

# **St. John's Gloucester** The Third Sunday in Lent The Holy Eucharist - Rite II prayers for healing March 23, 2025 10:00AM

#### LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

For thousands of years, First Nations people walked on this land in Gloucester; their relationship with the land is at the center of their lives and spirituality. St. John's is gathered on the traditional territory of the Pawtucket, and we give thanks to them, and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages. They followed the seasons, hunted, fished, raised families, grieved for their dead, nourished their living, shared the stories of their ancestors, and considered themselves the caretakers of this place.

# WE WELCOME YOU TO ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GLOUCESTER

We know that Christ is present in each person here and we celebrate the diversity of the body of Christ. If this is your first visit, please introduce yourself today and visit again sometime. If you've been away, welcome back. If you are here every week, it's always great to see you! We worship in the Anglican tradition and are a parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, which is part of the Episcopal Church USA. We honor individuals of every age, gender, ethnic heritage, sexual orientation and religious background. We respect the dignity of every human being.

#### **NEWCOMER'S WELCOME**

Please accept our warmest welcome! We hope you will experience the power of the Holy Spirit in our worship together. Please greet the Priest as you leave and complete a visitor's card found in each pew and place it in the offertory plate, give it to an usher, or give it to the Priest. Please join us for coffee hour, which is located in the Parish Hall, so our community can get to know you informally. We have two restrooms; one

(handicapped accessible) is located next to the Parish Hall, the other restroom is located on the second floor up the stairs from the Parish Hall kitchen.

### **PARTICIPATING IN THE LITURGY**

The People of God gathered in St. John's Church

Celebrant	The Rev. Ali Lutz
LEM	Claudette Chmura
Lector	Patricia Anders
Acolyte	Karen Kasper
Ushers	Tom Chmura, Connie DeSimone
Musicians	Director of Music, John Churchwell; Choir and Congregation
Altar Guild	Karen Kasper
Flower Guild	Rosemary Sullivan, Gwen Kopka, Ms. Fixits.

**COFFEE HOUR TODAY** is hosted by Gwen Kopka, Kim Prentice and Katharine Newhouse.

# THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

# SILENCE BEFORE THE SERVICE

# THE RINGING OF THE BELL

### THE SILENT PROCESSION

Our worship begins with the Acclamation and Penitential Rite.

Celebrant Blessed be the God of our salvation.

*People* Who bears our burdens and forgives our sin.

*Celebrant* Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." -Mark 12:29-31

# THE CALL TO CONFESSION

As we enter in to worship we ask God's forgiveness for things done and things left undone and things done on our behalf so that we may be reconciled to each other and to God.

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept for a time.

Celebrant Let us pray.

# THE CONFESSION

- *Celebrant* Most holy and merciful God: We confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
- PeopleWe have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.<br/>We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven<br/>others, as we have been forgiven.

*Celebrant* Our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,*People* We confess to you, O God.

*Celebrant* Our self-indulgence, and our exploitation of other people, our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

*People* We confess to you, O God.

*Celebrant* For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

*People* Accept our repentance, O God.

*Celebrant.* For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

*People* Accept our repentance, O God.

*Celebrant* Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;

*People* Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.

#### THE DECLARATION OF PARDON AND FORGIVENESS

*Celebrant* May the Eternal God forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by the Holy Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**THE KYRIE** The Congregation may kneel while the Kyrie is sung by the choir. Setting from Deutsche Messe, Franz Schubert (1797-1828), arr Richard Proulx (b. 1932)

#### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The congregation may stand or kneel.

CelebrantGod be with you,.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLet us pray together.

\*Sung on tone.

*People* Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

#### **THE CHORAL ANTHEM**

Christ the Vine

Robert J. Powell (b. 1932)

Christ, the vine, and God, the gardener, we, the branches bearing fruit. We can bring forth shoots of promise when our lives in Christ take root. Christ, the fruit from Jesse springing, you fulfilled the prophet's trust. And you pray that we, your body, will fulfill your trust in us.

Christ, may we submit to pruning that we bear more grapes for wine. Help us, when we're overburdened, draw new strength from you, the vine. You invite us to be partners, growing Spirit's fruit anew. Keep us one in love together: you in us, and we in you!

#### THE HEBREW BIBLE

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

Exodus 3:1-15

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations."

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. *People* Thanks be to God.

#### THE PSALM

Psalm 63:1-8

The Choir and Congregation will chant the Psalm using Simplified Anglican Chant.



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek <u>you</u>; \* my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a barren and dry land where there is no <u>water</u>.

Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy <u>place</u>, \* that I might behold your power and your <u>glory</u>.

For your loving-kindness is better than life it-<u>self</u>; \* my lips shall give you <u>praise</u>.

So will I bless you as long as I <u>live</u> \* and lift up my hands in your <u>Name</u>.

My soul is content, as with marrow and <u>fatness</u>, \* and my mouth praises you with joyful <u>lips</u>,

When I remember you upon my <u>bed</u>, \* and meditate on you in the night <u>watches</u>.

For you have been my <u>helper</u>, \* and under the shadow of your wings I will re-<u>joice</u>.

My soul clings to **you**; \* your right hand holds me **fast**.

# THE GREEK BIBLE

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. *People* Thanks be to God.

# THE CHORAL GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Set me as a Seal upon your heartRene Clausen (b. 1953)Set me as a seal upon your heart as a seal upon your arm for love is strong as death.<br/>Many waters cannot quench love neither can the floods drown it.

The choir will sing before and after the Gospel reading.

# THE GOSPEL

CelebrantThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

CelebrantThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

### THE HOMILY

The Rev. Ali Lutz

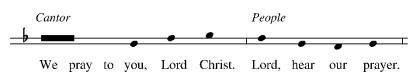
#### **THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe that our lives are held within the encircling love of God, who knows our names and recognizes our deepest needs. We believe that Christ is the divine Child of the living God, and that his grace is like living waters that can never be exhausted. We believe in the birthing, renewing, enabling Spirit of God who yearns over our welfare as a mother yearns for her child. We believe that God is in the arid desert as well as in green pastures, and that hard times and disciplines are also loving gifts.

We believe that our journey has a purpose and a destination, and that our path leads to a human glory we cannot yet imagine. We believe that in the church we are fellow pilgrims on the road, and that we are called to love one another as God loves us. This is our faith and we are humbled to profess in Jesus the Christ. Amen.

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*LEM* In the course of the silence after each bidding, please offer your own prayers either silently or aloud. After each bidding, the Cantor will lead us in our prayer response:



- *Celebrant* We pray to the Eternal One for courage to give up other things and to give ourselves in service to Christ.
- LEM Give your Church the courage to give up her preoccupation with herself and to give more time to your mission in the world. We pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Julia, our Bishop, Marya, Ali and Malcolm, our clergy and the Churches of the Cape & Islands Deanery: St. Barnabas' Church, Falmouth; Christ Church, Harwich Port; Grace Church, Vineyard Haven; For all churches in the Diocese closed or merged. May You bring forgiveness to your people and help us to face the cost of proclaiming salvation in love.
- *LEM* Give your world the courage to give up war, bitterness and hatred, and to seek peace. We pray for those in authority, particularly our president and congress. May the shoulders of the risen Jesus, once scourged by soldiers, bear the burden of political and military conflict in our world.
- *LEM* Give us the courage to give up quarrels, strife and jealousy in our families, neighborhoods and communities. We pray for peace in Israel and Palestine. May the presence of the risen Jesus, his body once broken and now made whole, bring peace and direction as we live with one another.
- *LEM* Give us the courage to give up our selfishness as we live for others, and to give time, care and comfort to the sick. We pray for George Hillman, Mara, Jan Goodwin, Demetria, Thelma, Tanya, Patty Rhinelander, Faith Berry, Gloria Herboldsheimer, Barbara, Kevin, Andrea, Kathy, Sheree and Dick, Moira, Macrina, Nancy, Jennifer, Marge, the American Cathedral in Paris. Are there others to be named? May the wounded hands of Jesus bring his healing touch, and the light of his presence fill their rooms.
- *LEM* Give us the courage to give up our inability to appreciate and thank people for their presence in our lives. *The congregation replies with thanksgivings.*

Give us the courage to give up our fear of death and to rejoice with those who LEM have died in faith; especially Jamie Floreng. Are there others to be named? May the feet of the risen Lord Jesus, once nailed to the cross, walk alongside the dying and bereaved in their agony, and walk with us and all your Church through death to the gate of glory.

> At the direction of the Cantor, the people chant Amen. People



#### THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Celebrant* Christ is here right now making peace among us. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you! People

### THE OFFERTORY HYMN

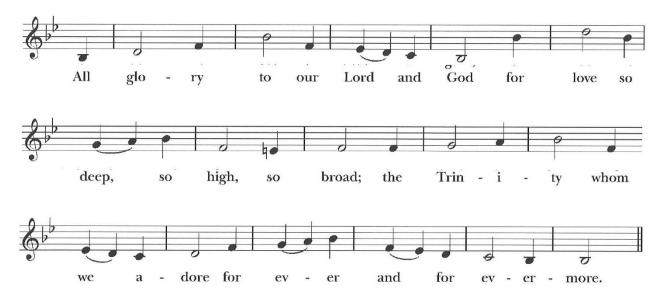
**ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

1982 Blue Hymnal #550 Jesus calls us: o'er the turmult RESTORATION During the Offertory Hymn, the gifts of bread and wine are brought to the altar.

#### THE DOXOLOGY

*O love, how deep, how broad (stanza 6)* 

1982 Blue Hymnal #448 **DEO GRACIAS** 

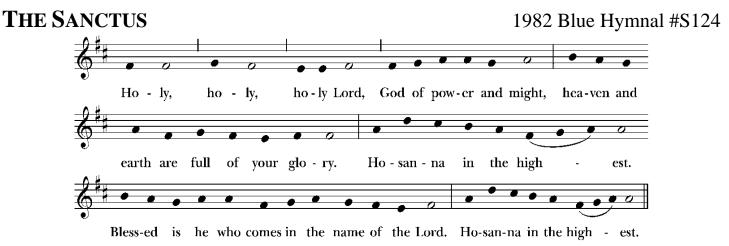


The gifts of the people are brought to the Altar.

# THE MINISTRY OF THE TABLE THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant	May God be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them up to God.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to our God.
People	It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, God of everlasting covenant, for your promises are steadfast and your provision is sure. Through the forty years of your people's desert wanderings you were constant in fire and cloud; with manna and mercy you sustained every step. You made Jesus 'temptation of forty days a theater of truth where your Word stood strong. In every age you have shaped your people through times of wilderness and wandering, of temptation and trial, and brought them into the land of promise and the life of covenant. And so we give you humble thanks for your forgiveness and our new life, with angels and archangels and the company of heaven, singing your unending praise.



Enduring God, as you sustained Jesus in hunger and thirst, through this meal strengthen us to keep our Lenten fast. Send your Holy Spirit upon us as we remember Jesus 'saving passion; transform our insatiable desires into hunger for the feast of this table. Send your Holy Spirit upon this bread and wine that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ; Who at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine. Again, he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "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. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith.

# **THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION** 1982 Blue Hymnal #366

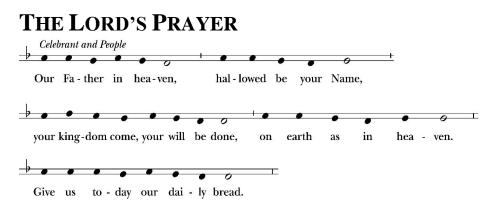
Forgiving God, in this season of repentance, make your mercy sufficient for every need. Come to your children who are in their own wilderness and make their wanderings holy paths of learning your truth. Strengthen all who face the threshold of temptation or the tumult of trial. Seek those whose hearts are contrite and meet them with grace. Come alongside your children who suffer under the sin of another and give them the power to live as your beloved sons and daughters. Renew your church from the depths of your heart, where justice and mercy meet. Bring us with all your saints to the day when all who watch and pray for your kingdom behold your salvation and meet you in your resurrection. Infuse your church with Spirit and truth, walk with your beloved people as they seek security, companionship and freedom in your world, and fill your saints with the hope of eternal life, that all may come to praise your name, and every grain of sand and star in the sky be stirred with the wonders of your grace.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

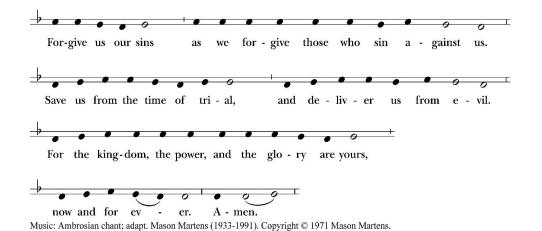
**THE CHORAL AMEN** Sung by the choir. Sevenfold Amen

Peter Lutkin (1858-1931)

And now, as Jesus has taught us, we pray:



1982 Blue Hymnal #S148



#### **THE CHORAL FRACTION ANTHEM**

Create in my, O God, a pure heart Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; And take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.

#### THE INVITATION

The Gifts of God for you, the People of God!

#### **DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION AND PRAYERS FOR HEALING**

Today, St. John's will have Prayers for Healing, as well as Communion. Communion will take place at the low Altar without kneeling. You may participate by extending your hands and placing one hand over the other for the bread and sipping from the chalice. Please let the priest know if you need a gluten free wafer. If you prefer not to receive wine, you may cross your hands over your chest. You may also come forward for a blessing, while others come for communion.
To receive a blessing, simply cross your arms over your chest. The Priest will pray for God's blessing upon you.
After Communion, you may come to the Altar railing and briefly describe to the healing minister, petitions or thanksgivings for which you would like prayers. You may kneel or stand, and if you would prefer not to be touched or anointed with oil, please so indicate. The minister will then offer a prayer and blessing.

#### **COMMUNION MUSIC**

Now the silence I come with joy to meet the Lord NOW LAND OF REST

#### THE GREAT SILENCE

Once all have received communion and the Holy Table has been cleared, the community observes a moment of silent reflection and prayer. The silence is begun and ended with the sound of a bell.

*Celebrant* Jesus said to his disciples, "Come away to a quiet place and rest for a while." Therefore, let us now rest in Christ's presence in the silence.

A prolonged silence is kept.

### **THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

After the Silence the Presider invites the congregation to stand and pray saying: Celebrant God is with you.

*People* And also with you.

Celebrant Together, let us pray.

*People* Faithful God, in this holy meal you increase our faith and hope and love. Lead us in the way of Christ who is your Word of life. We ask this in his name. Amen.

#### **BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND PRAYERS FOR TRAVEL**

#### THE BLESSING

- *Celebrant* Live without fear, for your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you fiercely. Go in peace to follow the good road, together. And the blessing of God, who creates, liberates and inspires us to justice, be with you all forever.
- *People* **AMEN.**

#### THE RECESSIONAL HYMN

Jesus, Lover of my soul

1982 Blue Hymnal #699 ABERYSTWYTH

#### THE DISMISSAL

CelebrantGo in peace to love and serve the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

#### **DEPART IN SILENCE**

# THE SEASON OF LENT

We are living in a noisy, frantic world, the news faster than our brains can take it in, always on the go. It feels like we're in the soup, the temperature rising, and we might just boil. So, how can we listen much less understand or follow?

Lent is the chance to listen. It's a chance to choose one or two ways to clear out the static, the superfluous, so that we might listen deeply. Perhaps for this season you won't wake up and immediately reach for your phone to see what latest awful thing has happened in the news (I am speaking directly to my mother here). Perhaps you'll attend Choral Evensong, or Compline or a book study. See below for more information about all of this.

Perhaps none of these fits the bill right now. That's okay. But think of some small way you can listen more, talk less, obsess less, still your Spirit. And if you do nothing else, come to church where we listen together. *Marya*+

#### **LENTEN COMPLINE SERVICES**

Compline is a brief, luminous service that marks the close of each day and welcomes the quiet of nighttime in praising the source of light and life. We will follow the service "An Order for Compline" in the Book of Common Prayer of The Episcopal Church, ending with the Night prayer from the New Zealand Common Prayer. All participants will be asked to bring a candle. This March and April, St. John's will be offering three compline services at parishioners' homes. A meal will be served at 6:00 pm and the service will begin at 7:00 pm. You may join for one or the other or both. Please sign up in the Parish Hall or call the office at 978-283-1708, or <u>email Marge</u>.

March 26, Home of Rev. Marya DeCarlen April 2, Home of Rick Britton

#### **SAVE THE DATE!**

#### Compline

March 26, 2025 6:00pm Meal, 7:00pm Compline Home of Rev. Marya DeCarlen

#### Compline

April 2, 2025 6:00pm Meal, 7:00pm Compline Home of Rick Britton

#### **Choral Evensong**

April 9, 2025 6:00pm

#### **Palm Sunday**

April 13, 2025 10:00am

#### **Agape Meal and Maundy Thursday** Services April 17, 2025 6:00pm Meal, 7:00pm Service

#### **Good Friday Reading of the Passion** April 18, 2025

11:00am

#### **Easter Vigil**

April 19, 2025 7:00pm

#### **Easter Sunday**

April 20, 2025 10:00am

#### **Morning Prayer**

April 27, 2025 Jason Kinchen, Officiant

#### May The Fourth Be With You

Silent Movie Concert May 4, 2025, John Churchwell, Organist



# St. John's Gloucester

stjohnsgloucester.org 48 Middle Street, Gloucester, Massachusetts 01930 Parish Office Telephone: 978-283-1708 WiFi Password: 48MiddleSt The Rt. Rev. Julia E. Whitworth, Bishop of Mass. & The Rt. Rev. Dr. Carol Gallagher, Assistant Bishop

The Rev. Marya DeCarlen, Priest-in-Collaboration Wardens: Patricia Anders & Katharine Newhouse mdecarlen@comcast.net Priest Associates: The Rev. Malcolm Henderson and The Rev. Ali Lutz Marge Bishop, Church Assistant marge@stjohnsgloucester.org John Churchwell, Director of Music Elizabeth de Veer, Parish Administrator

Clerk: Geoff Pope Treasurer: Karen Kasper VESTRY: 2026: Dee Dee Bedford, Rick Britton, Sarah Larson 2027: Maryann Tapiro 2028: Sue Lupo, Doug Parsons, Lindsay Smith, Barbara Soreng

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