

# Annual Meeting Sunday and The Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 26, 2025 One Combined Service at 9:30am

St. John's Episcopal Church, Royal Oak MI



# St. John's Welcome Statement

Welcome! We are St. John's, a parish that invites you to be a part of our community and warmly embraces you when you do.

At St. John's, our history has taught us that accepting and embracing true diversity is challenging. As a result, we have

come to claim a firm, undying commitment to inclusion. So here is our invitation to you: regardless of your cultural background, ethnicity, gender, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or heterosexual identity, economic status, physical or cognitive ability – you will not be labeled, singled out or excluded here. You will be welcomed, affirmed, embraced and celebrated! We will be better because you are here.

Adopted by unanimous vote at St. John's Annual Meeting, January 31, 2016

### Everyone is Welcome! Everyone Belongs! Welcome Newcomers!

Young Children - with all their sounds and wiggles - are very welcome in this church!

If you are here for the first time, please help us to get to know you by signing our Guest Book (clipboard in the entry of the church) and/or filling out a welcome card found in each pew. Place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher. We are so pleased that you are here and want to do everything we can to help you make the most of St. John's Episcopal Church and its resources for your spiritual journey.

All are welcome to communion, where we share one bread, one body. To facilitate this, our communion bread is all Gluten Free. All are welcome to St. John's programs and events.

All hymns © All rights reserved # A-709760

#### PRELUDE

#### THE WORD OF GOD

At the ringing of a bell, the people stand.

#### **OPENING HYMN**

Impartial, Compassionate God of All Lives Songs for the Holy Other



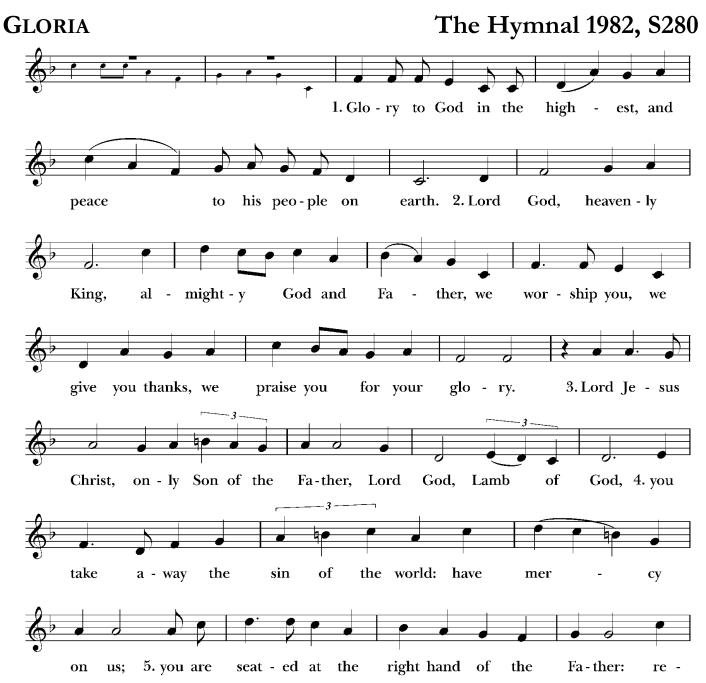
#### **OPENING ACCLAMATION**

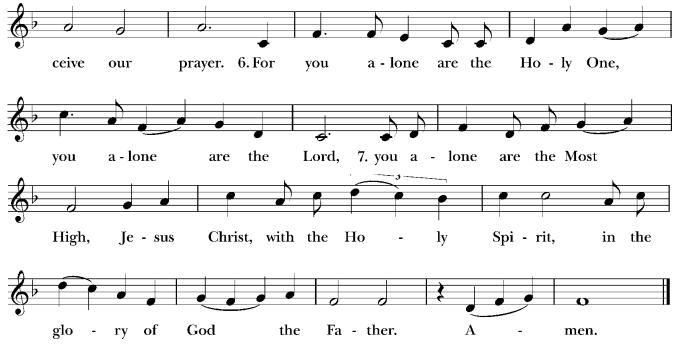
*Presider* **†**Blessed be God: Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.*People* And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION FOR THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S

*All* God, we are a reflection of your Holy Spirit.
By your grace we are blessed with many gifts that enable us to be your hands and feet and voice in the world.
Help us to serve others with love, to be animated by generosity, and to live without fear.

Today, and every day, let us each hear the answer to the question, "God, what do you want to do through me?" *Amen.* 





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

#### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider	God be with you.
People	And also with you.
Presider	Let us pray.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* 

The people are seated

# THE FIRST LESSON

# Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

LectorThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

# PSALM 19:7-11, 14

- 7 The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; \* the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; \* the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for ever; \* the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, \* sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, \* and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, \*O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

# THE SECOND LESSON

# 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

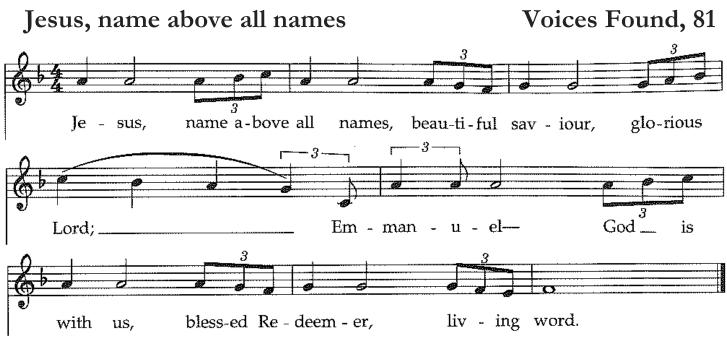
Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

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

The people stand and sing as the Gospel book is processed to the nave

#### **GOSPEL HYMN**



# THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 4:14-21

Gospeller **†**The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke.People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

# GospellerThe Gospel of ChristPeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ

# SERMON

# The Rev. Gerardo Aponte-Safe

A period of silence is kept

# **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*Clergy* Gathered as believers in Christ, and made one body through Christ, let us offer prayers to God for the living hope of all the world.

We pray for the Church; for all the people of St. John's in their many ministries. Help us to remember that we are the Church, called and sent into the world, serving wherever it is we are present. God of love –

#### Hear our prayer.

O God, in the midst of turmoil throughout the world, we seek your guidance and your light. Guide the hearts of your servants and all leaders to do justice, love mercy, and walk in the ways of truth. God of love –

### Hear our prayer.

We give thanks for those who ask questions, for those who give voice to doubt, and for those who deliberate and discern. For those who are new to the St. John's community, and for those preparing to be baptized, confirmed and received into the Church. God of love –

# Hear our prayer.

For all who work for justice, that they may be sustained with hope, empowered with courage, and filled with the grace to persevere in love. God of love – **Hear our prayer.** 

For the widowed and orphaned, for the aged and the homebound, for the sick and the suffering, especially Barbara, Gloria, Cheri, Carolyn, Mimi, Sandor, Kathy, Nancy, Madiba, Trudy, Gayle, Sue, Jenny, Lonnie, Linda, Mark, Elliot, and those we now name \_\_\_\_\_\_; for the poor and oppressed, for the unemployed and destitute, and for all prisoners, refugees, and immigrants. God of love – Hear our prayer.

Through your goodness, open our eyes to see the dignity, beauty and worth of every human being. God of love –

### Hear our prayer.

We commend to God all who have **†**died, especially those whom we now name ; and for those who have died and are known to God alone. May they rest in eternal peace. God of love –

# Hear our prayer.

Presider Blessed are you, O Lord our God, who gives us eternal peace through Jesus Christ. Hear our prayers which we offer in the hope of glory, and breathe upon us with your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# THE CONFESSION

*Clergy* Let us confess our sins against God and one another.

All

# 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 ABSOLUTION

*Presider* Almighty God have mercy on you, †forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.* 

# THE PEACE

PresiderMay the Peace of Christ always be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

The peace is exchanged among the people

#### **GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

Your pledges and financial gifts support the mission, the many ministries, the outreach, and the fellowship offered through St. John's. Gifts of pledges and offerings may be placed in collection baskets or at the basins at the steps of the altar as you come up for communion.

Give online: stjohnsroyaloak.org and click on GIVE Text: Text "StJohnsRoyalOak" to 73256 Mail: St. John's, 26998 Woodward Ave, Royal Oak, MI 48067 Envelopes: Available upon request 248-546-1255 or office@stjohnro.org



OR scan this code to be directed to the giving page.

# **OFFERTORY MUSIC**

At the Presentation Hymn, all stand. The ushers present our gifts at the altar. The Eucharistic ministers join the clergy to prepare for Eucharist.

#### **PRESENTATION HYMN** Praise God, from whom all blessings flow The Hymnal 1982, 380, v. 3 0 σ \*3 Praise all flow; God. from whom bless - ings praise ρ him, all here be low; praise him a - bove, crea-tures ye Ø 0 σ σ Fa - ther, Son, and heaven - ly praise Ghost. host: Ho - ly

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

*Presider* God be with you.

*People* And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

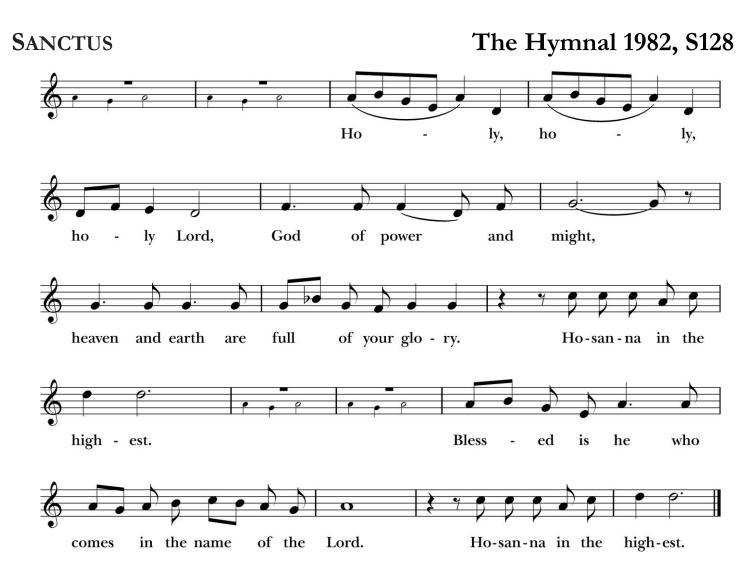
*People* We lift them to the Lord.

*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven 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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



#### The Presider 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 Mary the Mother of God, 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O God,

Presider and People

#### We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

#### The Presider continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O God 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 all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

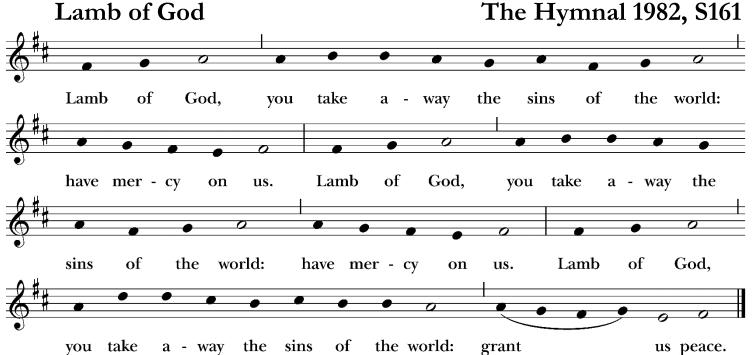
By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. *Amen.* 

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

All 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 Lamb of God The Hymnal



Music: From New Plainsong; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

Presider breaks the consecrated Bread

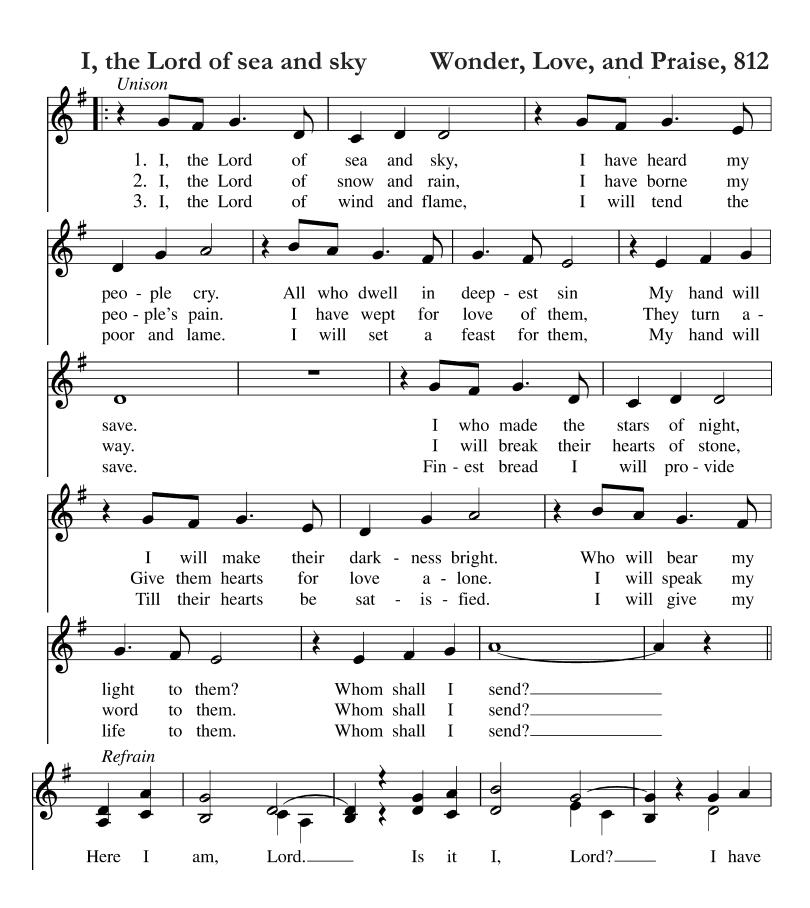
- *Presider* These are the gifts of God.
- *People* And we are the people of God.

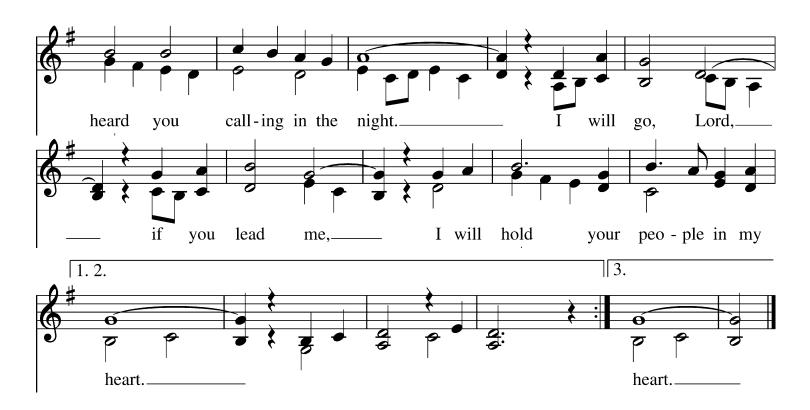
*Presider* Behold who you are and become what you receive.

This is Christ's table, and Christ is our host at this feast. Everyone who comes to the altar seeking Christ will be welcomed. The wafers are gluten-free.

#### **COMMUNION HYMNS**







## BLESSING AND SENDING OF HOLLY MCNEAL AND FAMILY

# **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

The people stand as they are able and pray together

*Presider* Let us pray.

All Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body.
 Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, and renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

#### BLESSING

#### **CLOSING HYMN**



# DISMISSAL

ClergyLet us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

#### POSTLUDE

### St. John's Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting begins today immediately following the service.

# Altar Memorials and Thanksgivings

In gratitude for Askari Asante, Kelly Mankin, and Janice Pedersen

who end their service on the Vestry today. Thank you for your service.

> In thanksgiving for **our 8:00 family** by Chuck and Linda Tucker

> > In thanksgiving for Holly McNeal by friends

#### Altar Flower Memorials and Thanksgivings

We welcome your participation and contributions to this ministry. If you would like to have a flower thanksgiving or memorial placed in the bulletin, please contact Jennifer Perkins at 248-546-1255 or office@stjohnro.org or you can give online by going to the St. John's website at stjohnsroyaloak.org - click on GIVE and then from the "Fund" dropdown options, select "Flower Fund." The suggested minimum donation is \$25.00; however, all donations will be accepted and recognized. Thank you!

# Ministers of Today's Service: The People of St. John's

#### Lectors

Lectors	Dustin Walker – First Lesson; Joh Trace – Psalm; Sandy Curtis – Second Lesson; Yve Jones – Prayers of the People
Greeter before the service	Jim Whipple, Lisa Philips
Greeter during the service	Mary Fairman
Ushers	Chris Davis, Bruce Donigan, Marie Donigan, Lisa Philips, Greg Taub
Altar Guild	Denise Barnett, Pam Lupinski, Barb Moran, Mary Ann Morrow
Bread Baker	Megan Clark
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Sharon Kennedy, Janice Pedersen, Chuck Tucker
Lay Eucharistic Visitor	
Healing Minister	Debbie Smith
Acolytes	Julian Griffin, Ryley Griffin, Justice McNeal
Tech Team	Christopher Bosley, Laurie McLaughlin, Barbara Jones
Acolyte Verger	Kevin McLogan
Opener	Ray Kwiatkowski
Closer	Chris Moran
Altar Flower Care	Kate Weide
Musicians	Steven McGhee, Music Director; Brynn Ward; Bex Conway, Alek Mirinov,
	Brooklyn Pfeffer, Choral Scholars; St. John's Chancel Choir
Associate Clergy/Curate	The Rev. Gerardo Aponte-Safe
Rector	The Rev. Beth Taylor

#### **Additional Prayer List**

#### Persons being prayed for:

Sarah Briana, Wettona, Ezra, Vic, Jackie Sandi Willa Edward, Ariana, Glenn Matthew, Heather, India, Joann, Jim Larry, Lois Gary, Patrick Jeanette, Evelyn Angelina, Jamie Donna, MaryPat, Linda, Debbie Kae, Dorothy, Lois. Tammy, Peggy JoAnn, Edgar, Mary Lou, Natalia Lorie, Patty, Betty, Gail, Dot, Wilma, Nan, Mike Jennifer, Richard, Mark Mike Linda Nikki Bill, Dorothy Arthur, Dan, Winnie Patty, Jim, Ron, David, Maria Dave, Kate, Evie, Caroline, Rhonda, Joe, Dennis, Norma, Ashley, Jake, Carson Gail, Phil, Steven, Paul Randy, Kelly, Charlotte Adam, Don Bob, Paul, Scott Barbara, Bob, Cathy David, David Dominic, Pam, Nancy, Miles, Tom, Troy, Frankie, Hadi Iune Brian Gabrielle Debbie, Marion, Harvey

#### **Requested by:**

**Rachel Andrews** Gloria Brown Jen Bruns Janet Craft Sandy Curtis Carolyn Darling Chris Davis, Lonnie Shelton Ann Davis Chervl Donigan Allyson Frank Diana Graor Elaine Kapelanski Kathy Kustowski Maryann LeComb & Kathy Stricker **Richard LeJeune** Leah Lynady Kelly Mankin & Michael Tonda Holly McNeal Barbara & Chris Moran Janice Pedersen Mapley Extended Family Mary Ann Morrow Bob & Trudy Nagaj Marilyn Robinson Jeff & Nancy Sever Joey Spano **Bob** Stevens Elizabeth Swanchara The Sykes Family Barbara Thornton Bob Walsh Pam Lupinski Tamra Zakar

# **St. John's Adult Formation**

# INQUIRER'S CLASS: EPISCOPAL 101

Wednesdays at 7pm

- January 29
- February 5
- February 12

What do Episcopalians believe? How does the worship service work? What does it mean to be a member of St. John's?

If you have these or other questions about The Episcopal Church and St. John's, join us for our Inquirer's Class! Whether you've just started attending or you've been attending for a long time, this is a place for you to learn more about what we do and what we're about. All questions, doubts, and insights are welcome!



The Daytrippers are back with another fabulous trip! If you love someone bring them to Orchestra Hall! The DSO plus an all star cast of vocalists perform Broadway's heart on your sleeve classics, featuring timeless songs by Rodgers and Hammerstein and more. Fifteen tickets in rows M, N, and O are available. Ticket price is \$39.20, a 30% discount. Tickets are \$56 without the discount. Please let Linda Tucker if you are interested in going by January 20 at lindaetucker45@gmail.com.