



Grace Episcopal Church

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2022

The Holy Eucharist: Rite I - 10:30 a.m.



PRELUDE

O Come, O Come Emmanuel - B. Bumgarner

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

INTROIT (vv. 5-6)

(Choir only)

O come, O come, Emmanuel

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #72

Hark! the glad sound!



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.

323 OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

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

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

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

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

HYMN OF PRAISE #421 (VV. 1 & 3)



1 All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace on earth from
 3 You on - ly are the Ho - ly One, who came for our sal -
 hea - ven, and God's good will un - fail - ing - ly be
 va - tion, and on - ly you are God's true Son, who
 to all peo - ple giv - en. We bless, we wor - ship you, we raise for
 was be - fore cre - a - tion. You on - ly, Christ, as Lord we own and,
 your great glo - ry thanks and praise, O God, Al - might - y Fa - ther.
 with the Spi - rit, you a - lone share in the Fa - ther's glo - ry.

160 THE COLLECT FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

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.**

Please be seated

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 35:1-10

Lector A Reading from the 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 Word of the Lord

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.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 146:4-9 (*Responsively by whole verse*)

⁴ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob
for their help!
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

⁵ **Who made heaven and earth, the seas,
and all that is in them;
who keeps his promise for ever;**

⁶ Who gives justice to those who are
oppressed,
and food to those who hunger.

⁷ **The LORD sets the prisoners free;
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind;
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;**

⁸ The LORD loves the righteous;
the LORD cares for the stranger;
he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the wicked.

⁹ **The LORD shall reign for ever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all
generations.
Hallelujah!**

THE EPISTLE

James 5:7-10

Lector 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.

- The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

1 To you be - fore the close of day, Cre - a - tor
 2 Save us from trou - bled, res - tless sleep, from all ill
 3 A health - y life we ask of you, the fire of

of all things, we pray that in your con - stant
 dreams your child - ren keep; so calm our minds that
 love in us re - new, and when the dawn new

cle - men - cy our guard and keep - er you would be.
 fears may cease and rest - ed bo - dies wake in peace.
 light will bring your praise and glo - ry we shall sing.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 11:2-11

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

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."

-- The Gospel of the Lord **People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE ADVENT WREATH - The Third Candle: The Candle of Joy

The congregation remains standing

The Reader:

Each year during the Holy Season of Advent, we light these candles. They together stand for us as a symbol of Christ breaking into a darkened world. We prepare during this Advent season to celebrate how that light first broke in at his birth on Christmas Day. We also look forward to his return at his Second Coming, when the fullness of that light will shine on those who are prepared to receive him in joy.

The four outer candles represent Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. The center candle is the Christ Candle to be lighted on Christmas Eve celebrating Jesus's appearance among us and his embodiment of all these virtues.

On the First Sunday of Advent, we lit the first candle in our Advent Wreath, the candle of hope. We light it again today remembering that our hope is in Jesus.

(The first candle is lighted.)

On the Second Sunday of Advent, we lit the Candle of Peace. We light it again today remembering that Jesus is the Prince of Peace.

(The second candle is lighted.)

Today is the Third Sunday of Advent, also called Gaudete Sunday, from the Latin word "rejoice". It reminds us of Mary's joy when Gabriel announced that her child would be the Savior of the world. It also reminds us of our own heightened anticipation and joy as we contemplate our Savior's birth and his future coming.

Therefore, today, we light the Candle of Joy. Jesus is the joy of the world.

(The third candle is lighted.)

From the Book of Isaiah we read the words of our Lord:

"Be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight." - *Isaiah 65:18*

Let Us Pray.

The people read aloud together

Lord God, we light this candle to thank you for your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who brings your joy into a darkened world. We who have walked in the shadow of the valley of death have found life in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. We give you thanks and praise that our Lord Jesus Christ lives and reigns with you in your glory, and in the unity of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Edward T. Kelaher

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.

328 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other Ministers, especially **Michael**, our Presiding Bishop, **Samuel, Anne, and Jennifer** our bishops, and **Ed** our priest, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments. Lord in Your mercy **Hear our prayer**

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

Lord in Your mercy **Hear our prayer**

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land especially **Joe**, our President, **Roy** our Governor, **Jason** our mayor, and **John** our Councilman, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world. Lord in Your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty. Lord in Your mercy **Hear our prayer**

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

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

We pray for all who are traveling, especially **Josey** Parker,

and those with special needs:

Fred Adkins, **Jen** Ward, **Traci** Shuping, **David** Barkston, **Mark** Adkins, **Amanda** Amon, **Ella** Asebes, **Alice** Brandon & family, **Baylee** Brown, **Gayle** Burke, **Emily** Duquette Byers, **Lynne** Cleckley, **Morgan** Curia, **Tracy** Davis, **Ruth** DesRoches, **Barbara** Dixon, **Anita** Ewbank, **Renee** Ewbank, **Charlotte** Froehlich, **Marc** Frye, **Jenny** Gallen and family, **Shana** Garland, **Jane** Grimes, **George** Hanna, **Rob** Hare, **Kristen** Harris, **Nancy** Hinkle, **Chris** Hodges, **Jon** Huff, **Lindsay** Layfield, **Cara** Lee, **Lynn** Mack, **Carol** May, **Kate** McKenzie, **Nicholas** Melomo, **Roan** Mitchell, **Dan & Fran** Moore, **O'Lema** Morgan, **Gilliam** Nicholson, **Page** Onorato, **Howard** Palmer, **Lynn** Parsley, **Emily** Pate, **Bill** Phillipps, **Gabby** Plott, **Anne** Rives, **Libby** Robert, **Jacklyn** Rojas, **Lucas** Sanabria, **Tommy** Shaw, **Suzy** Sheets, **Talmadge** Silversides, **Amy** Burkhardt Smith, **Dan Griff** Smith, **Martha Ellen** Smith, **Louise** Snyder, **Peggy** Snyder, **Jackie** Touchton, **Laura** Turlington, **Perry** Grimes Van Dyke, **Kathy** Watson, **Flynn** Williams, **Mary and Jay** Williams, **Susan and Brian** Wilson, **Vickie** Wolfe, and **Charlotte** Young.

“Are there others?”

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ’s sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

330 CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTIO OF SINS

Celebrant Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

Celebrant and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Minister may then say one or more of the following sentences, first saying

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.

Matthew 11:28

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

1 Timothy 1:15

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.

1 John 2:1-2

332 THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Carol of Prophecy - S. McRae

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

The offering is brought forward as the hymn is sung.

PRESENTATION HYMN #76 (v. 5)

On Jordan's bank

5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose
5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther
5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

Celebrant

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because thou didst send thy 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 with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and singing,

SANCTUS *Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Hosts:*
#S114 *Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.*
 Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High
 Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord
 Hosanna in the highest.

The people may stand or kneel

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

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

336	<p>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,</p>	<p>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.</p>
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337 **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

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

337 **FRACTION ANTHEM AND PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS**

<i>Celebrant</i>	<i>People</i>
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,	have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,	have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,	grant us thy peace.

**We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table.
But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ,
and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

338 **INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.
Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

339 POST-COMMUNION PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

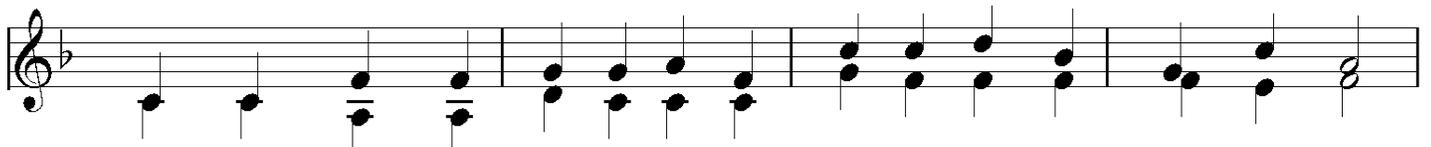
Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE ADVENT BLESSING

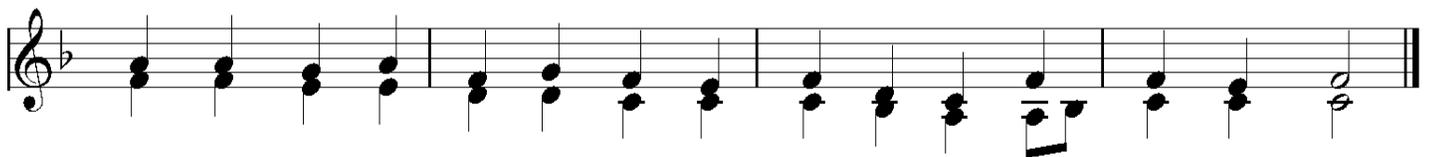
And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION HYMN #66

Come, thou long expected Jesus



1 Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;



from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

339 THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Toccata on "Veni, Emmanuel" - J. Denton

*The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God
by the Grace Food Ministries teams.
"May we all be blessed with the clothes on our back,
food in our tummies, and roof over our heads."*

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Lector: Mary Bolstad
Intersessor: Elizabeth Purdy
Ushers: Joe Wallace, Doug Hartzog
Audio Visual: David Jones, Russ Johnson
Advent Candles: The Carter Family

Greeter: Penny Taylor
LEM: Mary Matthews
Acolytes: Hadley Briggs, Anderson Carter,
Merritt Carter

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

419 S. Main Street

Lexington, North Carolina 27292-3234

phone: 336-249-7211

email: gracechurch@gracelexingtonnc.org

www.gracelexingtonnc.org



The Most Reverend Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop
The Right Reverend Samuel Rodman, Diocesan Bishop
The Right Reverend Anne Hodges-Copple, Bishop Suffragan
The Right Reverend Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, Assistant Bishop

The Reverend Edward T. Kelaher, Rector
Joan Clodfelter, Minister of Music
Kathy Johnson, Christian Education Director
Maureen Tincher, Parish Administrator
John Taylor, Facilities Manager

THE VESTRY

2023

Walter Beeker
David Jones Jr. Warden
Cathy Riggan
Robin Sink

2024

Lynn Meeks Treasurer
Logan Sheets
Susan Terrell Clerk
Kathy Young

2025

Wes Allred Sr. Warden
Thompson Miller Asst. Treasurer
Marjorie Parker Asst. Clerk
Marilyn Taylor

Vestry Person of the Month for December is Walter Beeker.

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