of the length to which God will go in order to restore broken community.*

People: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Let us give thanks for the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and for the enduring power of his dream:

MLK: *I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low ... and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together. ... With this faith we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day.*

People: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Let us commit ourselves to pray and work for peace:

MLK: *One day we must come to see that peace is not merely a distant goal that we seek, but a means by which we arrive at that goal. ... How much longer must we play at deadly war games before we heed the plaintive pleas of the unnumbered dead and maimed of past wars?*

People: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Let us commit ourselves to walk in the way of nonviolence:

MLK: *The non-violent approach ... first does something to the hearts and souls of those committed to it. It gives them new self-respect; it calls up resources of strength and courage that they did not know they had. Finally, it reaches the opponent and so stirs his conscience that reconciliation becomes a reality.*

People: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Let us commit ourselves to pray and work for a just ordering of our world:

MLK: *Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals. ... This is no time for apathy or complacency. This is the time for vigorous and positive action.*

People: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Let us commit ourselves to the vision of a world without poverty and disease:

MLK: *I have the audacity to believe that peoples everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies, education and culture for their minds, and dignity, equality, and freedom for their spirits.*

People: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Let us commit ourselves to seek the spiritual renewal of our nation:

MLK: *A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death.*

People: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Let us commit ourselves to seek the spiritual renewal of the Church:

MLK: *In spite of being disappointed, in spite of being left out without any initial response, millions of people are still knocking on the door of the Church and turning to it for the answers to the basic problems of life. The great challenge facing the Church today is to keep the bread fresh.*

People: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

The Presider offers this concluding collect.

Concluding Collect: And now unto God who is able to keep us from falling and lift us from the dark valley of despair to the mountains of hope, from the midnight of desperation to the daybreak of joy, to God be power and authority, for ever and ever. Amen.

Adaptation from Jeffery W. Rowthorn

The Peace *All stand as able. The Presider says to the people*

The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

*The Congregation greets one another with the peace of Christ.
Announcements, Birthday and Anniversary Prayers*

Children's Time

Erica White

THE HOLY COMMUNION

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

Offertory Anthem

“How Lovely and How Pleasant”

Michael Burkhardt (b. 1957)

How lovely and how pleasant when people dwell in peace,

And love is ever present to bind them each to each.

As dew upon the mountain refreshes every flower.

So love springs like a fountain for those who know its power.

Like sweetest oil pervading this temple where we meet.

So flows a joy unfading o'er those at Jesus feet.

Words: Slovak paraphrase of Psalm 133, translated by Jaroslav Vajda (1919-2008) © 2012 Birnamwood Publications

The Holy Eucharist II

S 120

Lift up your hearts *Sursum corda*

Presider It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father almighty, Creator of heav'n and earth; because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name:

Presider and People

Holy, Holy, Holy S130 Schubert *Blue 1982 Hymnal*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Presider 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 Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

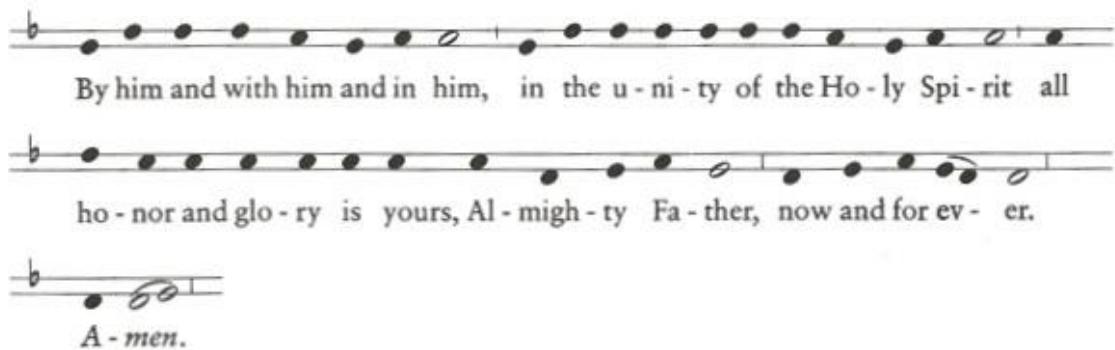
On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus 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, God of grace,
***We remember Christ's death, We proclaim Christ's resurrection, We await
Christ's coming in glory;***

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, 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 all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, 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 u - ni - ty of the Ho - ly Spi - rit all
ho - nor and glo - ry is yours, Al - migh - ty Fa - ther, now and for ev - er.
A - men.

The Lord's Prayer

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.***

Fraction Anthem S 164 Schubert
*Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:
give us your peace, give us your peace.*

Blue 1982 Hymnal

Presider The gifts of God for the people of God.

The Ministration of Communion

All who hunger and thirst for God are welcome to receive the Holy Communion at this altar. Gluten free hosts are available. At the altar rail, please let the priest know that you require gluten free.

Communion Hymn “Will you come and follow me?” *See page 14*

Post Communion Prayer

Presider God is with you.
People ***And also with you.***
Presider Together, let us pray.
Silence is kept.
Presider Loving God, light of hope and promise of peace.
People ***We give you thanks.***
Presider For the body and blood of Christ our Savior.
People ***We give you thanks.***
Presider For the journey ahead and what we do not yet know;
People ***For your presence, and your challenge, and the joy we cannot yet imagine, we offer ourselves. Thanks be to God. Amen!***

The Blessing

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

Closing Hymn 535 “Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim”

Blue 1982 Hymnal

The Dismissal

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

Postlude “Plein Jeu”

Louis-Nicolas Clérambault (1676-1749)

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Music Note:

As we honor the legacy of Martin Luther King this weekend, our sequence hymn, *There's a sweet, sweet spirit in this place*, is from the African American gospel tradition. Its references to the Spirit echo those in this morning's Gospel reading.

ASSISTING IN OUR WORSHIP

<i>Lector</i> : Ed Rich	<i>Usher</i> : Amanda Cashen	<i>Greeter</i> : Marti Robards
<i>Altar Guild</i> : Tom Bradley		<i>Livestream</i> : Vicki Stegmann
<i>Chalice</i> : Susan Goen/Scott Thompson		<i>Crucifer</i> : Scott Thompson
<i>Godly Play</i> : Mehta		<i>Coffee Hour</i> : Marilyn Wiethop

ANNOUNCEMENTS 2026 ST. MARK'S PHOTO DIRECTORY

This year we will be working on a photo directory. Ed Rich will be snapping photos for us for the new directory to come out in 2026. If you would like to be included in the photo directory, there is one more date that Ed will be available for picture taking. The remaining day for photos is: **February 8**.

Annual Meeting

This year's Annual Meeting will be on January 25th. We welcome all to attend. We have also decided to Zoom this meeting also. Soups will be provided. There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall to bring salad, bread or desserts (or contact Melissa). Childcare will be available.

Vestry Positions Open

Is the Holy Spirit nudging you to consider joining the vestry here at St. Marks? Vestry (our parish leadership team) meets on Zoom each month to address the business and ministry of the church. Vestry is a great way to serve the parish and get to know folks you may not already know. If you are interested, please speak with a current vestry member or Rev. Delaney, and put your name forward! Four positions will be open at our January 25 annual congregational meeting.

Sequence Hymn WLP 752 “There’s a sweet, sweet Spirit in the place”

1. There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I
(2. There are) blessings you can-not re - ceive till you
know that it's the Spir - it of the Lord. There are
know him in his full - ness, and be - lieve. You're the
sweet ex - pres - sions on each face, and I
one to pro - fit when you say, "I am
know they feel the pres - ence of the Lord.
going to walk with Je - sus all the way."
Sweet Ho - ly Spir-it, Sweet Heav - en-ly Dove,
Stay right here with us, fill-ing us with your love.
And for these bless-ings we lift our hearts in
praise; with-out a doubt we'll know that we have
been re - vived when we shall leave this place. 2. There are
1. 2.

Words: Doris Akers (1922–1995) Music: Doris Akers (1922–1995) Copyright: Words, Music: © 1962, renewed 1990
MANNA MUSIC, INC

Communion Hymn “Will you come and follow me?”

726 Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons



- 1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
- 2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
- 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
- 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
- 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same?
Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the world a - round,
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot - steps show.



will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

TEXT: John L. Bell and Graham Maule, 1987
MUSIC: Scottish melody; arr. John L. Bell, 1987

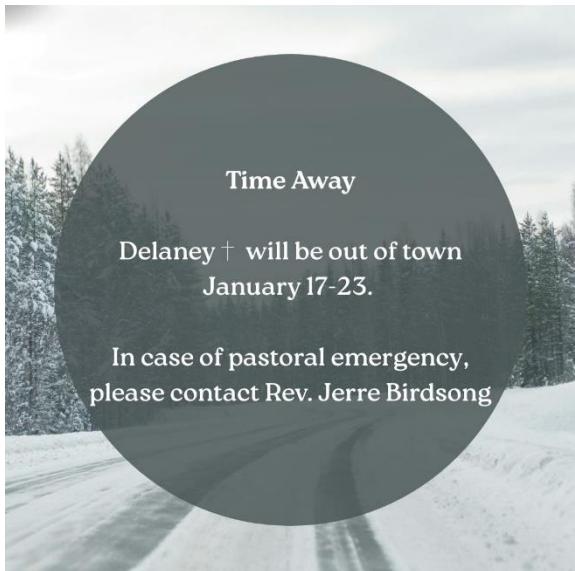
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KELVINGROVE
13.13.7.7.13

Online Giving at St. Mark's

Thank you so much for your desire to support the ministry here at St. Mark's! If you would like to give online, simply scan the QR code below using the camera on your smart phone to visit our online giving platform.

Your generosity is a blessing!



We Pray for Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Deon our Bishop, for Delaney and Jerre our clergy, and for all the holy People of God;

In the Diocesan Cycle, we pray for the people and ministry of Episcopal Church of All Saints & Ascension in Northwoods;

In the Anglican Communion, we pray for Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America;

In our companion Diocese of Puerto Rico, we pray for St. Paul's Home (Hogar San Pablo);

We pray for our Jubilee Ministry partner Isaiah 58 Ministries and our outreach partner Doorways Interfaith Housing;

We pray for those who are ill, in trouble or distress of any kind, especially the Anderson family, Duane and Anne Benson, Yulia Borjte, Steve Chamberlin, Alicia Crowe, Tom Gard, Sue Garrett, Mark Godfrey, Yaz Hernández and their extended family, Denise Huber, Margaret and Tor Hvatum, Doug Jeffery, Jane Kozielec and Allen, Debbie Kramer, Richard Liermann, Stephanie Maass, the McLean, Haggerty, and Casey families, Penny McCullough, Beverly (Kocot) Meyers, Donna Musgrave, Betty Orlando, Kristen Patterson, Barbara Raedeke, Nancy Raedeke, Jennifer Salci and her parents, Cheryl Schulz, Lois Schubert, Rick Schubert, Logan Smith, Mitchell and Tracy Shelton, Jeanette Swallow, Lou Swallow, Scott Thomas, Bill Trafka, Casey Tyler, Dominic Walker, Roy Watts, David and Doris Westfall, The White Family, Gene Wilberg, Susan Winfrey, The Workman Family, Walter Zimmerman, Eric, Elizabeth, Marian, Ted, Karen, Larry, Doug, Fritz, Rebecca, Catreta and Dennis.

We give thanks on their birthdays with Carly Barrett, Maddie Finucane, Matthew Cashen, Scott Thompson, and Hannah Robards.

We pray for those serving in the armed forces, especially Jesse Foy, Robert McCarthy, Brandon George, Jon Moore, Paul Malabar, Logan Smith.

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The Rev. Delaney Schlake-Kruse	Rector	Celeste Kocot	Youth Christian Formation
The Rev. Jerre Birdsong	Deacon	Melissa Engle	Parish Administrator
The Rev. Dr. Teresa K.M. Danieley	Priest Associate		