

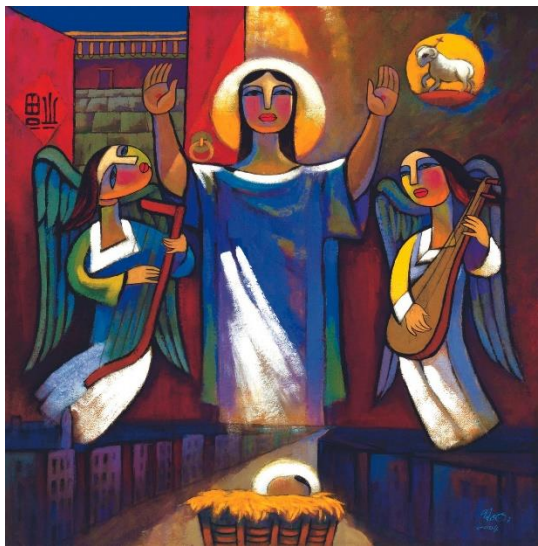
**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL
& AFRICAN PALMS USA**

**THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
IN THE TEMPLE**

Sunday, February 2, 2025

8:00am & 10:30am

HOLY EUCHARIST



He Qi

Messiah

3427 Olney Laytonsville Rd. Olney, MD 20832

Phone: (301) 774-6999

Website: www.stjec.org

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 some 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

8am	<i>Worship with Eucharist, no music, in the Sanctuary</i>
9am	<i>Adult Forum: Book & discussion group in the undercroft Meeting Room</i>
9am	<i>Choir Rehearsal in the undercroft Choir Room</i>
9:30am	<i>Holy Household, Intergenerational "Sunday school" in the Parish Hall</i>
10:30am	<i>Worship with Eucharist and choir in the Sanctuary</i>
12-1pm	<i>Middle & High School Youth Group in The Gathering Space upstairs</i>
12-1pm	<i>Hand Bell Choir in the undercroft Choir Room</i>

HOLY EUCHARIST

Prelude Brother James Air

Vande de Vaarst

The people stand

10:30am

Opening: Hymn #259

Hail to the Lord who comes



1 Hail to the Lord who comes, comes to his temple gate;
2 but, borne up on the throne of Mary's gentle breast,
3 There Joseph at her side in reverent wonder stands;
4 O Light of all the earth, thy children wait for thee!

not with his angel host, not in his kingdomly state;
watched by her dutiful love, in her fond arms at rest,
and, filled with holy joy, old Simeon in his hands
Come to thy temples here, that we, from sin set free,

no shouts proclaim him nigh, no crowds his coming wait;
thus to his Father's house he comes, the heavenly guest.
takes up the promised child, the glory of all lands.
be - fore thy Father's face may all pre - sent - ed be!

Opening Acclamation

BCP pg. 355

People Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

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.**

8:00am
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.**

10:30am

The musical score is written on two staves in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 6/8 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "The bright-ness of God il - lu - mined the ho - ly cit - y Je - ru - sa - lem, and the na - tions will walk by its light."

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The Collect of the Day

People The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated

Malachi 3:1-4

Reader A Reading from the Prophet Malachi

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts.

But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God

Psalm 84

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts,
my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of
springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 7 Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own
room, *
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- 10 For the Lord God is both sun and shield; *
he will give grace and glory;
- 11 No good thing will the Lord withhold *
from those who walk with integrity.
- 12 O Lord of hosts, *
happy are they who put their trust in you!

Hebrews 2:14-18

Reader A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people.

Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God

The people stand

Sequence Hymn # 277

Sing of Mary, pure and lowly



1 Sing of Ma - ry, pure and
2 Sing of Je - sus, son of
3 Glo - ry be to God the



low - ly, vir - gin - mo - ther un - de - filed; sing of
Ma - ry, in the home at Naz - a - reth, toil and
Fa - ther; glo - ry be to God the Son; glo - ry



God's own Son most ho - ly, who be - came her lit - tle
la - bor can - not wea - ry love en - dur - ing un - to
be to God the Spi - rit; glo - ry to the Three in



child. Fair - est child of fair - est mo - ther, God the
death. Con - stant was the love he gave her, though he
One. From the heart of bless - ed Ma - ry, from all



Lord who came to earth, Word made flesh, our ve - ry
went forth from her side, forth to preach, and heal, and
saints the song a - scends, and the Church the strain re -

bro - ther, takes our na - ture by his birth.
 suf - fer, till on Cal - va - ry he died.
 ech - oes un - to earth's re - mot - est ends.

Saint Mary the Virgin (August 15).

Words: Roland Ford Palmer (b. 1891)

Music: Raquel, Skinner Chavez-Mélo (b. 1944)

87. 87. D

THE HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 2: 22-40

*Deacon
 People*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you Lord Christ

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in
peace, according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the presence of all
peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

People The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Christ

THE SERMON

The Rev Shivaun Wilkinson

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.

Prayers of the People Form II

BCP Pg. 385

Deacon I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishops Mariann, and Sean; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.

I ask your prayers for the departed, especially Kris Thinnes. Pray for those who have died.

I ask for your prayers for our community: **Kim, Melissa & Don, Carolyn, Ron, Celeste, Paula, Mary Helen, Jere, Tim, and Mary.** Please pray for each other.

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Confession / Absolution

BCP pg. 360

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

The people stand or kneel.

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.

Celebrant 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**

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: O How Amiable Are Thy Dwellings

Schalk

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER C

BCP Pg. 369

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 our thanks and praise.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

8:00am

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

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

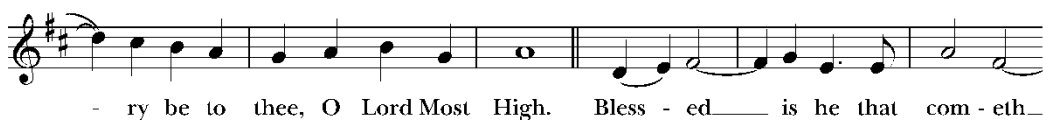
Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

10:30am

Sanctus Hymn #S114



Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

People

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our forebears; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Sarah, Rebekah, Leah, and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of The Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **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.

Πάτερ ἡμῶν ὁ ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς·
ἀγιασθήτω τὸ ὄνομά σου·
ἐλθέτω ἡ βασιλεία σου·
γενηθήτω τὸ θέλημά σου,
ὡς ἐν οὐρανῷ καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς·
τὸν ἄρτον ἡμῶν τὸν ἐπιούσιον δὸς
ἡμῖν σήμερον·
καὶ ἄφες ἡμῖν τὰ ὀφειλήματα
ἡμῶν,
ὡς καὶ ἡμεῖς ἀφίεμεν τοῖς
ὀφειλέταις ἡμῶν·
καὶ μὴ εἰσενέγκης ἡμᾶς εἰς
πειρασμόν,
ἀλλὰ ῥύσαι ἡμᾶς ἀπὸ τοῦ
πονηροῦ.
ἀμήν.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

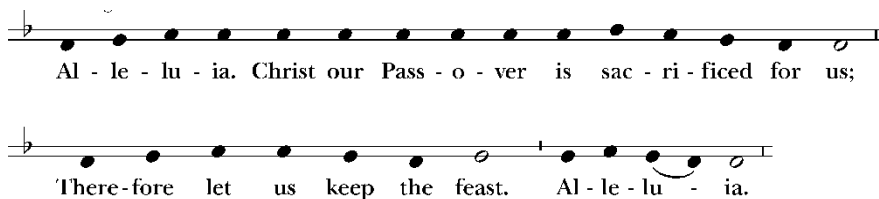
8:00am

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us
Therefore let us keep the feast

People

10:30am

Fraction Anthem Hymn #S152



This setting may be sung full by all, or by the choir, or as a versicle and response.

Music: Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1971 Mason Martens.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

This is God's table; communion is offered to all who are called by Christ to participate. You can receive in both kinds, 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 intinct (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

The People are seated.

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

Let us pray.

The people stand

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

Recessional Hymn #436

Lift up your heads



1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
2 O blest the land, the ci - ty blest, where Christ the
3 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
*4 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to
5 So come, my Sov - ereign; en - ter in! Let new and

1 King of glo - ry waits! The King of kings is
 2 ru - ler is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and
 3 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
 4 thee: here, Lord, a - bid! Let me thy in - ner
 5 no - bler life be - gin; thy Ho - ly Spi - rit

1 draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the world is here.
 2 hap - py homes to whom this King of tri - umph comes!
 3 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
 4 pres - ence feel: thy grace and love in me re - veal.
 5 guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

Words: Georg Weisdel (1590-1635); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878). Music: *Truro*, melody from *Psalmodia Evangelica*, Part II, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872), alt.

Dismissal

Deacon Go in Peace to Love and serve the Lord
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude Praeludium

Fischer

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 pastoralcare@stjec.org.

Kim Pham
Melissa & Don Griffin
Carolyn Shepherd
Ron Blackburn
Celeste McGee
Paula Fangboner
Mary Helen
Jere Rowland
Tim Wittig
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: pastoralcare@stjec.org.

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, February 2

- Candlemas at 4:pm
- Newcomer's coffee Hour

February 9

- Confirmation Class at 9:00am

Sunday, February 16

- Casserole Club at 12:00
-

Monday, February 17

- President's Day Office Close.

Sunday, February 23

- Day of Service at 12:00pm

Sunday, March 2

- Pancake Breakfast

Wednesday, March 5

- Ash Wednesday Services at 12:00pm, 5:30pm and 7:00pm
- Ashes for you at 4:00pm – 5:30pm

Wednesday, March 12

- Evening Prayer and Soup (Every Wednesday in Lent)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CANDLEMAS

Please join us today at 3:15pm in the Parish Hall to make candle bases and at 4pm when we move into the sanctuary for worship and special music.

FOOD PANTRY

Pantry needs for this week include Water, Shelf Stable Milk, Meal Helper, Spaghetti Sauce, Canned Chicken, Canned Tuna, Beef Stew, Canned Chili, Grape Jelly, and Canned Vegetables.



So that we can plan accordingly, please take a few minutes and sign up for one of the activities. This is a great opportunity to enjoy each other, spend time with new friends, and be in service to our community. If you are unable to and would like to participate by making a donation to help with supplies, please see Friday's Bell Tower to sign-up for an experience or to donate.

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*
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The Reverend Nancy Stockbridge, *Deacon*
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Tammy Turner, *Parish Administrator*
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Cambria Van de Vaarst, *Minister of Music*
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Africanpalms@stjec.org

Doug Perkins, *Interim Head of School*
Doug.Perkins@stjes.org

Jonathan Chai, *Sexton*

Selva Selvarajah, *Verger*

VESTRY

Andrew Hamill - *Treasurer*
Aparna Williams - *Asst. Treasurer*
Vicki Hudson, 2027 - *Stewardship*
Carmen Jones, 2027 - *Evangelism*
Becca Roberson, 2027 - *Outreach*
Julie Metcalf - *Registrar*

Becky Hast, 2028
Mary Lou McMaster, 2028
Rob Schellhase, 2028
Nancy Olkewicz, 2026 - *Parish Life*
Bill Fleming, 2026 - *Formation, Jr. Warden*
Mary Kerr, 2026 - *Pastoral Care*

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 ~