

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

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Sunday, February 16, 2025

8:00am & 10:30am

HOLY EUCHARIST



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</i>
12-1pm	<i>Hand Bell Choir in the undercroft Choir Room</i>

HOLY EUCHARIST

Prelude: Organ prelude

Mankell

The people stand

10:30am

Opening Hymn 656

Blest are the pure in heart

1 Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God; the
2 The Lord, who left the heavens our life and peace to bring, to
3 he to the low - ly soul will still him - self im - part and
4 Lord, we thy pres - ence seek; may ours this bless - ing be; give

se - cret of the Lord is theirs, their soul is Christ's a - bode.
dwell in low - li - ness with us, our pat - tern and our King;
for his dwell - ing and his throne will choose the pure in heart.
us a pure and low - ly heart, a tem - ple fit for thee.

Words: Sts. 1 and 3, John Keble (1792-1866), alt.; sts. 2 and 4, William John Hall (1793-1861), alt. Music: *Franconia*, melody Johann Balthasar König (1691-1758); adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870).

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 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.

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; 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 17: 5-10

Reader

A Reading from the Prophet Jeremiah

Thus says the Lord:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the Lord.

They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,
whose trust is the Lord.

They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;

in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse--
who can understand it?

I the Lord test the mind
and search the heart,

to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God

Psalm 1

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Reader

A Reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ--whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ

have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God

The people stand

Sequence Hymn # 635

If thou but trust in God to guide thee

Unison or harmony

1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee, and hope in him through
2 Sing, pray, and keep his ways un - swerv - ing; so do thine own part

all thy ways, he'll give thee strength what - e'er be - tide thee,
faith - ful - ly, and trust his word, though un - de - serv - ing;

and bear thee through the c - vil days. Who trusts in God's un -
thou yet shalt find it true for thee; God nev - er yet for -

chang - ing love builds on a rock that nought can move.
sook in need the soul that trust - ed him in - deed.

Words: Georg Neumark (1621-1681); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1829-1878), alt. Music: *Wer nur den lieben Gott*, Georg Neumark (1621-1681).

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 6: 17-26

*Deacon
People*

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

Jesus came down with the twelve apostles and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

“Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

“Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account

of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets."

"But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

"Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

"Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

"Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Nancy Stockbridge

The Nicene Creed

BCP pg. 358

**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. Pray for those who have died.

I ask for your prayers for our community: **Julie, Lois, Steve, Kim, Melissa & Don, Carolyn, Ron, Celeste, Paula, Mary Helen, Jere, and Mary.** 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**

People The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Use the QR code to donate from your mobile device.



Anthem: My Spirit Longs for Thee

Godfrey

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER C

BCP pg. 369

The people stand

People The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

People Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

People Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

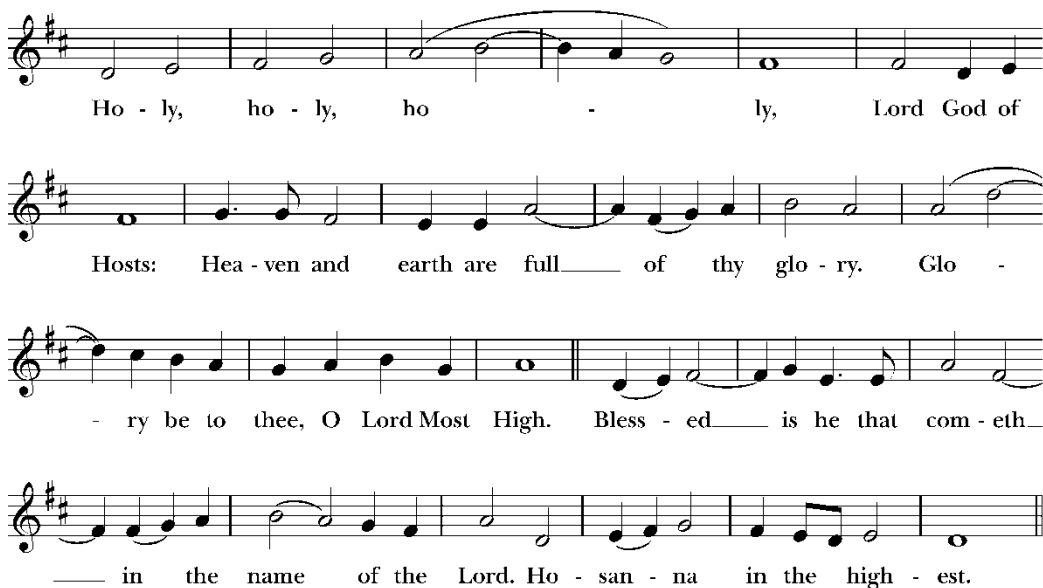
Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

10:30am

Sanctus Hymn #S114



The image shows a musical score for a Sanctus Hymn. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of'. The second staff continues with 'Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -'. The third staff continues with '- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth'. The fourth staff concludes with 'in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'

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.**

**Padre nostro, che sei nei cieli,
sia santificato il tuo nome;
venga il tuo regno,
sia fatta la tua volontà,
come in Cielo, così in terra.
Dacci oggi il nostro pane
quotidiano,
Erimetti a noi i nostri debiti,
come noi li rimettiamo ai nostri
debitori.
E non ci indurre in tentazione,
ma liberaci dal male.**

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.

Tuo è il regno, tua la potenza e la
gloria nei secoli.

Amen.

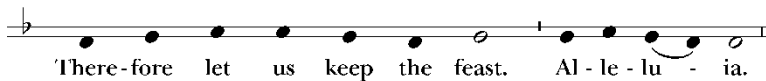
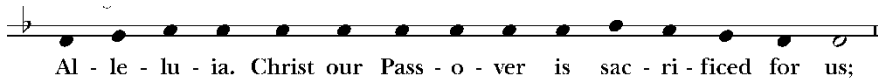
The Breaking of the Bread

8:00am

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

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 # 296

We know that Christ is raised and dies no more



1. We know that Christ is raised and dies no
 2. We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing
 3. The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with
 4. A new cre - a - tion comes to life and



more. Em - braced by death, he broke its
 death. Re - born, we share with him an
 life. The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the
 grows As Christ's new bod - y takes on



fear - ful hold, And our de - spair he turned to
 East - er life As liv - ing mem - bers of our
 Church of God. Bap - tized, we live with God the
 flesh and blood. The u - ni - verse re - stored and



blaz - ing joy. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Sav - ior Christ. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Three in One. Al - le - lu - ia!
 whole will sing: Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Romans 6:4, 9; John B. Geyer, b.1932, ©
 Tune: ENGELBERG, 10 10 10 with alleluia; Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

Dismissal

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

Postlude Engelberg

Andrew Moore

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.

Julie Metcalf
Lois Taylor
Steve Ruff
Kim Pham
Melissa & Don Griffin
Carolyn Shepherd
Ron Blackburn
Celeste McGee
Paula Fangboner
Mary Helen
Jere Rowland
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 16

- Casserole Club at 12:00
- T'ween Club Meeting at 5:00pm to 6:15pm

Monday, February 17

- President's Day Office Closed

Sunday, February 23

- Day of Service at 12:00pm

Sunday, March 2

- Pancake Breakfast at 8:30 - 10:15am & 11am - 12:30pm

Wednesday, March 5

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

Sunday, March 9

- Daylight Savings Time - Spring Forward

Wednesday, March 12

- Evening Prayer and Soup (Every Wednesday in Lent)

ANNOUNCEMENTS



The poster features the text 'DAY OF SERVICE' in a stylized, outlined font at the top left. To its right, 'FEB 23' is written in large, bold, outlined letters. Below this, '12-3:30PM' is written in a similar outlined font. The background of the top half shows a row of colorful hands (purple, blue, green, yellow) with white hearts on their palms. Below the text, there is a list of five activities. At the bottom left, there is a cartoon boy holding a letter and a red mailbox labeled 'POST'. At the bottom right, there is a cartoon red bird and a wooden birdhouse with a bird inside. The phrase 'JOIN US!' is written in large, bold, green letters in the center-bottom.

DAY OF SERVICE

FEB 23

12-3:30PM

**Join us on Sunday, February 23
from 12 noon to 3:30pm for a Day of Service
with St. John's Church & School**

SELECT YOUR EXPERIENCE

- ~~1. Sharing your Musical Talent~~
2. Preparing & Serving Food
3. Crafting Letters & Artwork
4. Making & Placing Bird Feeders
5. Reading to & Visiting With Elders

JOIN US!

This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy each other, spend time with new friends, and be in service to our community. Please take a few minutes to sign-up for one of the activities. Please note, Sharing Musical Talents is no longer an option. If you are unable to and would like participate by making a donation to help with supplies, please see Friday's Bell Tower or the website.

FOOD PANTRY

Pantry needs for this week include: Canned Chicken, Ramen Soup, Taco Kits, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Beef Stew, Canned Chili, Red Beans, and Pudding.

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

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rector@stjec.org

The Reverend Shivaun Wilkinson, *Associate Rector*
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The Reverend Nancy Stockbridge, *Deacon*
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Lourdes Hurtado
Africanpalms@stjec.org

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

Jonathan Chai, *Sexton*

Selva Selvarajah, *Verger*

VESTRY

Will Lederer, 2026
Bill Fleming, 2026 – *Formation, Jr. 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 – *Outreach*
Becky Hast, 2028
Mary Lou McMaster, 2028
Rob Schellhase, 2028

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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~ On the Land of the Piscataway Nation ~