

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

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Sunday, May 3, 2026**

**8am & 10:30am**

**HOLY EUCHARIST**



*"In My Father's House There Are Many Mansions" by Irving Amen*

3427 Olney Laytonsville Rd. Olney, MD 20832

Phone: (301) 774-6999

Website: [www.stjec.org](http://www.stjec.org)

~ 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 10:15am to 12pm for children age 5 and under.**

## SUNDAY @ ST. JOHN'S

8am	<i>Worship with Eucharist, no music, in the Sanctuary</i>
9:15am	<i>Adult Forum in the undercroft Meeting Room</i>
9:45am	<i>Holy Household Half-Hour, Intergenerational "Sunday school" in the Parish Hall</i>
9:45am	<i>Holy Play, Intergenerational faith formation for families with children 1st grade and under in the Nursery</i>
10:30am	<i>Worship with Eucharist and choir in the Sanctuary</i>

# COME JOIN US

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## TODAY

- Middle & High School Youth Group @ 12pm
- Newcomer's Coffee Hour @ 12pm
- Esther Deel Meeting @ 12pm
- T'ween's Faith Club Meeting @ 2-3pm

## SUNDAY, MAY 10

- Mother's Day

## SUNDAY, MAY 17

- Middle & High School Youth Group @ 12pm
- Casserole Club Meeting @ 12pm
- T'ween's Faith Club Meeting @ 2-3pm

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

- Vestry Meeting @ 6:30pm

## SUNDAY, MAY 24

- Pentecost Service & International Potluck Brunch
- Middle & High School Youth Group @ 12pm

## MONDAY, MAY 25

- Memorial Day - OFFICE CLOSED

## SUNDAY, MAY 31

- 2026 Graduates Honoring
- Middle & High School Youth Group @ 12pm

# HOLY EUCHARIST

10:30AM  
Prelude

*The people stand.*

10:30AM  
Hymn #1

Father we praise thee, now the night is over



1 Fa - ther, we praise thee, now the night is  
2 Mon - arch of all things, fit us for thy  
3 All - ho - ly Fa - ther, Son, and c - qual



o - ver, ac - tive and watch - ful, stand we all be -  
man - sions; ban - ish our weak - ness, health and whole - ness  
Spi - rit, Trin - i - ty bless - ed, send us thy sal -



fore thee; sing - ing we of - fer prayer and med - i -  
send - ing; bring us to hea - ven, where thy saints u -  
va - tion; thine is the glo - ry, gleam - ing and re -



ta - tion: thus we a - dore thee.  
nit - ed joy with - out end - ing.  
sound - ing through all cre - a - tion.

Words: Latin, 10th cent.; tr. Percy Dearmer (1867-1936). Music: *Christe sanctorum*, melody from *Antiphoner*, 1681; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

### 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.**

10:30AM

# Glory to God in the Highest

Malcolm Archer

Glo ry to God in the high est, and peace to his peo ple on  
earth. Lord God, heaven ly King, al migh ty God and  
Fath er, we wor ship you, we give you thanks, we  
praise you for your glo ry.  
Lord Je sus Christ, on ly Son of the Fath er, Lord God, Lamb of God, you  
take a way the sin of the world: have mer cy on us; you are  
seat ed at the right hand of the Fath er: re ceive our  
prayer. For you a lone are the Ho ly One,  
you a lone are the Lord, you a lone are the Most High,  
Je sus Christ, with the Ho ly Spi rit, in the glo ry of God the  
Fath er. A men, A men.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The people are seated.*

### **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 7:55-60**

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God**

## Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

- 1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame; \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.
- 2 Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.
- 4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.
- 5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O LORD, O God of truth.
- 15 My times are in your hand; \*  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,  
and from those who persecute me.
- 16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*  
and in your loving-kindness save me.

## A reading from the first letter of Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation – if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
a cornerstone chosen and precious;  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”  
To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do  
not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the very head of the corner”,  
and

“A stone that makes them stumble,  
and a rock that makes them fall.”  
They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were  
destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation,  
God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty  
acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous  
light.

Once you were not a people,  
but now you are God’s people;  
once you had not received mercy,  
but now you have received mercy.

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

*The people stand.*

## Hymn #487

## Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life



1 Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a  
2 Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a  
3 Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a



way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all  
light as shows a feast; such a feast as mends in  
joy as none can move; such a love as none can



strife; such a life as kill - eth death.  
length; such a strength as makes his guest.  
part; such a heart as joys in love.

Words: George Herbert (1593-1633)

Music: *The Call*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) Copyright ©1911 by Stainer and Bell, Ltd. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

## The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (14:1-14)

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way,

and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

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

**THE SERMON**

The Rev. Nancy Stockbridge

*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.  
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

Form VI

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

*People* For all people in their daily life and work;  
**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

*People* For this community, the nation, and the world;  
**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

*People* For the just and proper use of your creation;  
**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

*People* For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

*People* For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

*People* For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Mariann, our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;  
**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*People* For **Maxwell, Jere, Harry, Andrew, Aurora, Carole, Ivy, Steve, and Mary**, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*People* Hear us, Lord;  
**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*People* We will exalt you, O God our King;  
**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

*People* Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
**Who put their trust in you.**

*Celebrant concludes with a collect.*

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

*Silence*

*During Eastertide, by tradition, our worship does not include the corporate confession. This is not to say we do not sin, or that we no longer need to confess; rather, the celebration of Eastertide overwhelms our worship, so the act of corporate confession is silent for this period. The confession will return to regular worship with the celebration of Pentecost. The confession also remains a part of the Daily Office.*



Use the QR code to donate from your mobile device.

**Anthem:** Teach Me Your Way

Shaw

## EUCHARISTIC PRAYER C

*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 God thanks and praise.**

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.  
**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.  
**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.  
**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:

8AM

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

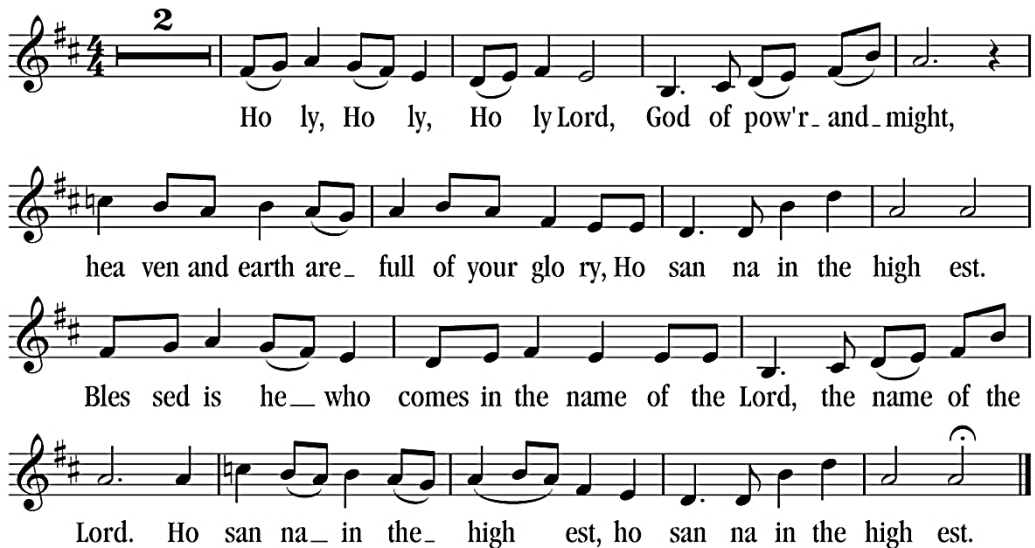
**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

10:30AM

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord**

Malcolm Archer



Ho ly, Ho ly, Ho ly Lord, God of pow'r\_ and\_ might,  
hea ven and earth are\_ full of your glo ry, Ho san na in the high est.  
Bles sed is he\_ who comes in the name of the Lord, the name of the  
Lord. Ho san na\_ in the\_ high est, ho san na in the high est.

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,

**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.

**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.**

**Pai Nosso, que estais nos Céus,  
Santificado seja o Vosso nome.  
Venha a nós o Vosso reino,  
Seja feita a Vossa vontade  
Assim na Terra como no Céu.  
O pão nosso de cada dia nos dai  
hoje.  
Perdoai-nos as nossas ofensas  
Assim como nós perdoamos a quem  
nos tem ofendido  
E não nos deixeis cair em tentação  
Mas livrai-nos do mal.  
Pois Teu é o reino, e o poder, e a  
glória para sempre. Amém.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

10:30AM

Fraction Anthem: Lamb of God

Malcolm Archer

2  
Lamb of God, you take a way the sins of the world; have  
mer cy up on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a way the sins of the world; have mer cy up on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a way the sins of the  
world; grant us your peace.

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 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. 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.*

*Celebrant and people.*

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.**

**And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

Hymn #518

Christ is made the sure foundation

*Descant*

4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

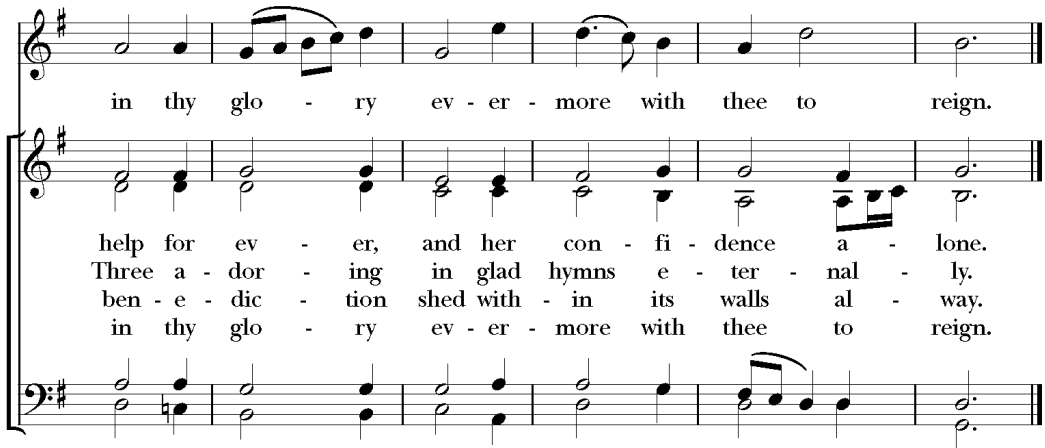
1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and  
 2 All that ded - i - cat - ed ci - ty, dear - ly loved of  
 3 To this tem - ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of  
 4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord, and pre - cious,  
 God on high, in ex - ult - ant ju - bi - la - tion  
 Hosts, to - day; with thy wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness  
 thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter

bind - ing all the Church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's  
 pours per - pet - ual mel - o - dy; God the One in  
 hear thy serv - ants as they pray, and thy full - est  
 with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter



in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

help for ev - er, and her con - fi - dence a - lone.  
 Three a - dor - ing in glad hymns e - ter - nal - ly.  
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in its walls al - way.  
 in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

Words: Latin, ca. 7th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, after John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.  
 Music: *Westminster Abbey*, Henry Purcell (1659-1695), adapt., desc. James Gillespie (b. 1929) Copyright © by permission of Church Society, London. All rights reserved. Used with permission

## Dismissal

Alleluia, Alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

## Postlude

## TENDING GOD'S FLOCK

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*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](mailto:accounting@stjec.org).*

*In case of pastoral emergency, please call 301-774-3619 or email [pastoralcare@stjec.org](mailto:pastoralcare@stjec.org)*

Maxwell A.

Jere Rowland

Harry Brooke

Andrew Erickson

Aurora

Carole

Ivy Choe-Branstetter

Steve Ruff

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](mailto:pastoralcare@stjec.org).*

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

## Diocese of Washington

The Most Rev. and Rt. Hon Dame Sarah Mullally, *Archbishop of Canterbury*

The Most Reverend Sean W. Rowe, *Presiding Bishop*

The Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde, *Bishop*

## STAFF

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Joe Powers, *Interim Head of School*

Joe.Powers@stjes.org

Eoin Benson, *Sexton*

## VESTRY

Bree Bruemmer, 2027 – *Pastoral Care*

Carmen Jones, 2027 – *Evangelism*

Becca Roberson, 2027 – *Sr. Warden, Outreach*

Andrew Hamill – *Treasurer*

Julie Metcalf – *Registrar*

Becky Hast, 2028 – *Jr. Warden, STJES*

Carolyn Schopp, 2028

Rob Schellhase, 2028 – *Parish Life*

Mark Glaudemans, 2029 – *Worship*

Francesco Paganini, 2029 – *STJES*

Mary Quinn, 2029 – *Stewardship*

## 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 ~