ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & PARISH DAY SCHOOL

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

SUN., NOV. 8, 2026 • 11:00 A.M. • HISTORIC CHURCH
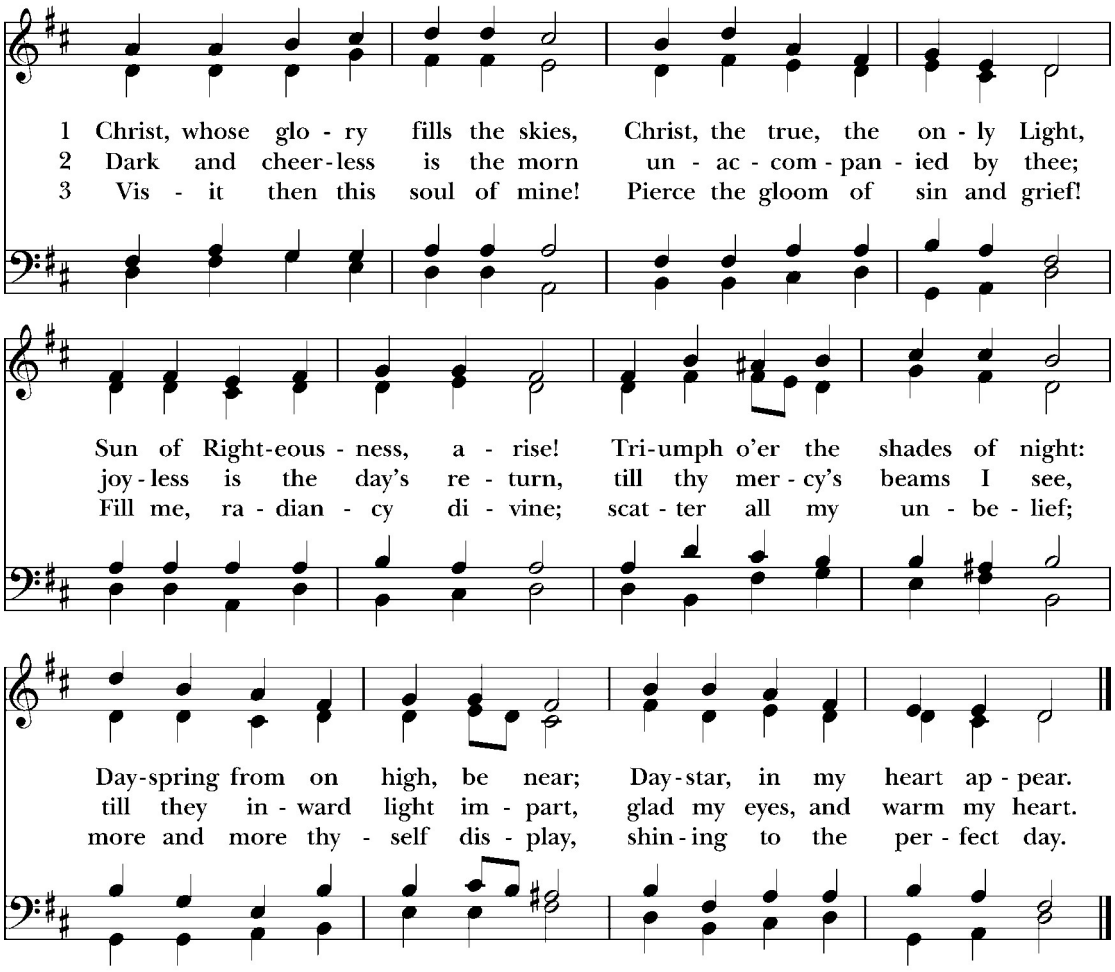
Be known, be loved, and belong at St. John's, where God already knows you and loves you.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

During the service, the congregation reads the parts in bold.
Please note that this is our livestream service and you may be visible on camera.

PRELUDE *Et Misericodia* — *François Couperin*

ENTRANCE HYMN *Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies (H 7)* — *Ratisbon*
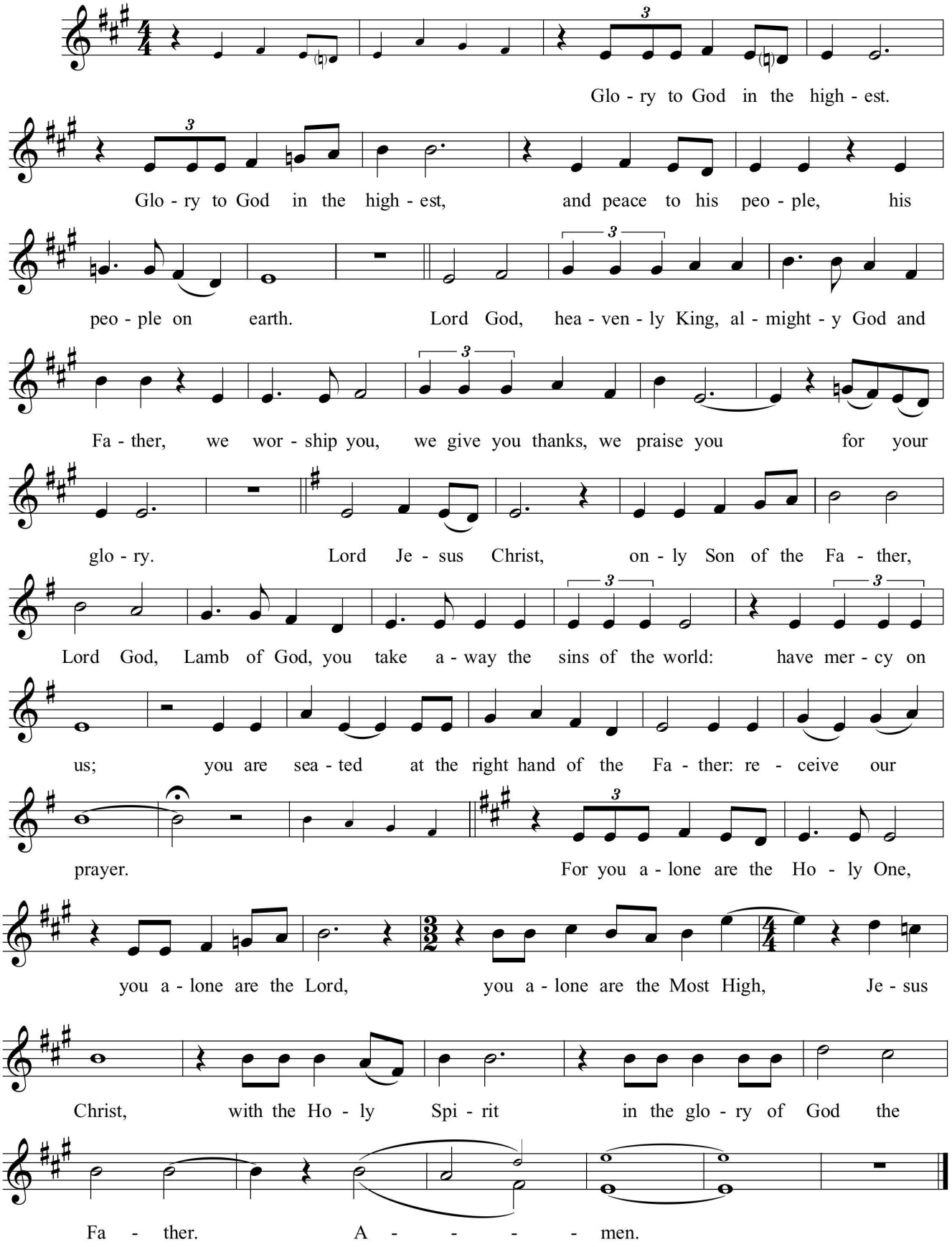


WELCOME

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.
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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE *Glory to God* *Justin Pechulis*



COLLECT OF THE DAY
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.
O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING (*Please be seated.*) **Amos 5:18-24**

Thus says the Lord, the God of hosts, the Lord:

Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord!
Why do you want the day of the Lord?

It is darkness, not light;
as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear;

or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,
and was bitten by a snake.

Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;

and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.

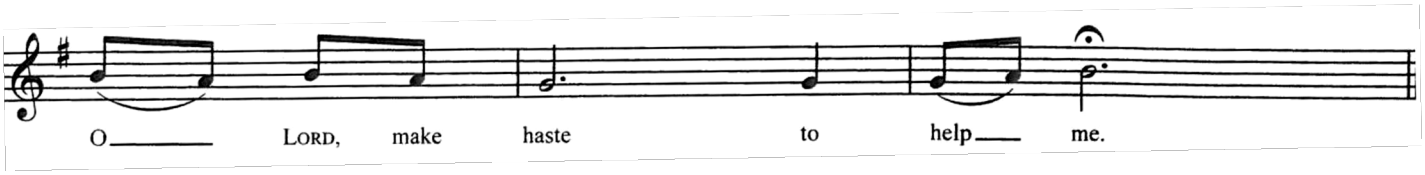
Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an everflowing stream.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM **Psalm 70**

(Congregation sings the refrain below.)



1 Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; *
O LORD, make haste to help me.

2 Let those who seek my life be ashamed and altogether dismayed; *
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced. **[Refrain]**

3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back, *
because they are ashamed.

4 Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say for ever,
"Great is the LORD!" **[Refrain]**

5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; *
come to me speedily, O God.

6 You are my helper and my deliverer; *
O LORD, do not tarry. **[Refrain]**

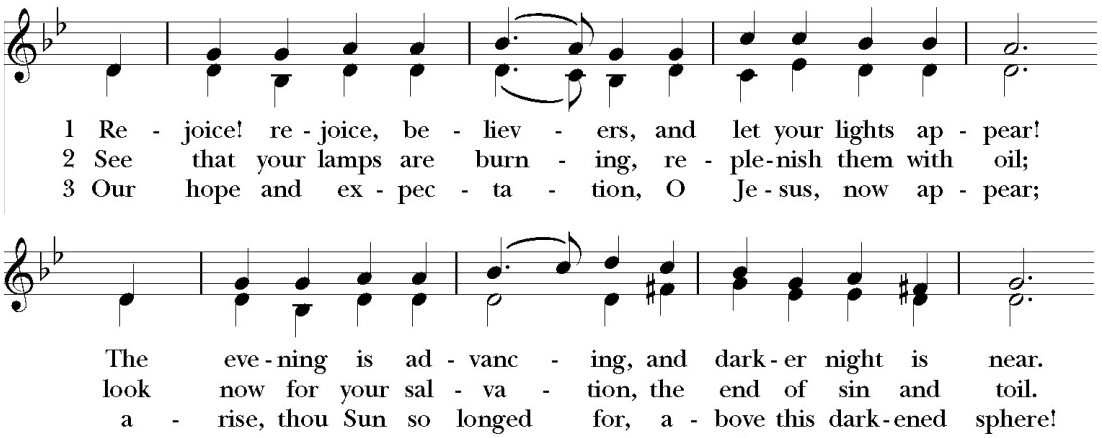
THE SECOND READING **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

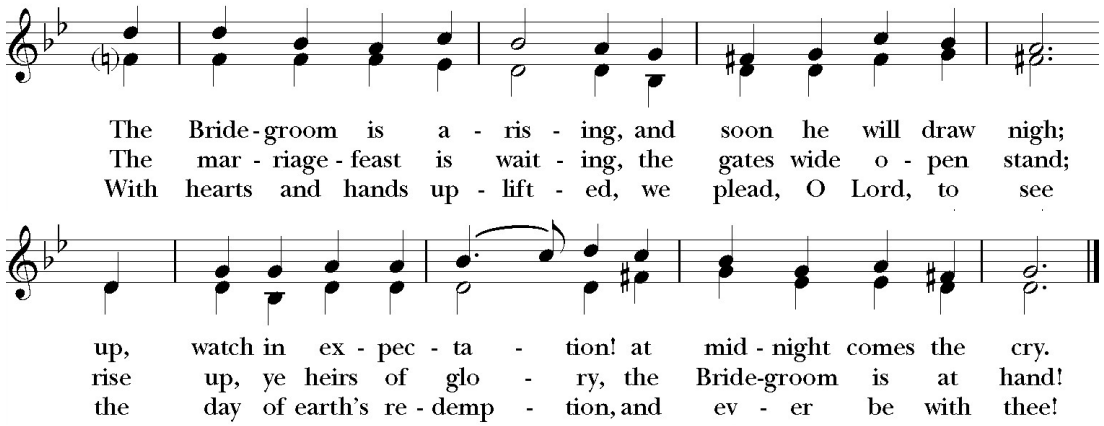
We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN *Rejoice (H 68; vs. 1-2 before; vs. 3 after)* *Llangloffan*

(Please stand as you are able.)





THE GOSPEL **Matthew 25:1-13**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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

THE SERMON The Rev. Derek H. Miller

THE NICENE CREED (*Please stand.)*
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 (*Please remain standing as you are able.)*
After each petition,

Lord in your mercy;
Hear our prayer.

O Judge of the nations, we remember before you with grateful hearts the men and women of our country who in the day of decision ventured much for the liberties we now enjoy. Grant that we may not rest until all the people of this land share the benefits of true freedom and gladly accept its disciplines. This we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION *(Please kneel or stand as you are able.)*
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

ABSOLUTION
Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

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

BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE
Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

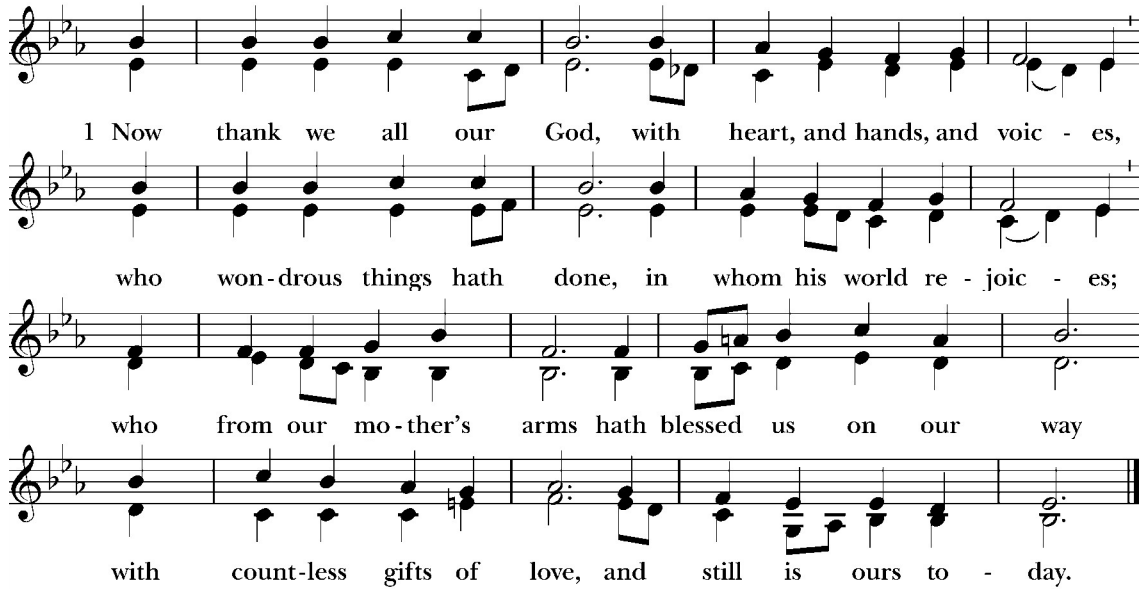
St. John's website
stjohnsec.org/give

venmo
@StJohnsECMD

Text to Give
Text "SJEC" to 73256

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Thanksgiving Medley* *arr. Patricia Hurlbutt*
St. John's Ringers

THE PRESENTATION HYMN *Now Thank We All Our God (H 397, vs. 1) Nun danket alle Gott*

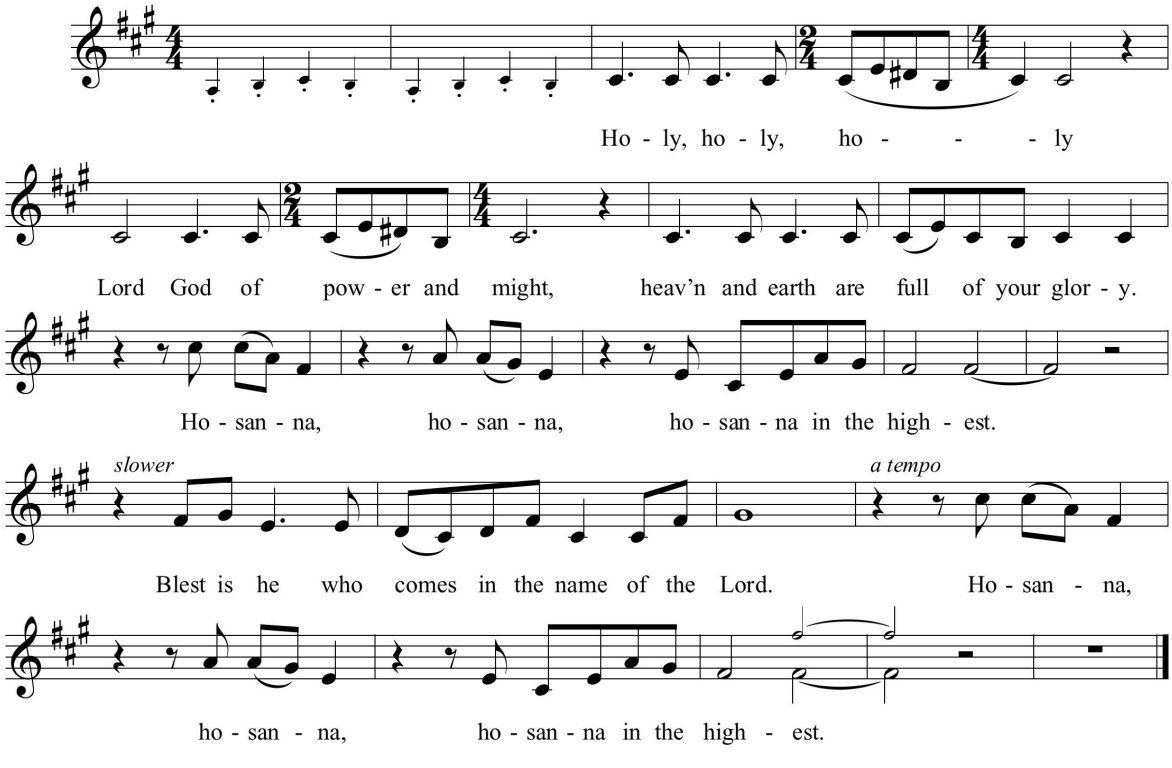


EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS *Holy, Holy, Holy* *Justin Pechulis*



We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Ancient Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed John, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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

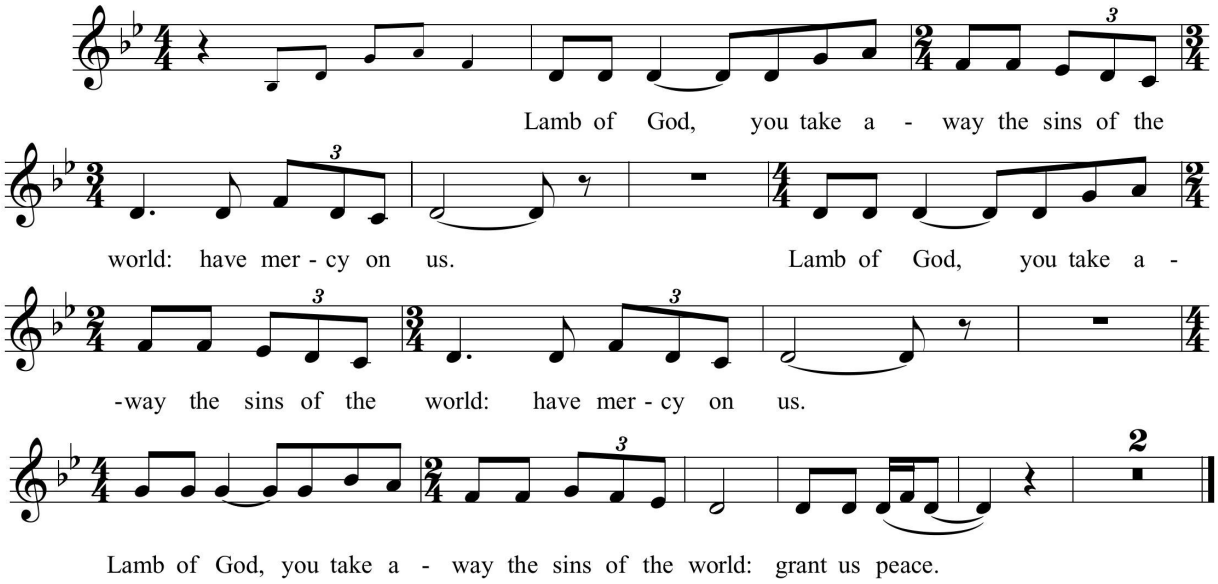
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

(A silence is held.)

THE FRACTION HYMN *Lamb of God* *Justin Pechulis*
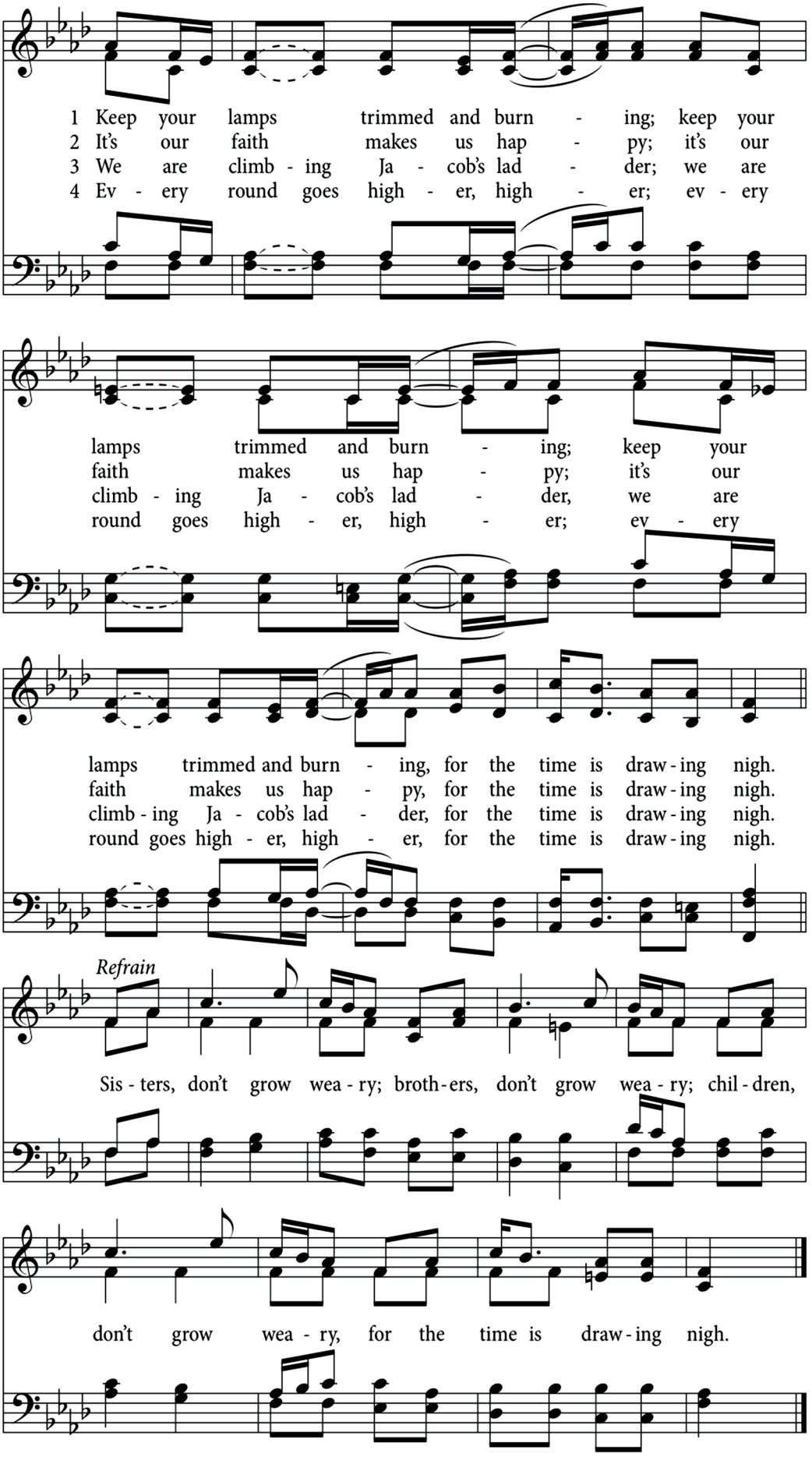


The Gifts of God for the People of God.
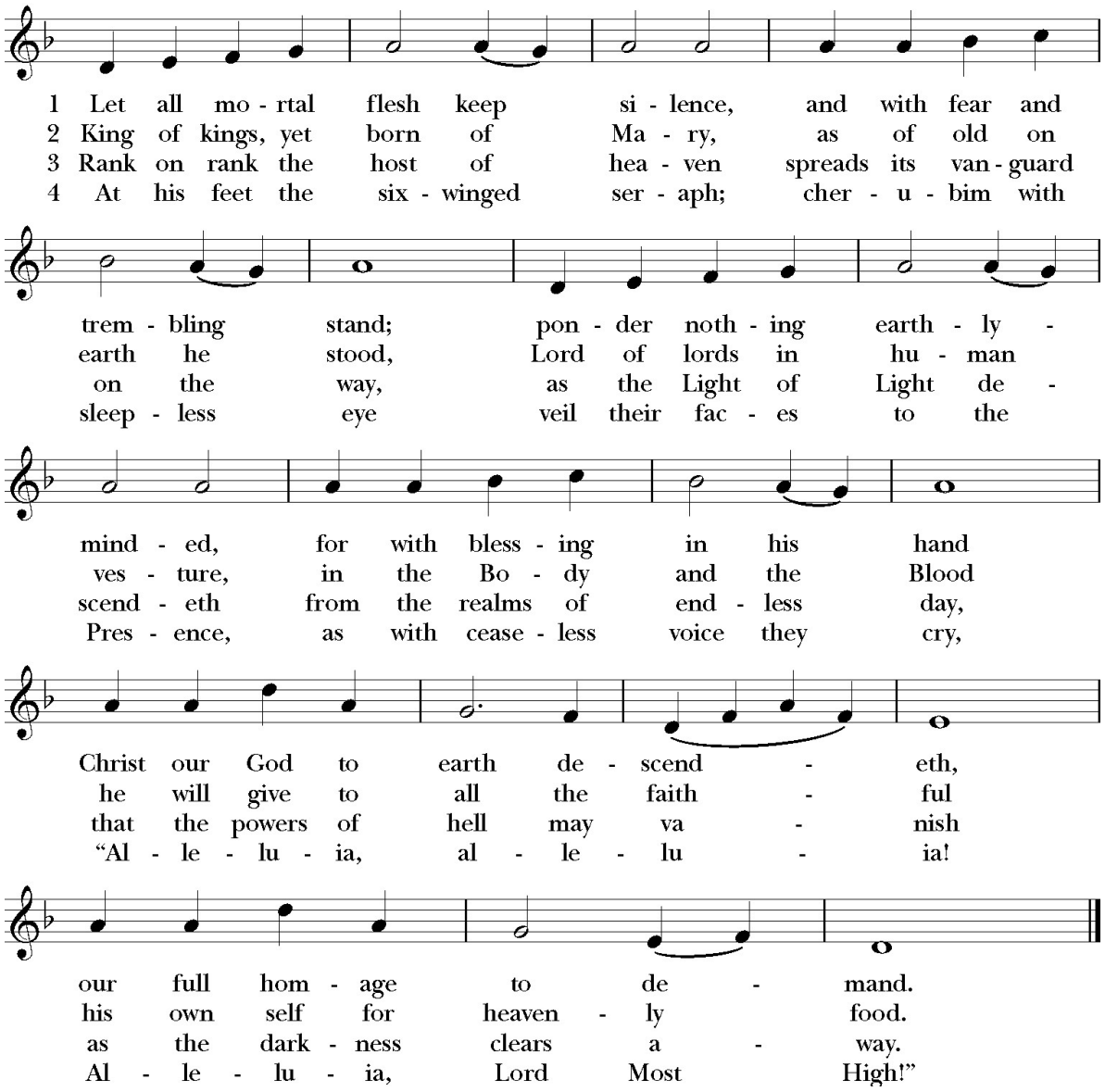
COMMUNION: God Welcomes You to the Table

This is Christ's Table, where God welcomes all to be fed and blessed. All baptized people, of any Christian tradition, background, or age, are invited to receive Communion. (Please follow the direction of the ushers.) We offer both a common cup for drinking and a separate cup for intinction/dipping. If you choose to drink from the Common Cup, please assist the Eucharistic Minister in directing the cup to your mouth. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please let the priest know. If you are not baptized or prefer a blessing, come forward with your arms crossed over your chest to receive God's blessing. If you are unable to come forward, please let an usher know, and we will bring communion to you. You are also welcome to remain where you are for prayer and reflection. (Curious about baptism? One of our clergy would love to talk with you!)

COMMUNION HYMN I *Keep Your Lamps* *African American Spiritual*



COMMUNION HYMN II *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (H 324)* *Picardy*

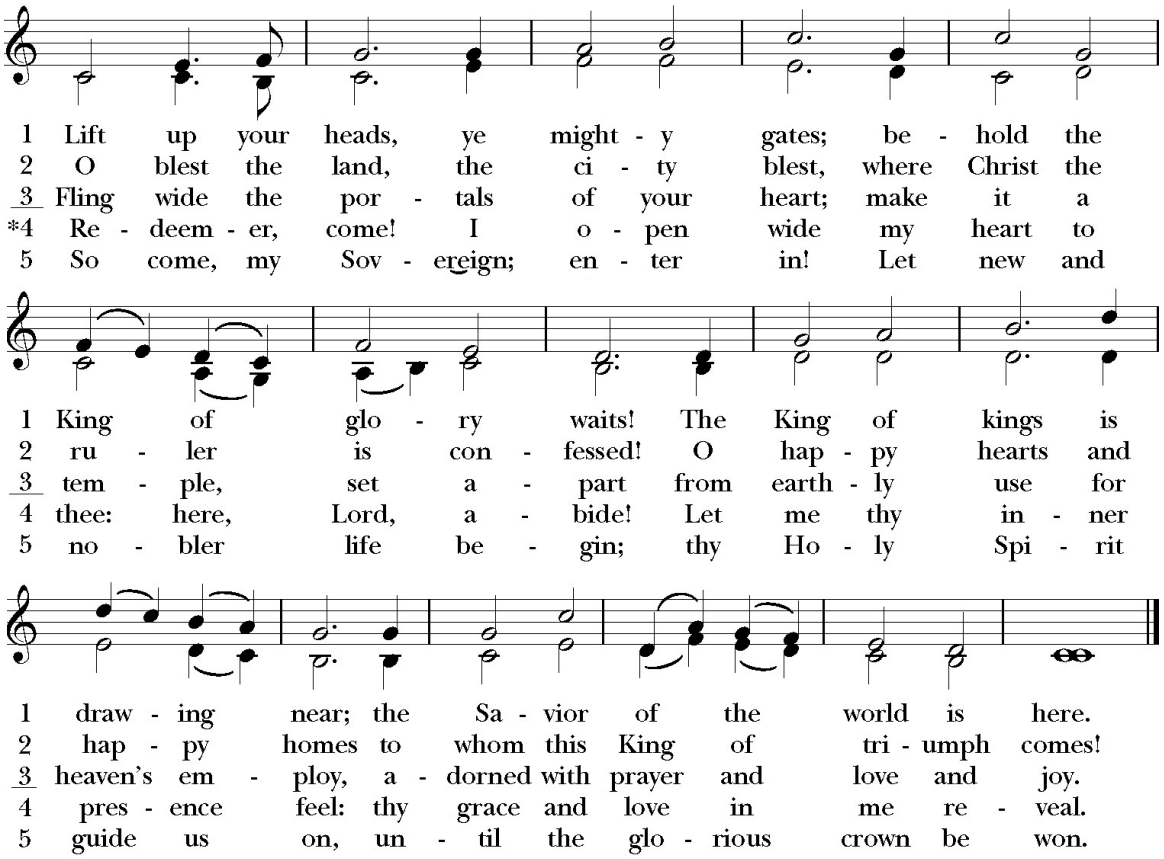


THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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

CLOSING HYMN *Lift Up Your Heads (H 436)* *Truro*



DISMISSAL

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Toccata in E minor* *Johann Pachelbel*

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Andy, Eilidh, Frank & Jennifer, James, Jenna, Louise & Family, Mark Albright, Liz Armstrong, Beverley Ajeck, Deb Avant, Steve Belknap, Breezy Bishop, Karl & Ruth Boin, Teddy Clarke, Barbara Epke & Gordon Nahas, Constance & David Fischel, Sue Frixione, Emily Geist, Michael Gottlieb, Art Grotz, Marti Guillet, Lauren Hopkins, Bill Lindemann, Pat Merson, Bob Miller, Charles H. Miller, Phyllis Nelson, Roger Nelson, Michael O'Connor, Kathy O'Dunne, Yvonne Osmond, Jean Purcell, Roland Russoli, Teri Salmons, Dan Staples, Tricia Supik, Christopher Towle, Marion Walker, and Victoria Weimer.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:

FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY OVERSEAS: *LCDR Matthew Kircher, USN*

THE FLOWERS ON THE HISTORIC CHURCH ALTAR *are given by Barbara Prettyman in memory of her beloved husband George.*

To have someone included on our prayer list, you may: Contact the Parish Office by phone or email your prayer request to Tracey Stone at tstone@stjohnsec.org. ***Names will remain on the prayer list for 30 days. After the initial 30 days, if you wish to have a name stay on the list, please re-submit your request.***

The Rev. Derek H. Miller, Rector
Office: 410-461-7793 • Web: stjohnsec.org

Introduce Yourself:
stjohnsec.org/welcome