

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

**THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

**Sunday, January 21, 2024**

**8:00am & 10:30am**

**HOLY EUCHARIST**



3427 Olney Laytonsville Rd. Olney, MD 20832

Phone: (301) 774-6999

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

*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 &amp; 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 &amp; 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:** Trio I

Rheinberger

*The people stand*

10:30am

**Opening: Hymn #550**

Jesus calls us

*Unison or harmony*

1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult  
2 as, of old, Saint An - drew heard it  
3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship  
4 In our joys and in our sor - rows,  
5 Je - sus calls us! By thy mer - cies,

1 of our life's wild, rest - less sea, day by day his  
2 by the Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and  
3 of the vain world's gold - en store; from each i - dol  
4 days of toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in  
5 Sa - vior, make us hear thy call, give our hearts to

1 clear voice sound - eth, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me;"  
 2 toil and kin - dred, leav - ing all for his dear sake.  
 3 that would keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."  
 4 cares and plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."  
 5 thine o - be - dience, serve and love thee best of all.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895), alt. Music: *Restoration*, melody from *The Southern Harmony*, 1835; harm. *Hymnal* 1982, after *The Southern Harmony*, 1985; alt. harm. Margart W. Mealy (b. 1922).

## Opening Acclamation

BCP pg. 355

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People*

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

Gloria: WLP 900

Gloria to God (Canticle 20) (Rutter)

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, —  
 — and peace to his peo-ple on earth. — Lord God,  
 heav'n-ly King, al-migh-ty God and Fa-ther, — we wor-ship  
 you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry. —  
 (♩ = ♩. of preceding – same beat as before, not slower) Fa-ther, —  
 Lord Je-sus Christ, — on-ly Son of the Fa-ther,

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 Fa - ther: 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 Fa - ther. A - men.

## The Collect of the Day

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

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

*The people are seated*

### Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

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

## **Psalm 62:6-14**

- 6 For God alone my soul in silence waits; \*  
truly, my hope is in him.
- 7 He alone is my rock and my salvation, \*  
my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.
- 8 In God is my safety and my honor; \*  
God is my strong rock and my refuge.
- 9 Put your trust in him always, O people, \*  
pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.
- 10 Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath, \*  
even those of low estate cannot be trusted.
- 11 On the scales they are lighter than a breath, \*  
all of them together.
- 12 Put no trust in extortion;  
in robbery take no empty pride; \*  
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.
- 13 God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, \*  
that power belongs to God.
- 14 Steadfast love is yours, O Lord, \*  
for you repay everyone according to his deeds.

## **1 Corinthians 7:29-31**

I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

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



*The people stand*

10:30am

## Hymn #661

They cast their nets

1 They cast their nets in Gal - i - lee just  
2 Con - tent - ed, peace - ful fish - er - men, be -  
3 Young John who trimmed the flap - ping sail, home -  
4 The peace of God, it is no peace, but

off the hills of brown; such hap - py,  
fore they ev - er knew the peace of  
less, in Pat - mos died. Pe - ter, who  
strife closed in the sod. Yet let us

sim - ple fish - er - folk, be - fore the Lord came down.  
God that filled their hearts brim - ful, and broke them too.  
hauled the teem - ing net, head - down was cru - ci - fied.  
pray for but one thing— the mar - velous peace of God.

Words: William Alexander Percy (1885-1942), alt. Copyright by Edward B. Marks Music Corporation. Used with permission.  
Music: *Georgetown*, David McKinley Williams (1887-1978). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.

## The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark (1:14-20)

*People*

**Glory to you, Lord Christ**

After John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea — for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

*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.

*Celebrant*

## **Prayers of the People Form II**

**BCP pg. 385**

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

*Silence*

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

*Silence*

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.

*Silence*

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

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

*Silence*

I ask for your prayers for **Glenna, Sean, Brenda, Nancy, Ron, Mary, Bishop Curry, Julie, Jim & Jane, Andrew, Howard, Nancy, Joseph, Mark, Kim, Peter .**

*Silence*

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.

### **Confession / Absolution**

**BCP pg. 360**

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.**

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.**

*Silence*

**Use the QR code to donate from your mobile device.**



Anthem: Grant Us Your Peace

Schweizer

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER C**

**BCP pg. 369**

*The people stand*

*People* The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
*People* **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.**

*The Celebrant continues.*

*People* God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of  
glory and praise.  
**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

*People* 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.

*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: WLP 859**    Holy, holy, holy

Arnatt

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might,      hea-ven and earth are full of your glo-ry.

\*  $\overbrace{\text{triplet}}$

*\*Optional choir part repeats first phrase here.*

\*\*Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho-san-na, Ho-san-na, Ho-san-na in the high - est.

*\*\*Optional text:*

Bless - ed is the one

Music: Ronald Arnatt (b. 1930) from *WORSHIP II*. Copyright © 1975, GIA Publications, Inc.

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 Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; 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, 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.  
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**

10:00am

### Fraction WLP 866

The musical score is written on four staves. The first staff is divided into three sections: Cantor (3/4 time), Choir (4/4 time), and Congregation & Choir (4/4 time). The lyrics are: Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. The second staff continues the lyrics: ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;. The third staff continues: There - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia. The fourth staff continues: Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. The score includes various musical notations such as treble clefs, time signatures, and note values.

Music: Owen Burdick (b. 1954). Copyright © 1997 Trinity Episcopal Church.

**The Gifts of God for the People of God.**

*Communion is offered to all who are called by Christ to participate. 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.*

# Communion: Hymn #302

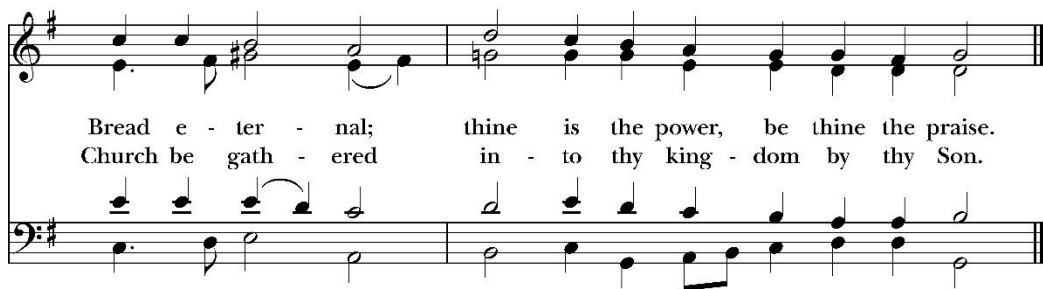
Father we thank thee

1 Fa - ther, we thank thee who hast plant - ed thy ho - ly Name with -  
 2 Watch o'er thy Church, O Lord, in mer - cy, save it from e - vil,

in our hearts. Know - ledge and faith and life im - mor - tal Je - sus thy  
 guard it still, per - fect it in thy love, u - nite it, cleansed and con -

Son to us im - parts. Thou, Lord, didst make all for thy plea - sure,  
 formed un - to thy will. As grain, once scat - tered on the hill - sides,

didst give us food for all our days, giv - ing in Christ the  
 was in this bro - ken bread made one, so from all lands thy



Words: Greek, ca. 110; tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), rev. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Rendez à Dieu*, melody and harm. att. Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?).

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.**

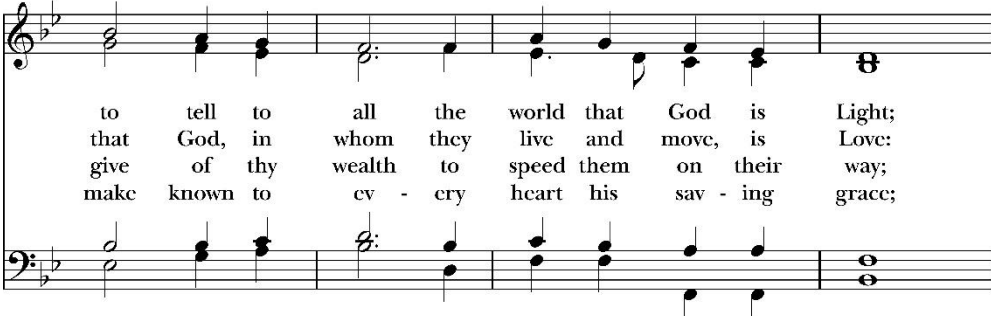
**Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Blessing**

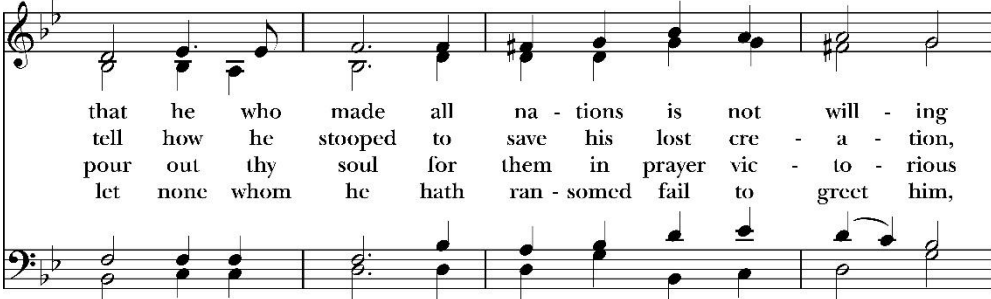
# Hymn #539 O Zion haste




O Zi - on, haste, thy mis - sion high ful - fill - ing,  
Pro - claim to ev - ery peo - ple, tongue, and na - tion  
Send her - alds forth to bear the mes - sage glo - rious;  
He comes a - gain! O Zi - on, ere thou meet him,



to tell to all the world that God is Light;  
that God, in whom they live and move, is Love;  
give of thy wealth to speed them on their way;  
make known to ev - ery heart his sav - ing grace;



that he who made all na - tions is not will - ing  
tell how he stooped to save his lost cre - a - tion,  
pour out thy soul for them in prayer vic - to - rious  
let none whom he hath ran - somed fail to greet him,



one soul should fail to know his love and might.  
and died on earth that all might live a - bove.  
till God shall bring his king - dom's joy - ful day.  
through thy ne - glect, un - fit to see his face.

*Refrain*

Pub - lish glad ti - dings: ti - dings of peace,

ti - dings of Je - sus, re - demp - tion and re - lease.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems. The first system is the 'Refrain' and the second system continues the melody. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: 'Pub - lish glad ti - dings: ti - dings of peace, ti - dings of Je - sus, re - demp - tion and re - lease.'

Words: Mary Ann Thomson (1834-1923), alt. Music: *Tidings*, James Walch (1837-1901).

## Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude** Toccata in e minor

Pachelbel

## 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).*

Glenna Miller

Sean Miller

Brenda Goodman

Rev. Nancy Soukup

Ron Blackburn

Mary Persinger

Bishop Curry

Julie

Jim & Jane Lawton

Andrew Erickson

Howard Bonham

Nancy Winter

Joseph Sears

Mark Evans

Kim Irish

Peter McWilliams

*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).*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### *Upcoming Opportunities for Service/Understanding*

**Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>**– United Thanks Offering (UTO) Sunday. During and after the service, we will explore how we can support social issues important to us in the United States and across the world. The UTO encourages us to be aware of our blessings and share with those experiencing challenging times.

**Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Attend the documentary on the Way of Love with Bishop Curry and others at **7:00 pm at Regal Cinemas in Germantown**. Bishop Mariann and others from churches around the Diocese will be there. Deacon Nancy has a few tickets, contact her if you want to go with her.

**Ongoing** – Especially with the cold weather we are experiencing, please check the Bell Tower weekly to note the current needs for the Food Pantry and then when you grocery shop, buy some to share in the Food Pantry.

**Ongoing** - With the cold weather arriving, we can use Warm Clothes in good condition for migrants (sizes medium and small for all), MCPS (children and adult coats all sizes), and the unhoused (all sizes). You can drop them in the baskets outside the offices.

### **African Palms USA**

We would like to thank all our volunteers for taking their time to help us packed and shipped over 360,000 crosses. THANK YOU ALL!

### **Operation MCI-W New Year a Great Success!**

Thanks to so many at St. John's we have successfully raised funds, purchased hygiene items, set up an assembly line, packed, counted, and DELIVERED 120 hygiene kits to the Maryland Correctional Institution for Women (MCI-W)! Very special thanks to those who sponsored bags, Roberta Feldhausen from the



best shopper who did an amazing job of sourcing all the products, Tammy who made an amazing enclosure card that the packers signed, the amazing youth group of St. John's who made sure everything was set up to make packing easy, the 30+ people from St. John's who helped pack and quality check bags, everyone who helped fit 120 kits into the front and back of my CR-V. The bags were delivered to MCI-W on Tuesday afternoon thanks to the St. John's community!

This was a community effort, and I am so grateful for everyone who shared their gifts of all kinds to make this happen. As we unloaded the car, Chaplain Thomas kept saying, 'these bags are amazing', 'these bags are adorable'. All our bags filled the waiting room at the prison, and I know that the love and prayers you included will send light and love into the prison. If my car is any indication, the prison will smell much better too!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!

Enjoy the pictures of God's hands in service!

## **ANNUAL MEETING is Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at 9am.**

As three members of our Vestry near the completion of their term of office, we take seriously the responsibility to find new candidates to serve in this ministry. For the incoming vestry class, the following three candidates have been identified to serve for these open positions. We asked each of these candidates “what do you love about Saint John’s”. Below are their responses. Please a few minutes to read their responses and familiarize yourselves with the candidates before the Annual Meeting on January 28<sup>th</sup>.



### **VICKI HUDSON**

What I love about St. John’s is its sense of community and accessibility. I think the idea of communal worship can sometimes be intimidating - particularly for those who didn’t grow up in the church environment - but St. John’s welcomes all with open arms. Like many places in the D.C. metro area, Olney is home to a lot of transplants, and St. John’s acts as a community convener, bringing together people from all walks of life for one shared experience. And no matter how I’m feeling when I walk through those doors, I always leave with a sense of peace.



### CARMEN JONES

As a member of St. John's Church since 1997, I especially enjoy the community feeling where we can socialize and support each other. My family and I have made friends, feel a sense of belonging, and have built a support network of a church family we rely on. It has been a pleasure to see how involved St. John has been to the community. I especially love the numerous outreaches that the church has to offer the community and the endless willing support of the congregation to come together during such times. Our flagship African Palms warms my heart in a special way, because of the opportunity it provides to aid projects. In short, I like, and am proud of St. John's "give back mentality".



### BECCA ROBERSON

What I love about St. John's is the community. My St. John's church family has always been there for me during the good times and the most difficult times, and I know I can count on hug when I need it. As a parent of two kids, I love that there is a place for both me and my kids in all types of ministries and that we are always growing our ministries. As a family we have all formed really important relationships with parishioners of all ages, and I love that multigenerational relationships are not only valued but intentionally sought out and forged.

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

## Diocese of Washington

The Most Reverend Michael B. Curry, *Presiding Bishop*  
The Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde, *Bishop*

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## VESTRY

Glen Drew – *Treasurer*  
Aparna Williams – *Asst. Treasurer*  
Anna Mazzucco, 2024 *Christian Ed.*  
Carolyn Schopp, 2024 – *STJES*  
Stephen Simpson, 2024 – *Stewardship / Sr. Warden*  
Julie Metcalf – *Registrar*

Barry Gough, 2025- *Evangelism/Jr. Warden*  
Phil Reiff, 2025 – *STJES*  
Alan Soukup, 2025 – *Worship*  
Lindsay Cooper, 2026 – *Parish Life*  
Bill Fleming, 2026 – *Outreach*  
Mary Kerr, 2026 – *Pastoral Care*

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~ On the Land of the Piscataway Nation ~