ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL & AFRICAN PALMS USA

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Proper 20

Sunday, September 21, 2025 8am & 10:30am

HOLY EUCHARIST



3427 Olney Laytonsville Rd. Olney, MD 20832 Phone: (301) 774-6999 | Website: <u>www.stjec.org</u>

~ CALLED BY CHRIST IN LOVE, TO LIVE IN TRUTH AND ACTION ~

Welcome to St. John's Church

We are a diverse faith community committed to carrying out Christ's mission in the world around us. We love the beauty of worship, and live into the faithful and constant commitment towards seeking social and economic justice and reconciliation among all peoples. We come from across the globe, with varied family configurations, educational backgrounds, occupations, interests, and talents and invite you to join us.

If you are visiting our church for the first time, please introduce yourself to an usher or a member of the Clergy. We have a small gift for you from the parish.

If you are seeking a spiritual home, please speak with the Clergy.

Please join us for Coffee and fellowship following the worship service

If you are a guest with us today, please know that you are welcome to enjoy fellowship, coffee, and tea with us in the Parish Hall following the service.

Children are welcome at all services

If you have little worshipers with you today who might enjoy coloring, Play-Doh, or a Rubik's cube, these can be found at either entrance.

The Nursery is open from 8am to 12pm for children age 5 and under.

SUNDAY @ ST. JOHN'S	ò
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8am	Worship with Eucharist, no music, in the Sanctuary
9am	Adult Forum in the undercroft Meeting Room
9:45am	Holy Household Half-Hour, Intergenerational "Sunday school" in the Parish Hall
10:30am	Worship with Eucharist and choir in the Sanctuary

COME JOIN US

TODAY

- Bishop James Visits
- Youth Group Meeting @ 12pm
- T'ween Club @ 2pm

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

• Youth Group Service Sunday @ 12pm

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

- Newcomer's Coffee Hour @ 12pm
- Youth Group Meeting @ 12pm
- Animal Blessing @ 1:30 3pm

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12

- Youth Group Meeting @ 12pm
- Neuro-Spicy Group @ 1:30pm

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13

Office CLOSED

HOLY EUCHARIST

10:30AM Prelude

The people stand.





Words: Fanny Crosby (1820–1915). Music: W. H. Doane (1832–1916). Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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.**

8AM Gloria

BCP pg. 356

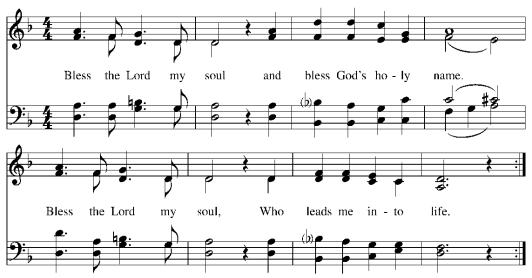
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you 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.

6

10:30AM

WLP 825 Bless the Lord my soul

Jacques Berthier



Words: Psalm 103. Music: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994).

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

Lector A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

My joy is gone, grief is upon me, my heart is sick.

Hark, the cry of my poor people from far and wide in the land:

"Is the LORD not in Zion?

Is her King not in her?"

("Why have they provoked me to anger with their images, with their foreign idols?")

"The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved."

For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt, I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me.

Is there no balm in Gilead?

Is there no physician there?

Why then has the health of my poor people not been restored?

O that my head were a spring of water, and my eyes a fountain of tears, so that I might weep day and night for the slain of my poor people!

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 79:1-9

- 1 O God, the heathen have come into your inheritance; they have profaned your holy temple; * they have made Jerusalem a heap of rubble.
- 2 They have given the bodies of your servants as food for the birds of the air, *

and the flesh of your faithful ones to the beasts of the field.

3 They have shed their blood like water on every side of Jerusalem, *

and there was no one to bury them.

- 4 We have become a reproach to our neighbors, * an object of scorn and derision to those around us.
- 5 How long will you be angry, O LORD? * will your fury blaze like fire for ever?
- 6 Pour out your wrath upon the heathen who have not known you * and upon the kingdoms that have not called upon your
- Name.
 7 For they have devoured Jacob *
- 8 Remember not our past sins; let your compassion be swift to meet us; *

and made his dwelling a ruin.

for we have been brought very low. 9 Help us, O God our Savior, for the glory of your Name; *

deliver us and forgive us our sins, for your Name's sake.

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Lector A reading from Saint Paul's first letter to Timothy.

First of all, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

For there is one God;

there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human,

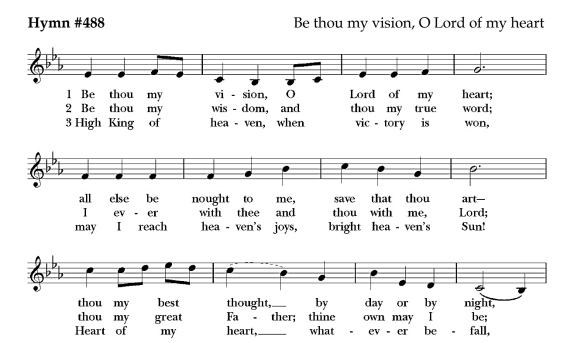
who gave himself a ransom for all

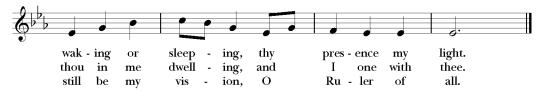
-- this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The people stand.





Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931); tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt. Copyright © by permission of the Estate of Eleanor Hull and Chatto & Windus Ltd. Music: Slane, Irish ballad melody; adaapt. The Church Hymnary, 1927; harm. David Evans (1874-1948) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (16:1-13) People Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, `What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, `And how much do you owe?' He replied, `A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

The Gospel of the Lord

People Praise to you, Lord Christ

THE SERMON

Bishop James Almasi

The people stand.

The Nicene Creed

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.

12

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate:

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon With the Lord's encouraging words resounding in our hearts, let us

frame again the prayers which linger in all human hearts, saying:

Hear us, O Lord.

We are weary of war and threats of war. Let us pray for peace in our

world, saying,

People Hear us, O Lord.

We fear for our children. Let us pray for all children, their health and well-being, saying,

People Hear us, O Lord

We are anxious about our security. Let us pray for an end to hunger and want, saying,

People Hear us, O Lord

We yearn for faith in an uncertain world. Let us pray for all who preach the gospel, saying,

People Hear us, O Lord

We tremble at our own vulnerability. Let us pray for the victims of illness, accident, and disaster, saying,

People Hear us, O Lord.

We mourn for those who have died. Let us pray for those who are now in the nearer presence of our Lord, saying,

People Hear us, O Lord.

We carry worry in our hearts. Let us pray for the needs we can hardly bear to name, saying,

People Hear us, O Lord.

We pray especially for **Kent, Terra, Bob, Carol, David, Kim, Christina, Alan, Etta, Phillip, Ivy, Mary Faith, Steve, Celeste, and Mary,** and those who are on our hearts and minds, saying,

People Hear us, O Lord.

Officiant Loving God, our Father, you fashioned the human heart; you know the needs that make it ache. Hear us, your children, praying as your Son taught us. His is the name we invoke; his is the kingdom we await: Jesus Christ, the Lord. **Amen.**

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

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.

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

O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel in particular the people of St. John's who leave on pilgrimage to explore our Anglican roots; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.



Use the QR code to donate from your mobile device.

Anthem: The Call of Wisdom Todd

The people stand.

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy

God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

The Celebrant continues.

8AM

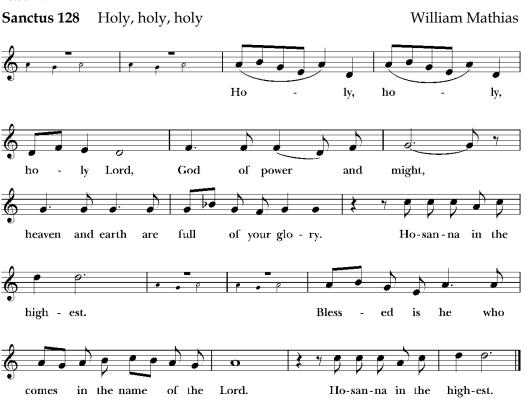
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

10:30AM



Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, dishonored one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and 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 friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world.

18

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with beloved John and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, in the language closest to our hearts, we are bold to say,

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.

Baba Yetu uliye mbinguni,
Jina lako litukuzwe;
Ufalme wako ufike,
Utakalo lifanyike
Duniani kama mbinguni.
Utupe leo mkate wetu wa kila siku,
Utusamehe makosa yetu,
Kama nasi tunavyowasamehe
waliotukosea.
Usitutie katika kishawishi,
Lakini utuopoe maovuni.
Amina.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

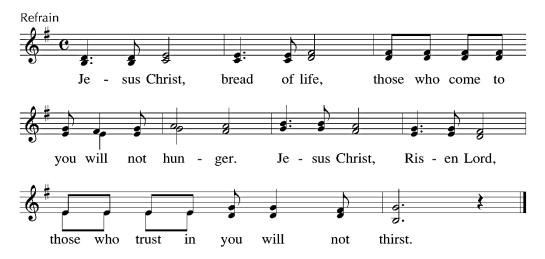
A period of silence is kept.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

10:30AM

Fraction Anthem: Jesus Christ, Bread of Life



Text: John 6; Taizé Community Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994 © 1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The people are seated.

Communion is offered to all who are called by Christ to participate. You can receive in both hands, bread and wine or in just one. To receive communion, or a blessing, please come forward to the priest at the front of the altar. To receive bread, put your hands out, to receive wine, please drink from the chalice. For health reasons, we do not instinct (dip) the bread. To receive a blessing, cross your arms across your chest. Gluten-free host is available. Please make your needs known to the priest.

Sending Prayers for Eucharistic Visitors

Deacon In the name of God and this congregation, I send you forth bearing

these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the

communion of Christ's body and blood.

People We who are many are one body because we all share one bread

and one cup.

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

The people stand.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing





Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878-1969), alt. Copyright © by permission of Harry Emerson Fosdick. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music: Cum Rhondda, John Hughes (1873-1932)

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

TENDING GOD'S FLOCK

Use this list to pray and to show your love and concern for the sick, shut-in, bereaved, or those merely in need of prayer. If you wish to submit a name please contact the office at accounting@stjec.org.

In case of pastoral emergency, please call 301-774-3619 or email <u>pastoralcare@stjec.org</u>

Kent McQueen
Terra Trabelsi
Bob Brekke
Carol Adoum
David Hull
Kim Irish
Alan Soukup
Etta MacKay
Phillip White
Ivy Choe-Branstetter
Mary Faith Almasi
Steve Ruff
Celeste McGee
Mary Persinger

If you are ill for an extended period, are hospitalized, need a visit or Eucharist brought to you, want your home blessed, are celebrating a birth, adoption, or want specific prayers for any number of celebrations or sorrows, please email: <u>pastoralcare@stjec.org</u>.

THIS MORNING WE WELCOME BISHOP JAMES ALMASI TO ST. JOHN'S

Bishop Almasi serves as bishop of the Diocese of Masasi, Tanzania.

• ST. JOHN'S COMMUNICATION SURVEY

St. John's Vestry is reviewing our communication strategies to ensure we are effectively sharing information about church events, volunteer opportunities, and outreach initiatives. We value your input and would appreciate it if you could take a moment to complete this brief anonymous survey (email addresses are not recorded). Your response will help us enhance our efforts to better serve our church community.



How well are we communicating?

Please tell us by scanning the QR code or visit https://stjec.org/member-portal to begin the survey.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Food Pantry needs for this week include: Canned Chicken | Taco Kits Spaghetti Sauce | Water | Condensed Soups | Dried Potatoes | Pasta Fresh Stack Crackers | Fruit Cups | Canned Red Beans | Meal Helper Canned White Beans

Please leave donations on the bench outside the Rector's office; we are happy to stock them.

ANIMAL BLESSING

In honor of St. Francis of Assisi, the Patron Saint of Animals, ALL furry and feathered friends are invited to St. John's for a special drive-by animal blessing on Sunday, October 5th from 1:30-3pm. Drive around the church circle, stop at the church's red doors where clergy will be stationed, waiting to bless your companions.

NEWCOMER'S COFFEE HOUR

The Clergy and Vestry warmly invite all newcomers to join them for a special Newcomer's Coffee Hour on Sunday, October 5th, immediately following the 10:30am service. This is a great opportunity to:

- Meet other newcomers
- Get to know our clergy and vestry members
- Learn about the church and its ministries
- Ask questions and discover ways to get involved

T'WEEN FAITH CLUB

T'weens Faith Club for students in grades 3 - 5 meets on Sunday, October 5th from 2-3pm in the Parish Hall. This year's theme is "Living Biblically" with a focus this fall on "The world according to Hebrew scriptures." Please join us in the Parish Hall for games, tactile faith exploration, and pizza. Parents are welcome to stay.

CALLING ALL WOMEN!

Please join us for the 142nd Annual General Meeting of Episcopal Church Women in the Diocese of Washington, DC., connecting Episcopal women in the diocese. This year's meeting will be held on Saturday, October 18th, from 8:30am-2pm at St. Phillip's Episcopal Church in Laurel, Maryland. The cost of \$30.00 includes a continental breakfast and lunch. Purchase tickets on Evenbrite http://www.ecw-edow.org. Questions? Ask Mathy at (301) 938-8089.



St. John's Episcopal Church ~ and especially Deacon Nancy is looking for one or two people to assist with the planning and organizing of the Chili Cook-Off! We are looking for people with the following qualifications and gifts - comfortable with a phone, can think clearly, take action, and follow up. We have a pretty good plan and need to – as they say on the Starship Enterprise – Make It Happen. You will have the support of a wonderful community and will need to be able to laugh at puns!

On a serious note, Deacon Nancy will be walking the Camino de Santiago in Spain from October 14th until November 5th. To make the event as fun as last year, some logistical support is required while she is gone. It would be great to have one or two people to assist now and carry on while she is gone. Will you please respond to Deacon Nancy, Fr. Henry, or Mo Shivaun? Deacon Nancy will be happy to share specifics with you on Sunday or schedule some time to discuss it. It WILL be fun and make a difference to our St. John's community and enable us to support God's beloved community outside our doors even more!

Thank You!

SAINT JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL & AFRICAN PALMS USA

Diocese of Washington

The Most Reverend Sean W. Rowe, *Presiding Bishop* The Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde, *Bishop*

STAFF

The Reverend Henry P. McQueen, *Rector* rector@stjec.org

The Reverend Shivaun Wilkinson, Associate Rector associate@stjec.org

The Reverend Nancy Stockbridge, *Deacon* deacon@stjec.org

Tammy Turner, Parish Administrator accounting@stjec.org

Cambria Van de Vaarst, Minister of Music music@stjec.org

Africanpalms@stjec.org

Joe Powers, Interim Head of School Joe.Powers@stjes.org

Eoin Benson, Sexton

Selva Selvarajah, Verger

VESTRY

Will Lederer, 2026 - Formation Bill Fleming, 2026 - Sr. Warden Mary Kerr, 2026 - Pastoral Care Andrew Hamill - Treasurer Aparna Williams - Asst. Treasurer Julie Metcalf - Registrar Vicki Hudson, 2027 – Stewardship Carmen Jones, 2027 – Evangelism Becca Roberson, 2027 – Jr. Warden, Outreach Becky Hast, 2028 - STJES Mary Lou McMaster, 2028 - Worship Rob Schellhase, 2028 – Parish Life

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

3427 Olney Laytonsville Rd. Olney, MD 20832 (301) 774-6999 - Welcome@stjec.org

~ On the Land of the Piscataway Nation ~