

Second Sunday of Easter

April 11, 2021

8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

MISSION STATEMENT

To know and love God as He is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, to bring others to His saving love, and to serve the world in His name.



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN IN THE WILDERNESS

(Established 1836)
Flat Rock, North Carolina

Welcome and Reminders

We welcome you warmly and invite you to share in our songs, prayers, and eucharistic feast. All are invited to come forward to receive Communion or a special blessing at that time. If you are already baptized, you may receive the Sacrament of Christ's body, including infants and children. If you have not been baptized, then we still invite you to come forward for a moment of prayer and blessing, and we would be glad to speak with you about being baptized.

If you do not have a church family at this time, we invite you to join in this fellowship of faith as we share life together as the Body of Christ. While we are broken and incomplete in many ways, we find God making us whole through this parish community. Talk to an usher or clergyperson about joining St. John in the Wilderness, or fill out a card in your pew. It is wonderful to be with you today!

COVID-19 Safety Reminders

Because of COVID-19 public health concerns, we have a few safety reminders for you.

- Throughout the service, please make every effort to maintain six feet of physical distancing whenever possible.
- Please wear your mask during the service. Make sure your nose is covered also. You may lift up your mask at the altar rail to consume Communion.
- You will find hand-sanitizer in the pews and with the ushers. Please use it before receiving Communion.
- We invite you to sing at this service, but please refrain from belting out hymns as we would prefer. Singing softly and with normal breathing is encouraged.
- If you find out that you have COVID-19 and that you might have brought it to this service, please call our rector, Fr. Josh Stephens, at 828-808-5044 so we can let others know to take caution.

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

Prelude: The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

Richard Proulx

Entrance Hymn: No. 178 Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia No. 1

Refrain



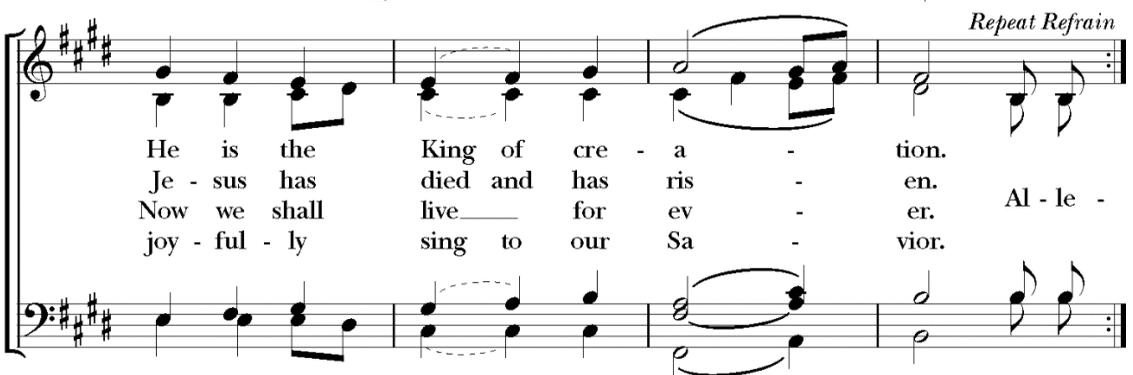
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the
ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give
Praise to his Name. Name.

1-4 *Final Ending*



1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
4 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,

Repeat Refrain



He is the King of cre - a - tion.
Je - sus has died and has ris - en.
Now we shall live for ev - er. Al - le -
joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - vior.

The descant may be sung after stanzas 3 and 4.

Acclamation and Response

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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.

Gloria

Hymnal S-280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,

you a - lone are the Lord, 7. 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 MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People Amen.

First Lesson: Acts 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 133

1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
 when brethren live together in unity!

2 It is like fine oil upon the head *
 that runs down upon the beard,

3 Upon the beard of Aaron, *
 and runs down upon the collar of his robe.

4 It is like the dew of Hermon *
that falls upon the hills of Zion.

5 For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: *
life for evermore.

Second Lesson: 1 John 1:1-2:2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life-- this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us-- we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

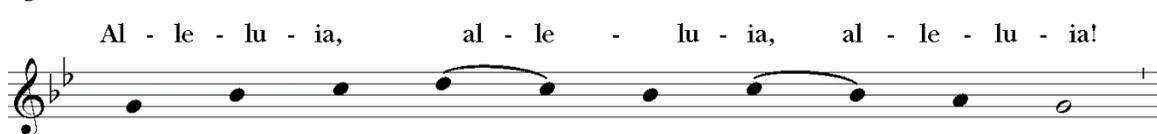
This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn: No. 206 Alleluia! O sons and daughters, let us sing O filii et filiae



1 O sons and daught - ers, let us sing!
2 That night the a - pos - tles met in fear;
3 When Thom - as first the tid - ings heard,
4 "My pierc - ed side, O Thom - as, see;
5 No long - er Thom - as then de - nied,
6 How blest are they who have not seen,



1 The King of heaven, the glo - rious King,
2 a - midst them came their Lord most dear,
3 how they had seen the ris - en Lord,
4 my hands, my feet, I show to thee;
5 he saw the feet, the hands, the side;
6 and yet whose faith has con - stant been,



1 o'er death and hell rose tri - umph - ing. Al - le - lu - ia!
2 and said, "My peace be on all here." Al - le - lu - ia!
3 he doubt - ed the dis - ci - ples' word. Al - le - lu - ia!
4 not faith - less, but be - liev - ing be." Al - le - lu - ia!
5 "Thou art my Lord and God," he cried. Al - le - lu - ia!
6 for they e - ter - nal life shall win. Al - le - lu - ia! [Ant.]

Antiphon (at the end)



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

This hymn is for the Second Sunday of Easter and St. Thomas' Day.

Words: Att. Jean Tisserand (15th cent.); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866) Music: *O filii et filiae*, melody from *Airs sur les hymnes sacrez, odes et noëls*, 1623; acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937) Copyright ©1975, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel: John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Dn. Sandy Rex

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.

Prayers of the People

Christ, the stone which the builders rejected, God has made the corner-stone of a new resurrection community. In that name by which we are founded, let us draw near in confidence and pray saying, "Lord, have mercy."

The risen Christ opened the minds of the disciples to understand the scriptures. May the church find in the scriptures healing, mission, and good news for all.

For this let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

Christ showed wounded hands and feet to his unbelieving apostles. May we see the risen one in all the wounded of our world.

For this let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

Christ our cornerstone intercedes for us before God. Let us and all in authority heed God's call for justice in the church, in our community, and in the nation.

For this let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

We are saved by God who is light, in whom there is no darkness at all.

Let us beg for God's light in those places which seem darkest.

Let us ask that God enlighten all who inflict darkness on others.

Let us seek for God to illuminate those who are victims of evil.

For this let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

In the power of Christ's name we are healed. Let us recall all who need healing, especially Vanessa, Joanne, Pete, Tom, Malcolm, Eleanor, Carol, John, Paula, Richard, and Shelby, and those who serve in vocations of healing.

For them let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

In Easter, Christ overcame death and the grave. We remember all those who have died, especially Anne Ratchford, that they might know the fullness of resurrection joy.

For the departed let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

The Offertory

The ushers pass the offering plates and present the gifts of the congregation at the Lord's table

Offertory Anthem: 8:45 Alleluia, Give Thanks Tom Porter
11:00 This Joyful Eastertide Ronald Arnatt

This Joyful Eastertide text by G. R. Woodward

This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow
My love, the crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow.
Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three day prison,
our faith had been in vain; but now is Christ arisen.

Death's flood hath lost its chill, since Jesus crossed the river:
Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver.

My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a season slumber,
'til trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number.

Offertory Response: Praise God from whom all blessings flow Old 100th

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer D

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

Sanctus

Hymnal S-125



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People

**We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

[Remember (NN. and) all who minister in your Church.]

[Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.]

[Remember _____.]

[Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.]

And grant that we may find our inheritance with [the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, (with _____) and] all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People 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.

The Celebrant continues

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

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.

Easter Blessing

Dismissal Hymn: No. 212 Awake, arise, lift up your voice

Richmond

1 A - wake, a - rise, lift up your voice, let
2 Oh, with what glad - ness and sur - prise the
3 those hands of lib - eral love in - deed in
4 His en - e - mies had sealed the stone as
5 O Dead a - rise! O Friend - less stand by

1 Eas - ter mu - sic swell; re - joice in Christ, a -
2 saints their Sa - vior greet; nor will they trust their
3 in - fi - nite de - gree, those feet still free to
4 Pi - late gave them leave, lest dead and friend - less
5 ser - a - phim a - dored! O Sol - i - tude a -

1 gain re - joice and on his prais - es dwell.
2 ears and eyes but by his hands and feet,
3 move and bleed for mil - lions and for me.
4 and a - lone he should their skill de - ceive.
5 gain com - mand your host from heaven re - stored!

Words: Christopher Smart (1772-1771), alt. Music: *Richmond*, melody Thomas Haweis (1734-1820); adapt. Samuel Webbe (1740-1816)

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, may dismiss the people with these words

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Postlude: Lift High the Cross

John Leavitt

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Prayers of the People is that part of our liturgy which offers particular intercessions and thanksgivings to God. **Worshippers, wherever they are in the church, are encouraged to offer aloud or silently their own such prayers during the appropriate part of the Prayers of the People.** As we pray, please remember **those who are ill or with other needs:** Vanessa Wittman, Joanne Adams, Pete Petersen, Tom Joiner, Malcolm McCormick, Eleanor Flowers, Carol Black, John Barker, Paula Maddon, Richard, and Shelby White.

TO OUR VISITORS: We welcome you with all our hearts! You are also invited to come forward at the time of Communion to receive a blessing or the Sacrament. All baptized Christians are encouraged to receive Communion, including infants and children. If you are not baptized, please come forward and kneel at the altar while crossing your arms over your chest to receive a special blessing, and we invite you to talk to the priest at any time about entering discernment for being baptized. Won't you join with Christ and his Church on this journey of faith?

If you do not have a church home at this time, then we hope you will make St. John in the Wilderness your church family. We find that through sharing life together as the Body of Christ, we are made whole and renewed daily. Talk to an usher or member of the clergy about joining this parish, or you are welcome to fill out a card in your pew. We welcome you!

WE GIVE THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR MINISTRY TO OUR CHURCH

	April 11, 2021		April 18, 2021	
	8:45	11:00	8:45	11:00
Lay Readers	Robin Howe	Will Rodriguez	Sandra Jeffery	Bill Taylor
Acolytes				
Ushers	Clint Adams Greg Newbold	Karen Conley David Christenbury	Clint Adams Jim Spry	John Hayes Bettie Orr
Greeters				
Cart Driver				
Opening Gatekeeper	David Dethero		David Dethero	
Closing Gatekeeper	Cynthia Easterling		Cynthia Easterling	

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN IN THE WILDERNESS
PO Box 185, 1905 Greenville Highway, Flat Rock, NC 28731 828-693-9783

Website: www.stjohnflatrock.org

Worship Services 8:45 & 11:00am

Children's Sunday School: 10:00am (during school year only)/Adult Sunday School: 10:00am

Holy Eucharist & Healing Service – Wednesdays 10:30am in the Parish Hall Office Hours- 8:30am-3:30pm M-F

In case of pastoral emergencies:

Father Josh Stephens 828-808-5044 Deacon Sandy Rex 847-507-7212

The Rt. Rev. José McLoughlin, Bishop

The Rev. Josh Stephens, Rector: rector@stjohnflatrock.org

The Rev. Deacon Sandy Rex, Deacon: cwrexiii@rmimidwest.com

Dewitt Tipton, Organist/Director of Music: dewitt.tipton@furman.edu

Diana Byrd, Youth and Families Coordinator: byrddd@gmail.com

Leslie Stott, Parish Office Administrator: officeadmin@stjohnflatrock.org

Kevin Hunt, Sexton: sexton@stjohnflatrock.org

VESTRY MEMBERS

Senior Warden: Jennifer Shelton

Junior Warden: Jerry Tanner

2021

Jerry Tanner

Cynthia Easterling

Janet Johnson

Shelley Schiro

2022

Terry Enslin

Marie Hyder

Gibson Sims

Dick Zecher

2023

John Barker

Elizabeth Christenbury

Jennifer Shelton

Lynn Wiescholek

PARISH OFFICERS

Margaret Barker, Clerk of the Vestry

Tom Griswold, Treasurer

STANDING COMMITTEES

Buildings and Grounds Committee: Robin Howe

By Laws, Canons & Insurance: Jim Olson

Christian Formation: Mary Anne Inglis

Communications & Publicity: Joey Popp

Finance: Jodi Sundeen

Historic Churchyard Committee: Ken Jones

New Member Ministry: Brenda Hillyer, Judy Petersen

Outreach:

Personnel: Margaret Barker

Stewardship: David Christenbury

OTHER COMMITTEES AND MINISTRIES

Acolytes: Lynn Savage

Altar Guild: Marti Smith

Chefs of St. John: Jim Vint

Churchyard Trustees: Pete Petersen

Docents: Albert Gooch

Endowment Trustees: Tom Griswold

Episcopal Church Women (ECW): Kathy Newbold

Eucharistic Visitors: Dick Zecher

Flower Guild: Bay Chamberlain

Flower Memorials: Gaston Motes

Funeral Reception Ministry: Brenda Hillyer

Garden Guild: Jerry & Jan Tanner

Gatekeepers: Dick Zecher

Greeters: Betsy Tibbs

Heritage, Archives & Gift Committee: John Barker

Lay Readers: Susan MacDonald

Meal Ministry: Kathy Newbold

Needle Work Ministry: Judy Petersen

Newsletter Editor: Leslie Stott

Ushers: Clint Adams, Bettie Orr

Wedding Coordinator: Elaine Howe