



St. Paul's EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SIXTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

The Rev. Dr. James Weldon, Jr., Celebrant
The Rev. Dr. Erica Ridderman, Homilist

HOLY EUCHARIST
10:00 A.M. SERVICE
JULY 5, 2026

Prelude

Carol Yeargin, Organist

Please stand as you are able.

The Processional Hymn

“Lift every voice and sing”

*The Hymnal 1982 #599
Lift Every Voice*

The Word of God

The Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 355

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

The Celebrant says

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.**

The following is sung.

The Gloria: Glory to God

The Hymnal 1982 #S202

1. Glo - ry be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will to men. 2. We praise thee,
we bless thee, we wor - ship thee, we glo - ri - fy thee, we give
thanks to thee for thy great glo - ry, 3. O Lord God, heaven - ly King, God
the Fa - ther Al - might - - - y.

4. O Lord, the on - ly be - got - ten Son, Je - sus Christ; 5. O Lord God,
Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
world, have mer - cy up - on us 6. Thou that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
world, re - ceive our prayer. 7. Thou that sit - test at the right hand of

God the Fa-ther, have mer-cy up-on us. 8. For thou on-ly art
 ho-ly; thou on-ly art the Lord; 9. thou on-ly, O
 Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost, art most high in the
 glo-ry of God the Fa-ther.
 A-men.

The Collect of the Day

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

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Children's Processional

"All things bright and beautiful" (v. 1)
 Children's Chapel is for children 3 years old through 5th grade.

*The Hymnal 1982 #405
 Royal Oak*

The First Reading

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

A Reading from Genesis.

The servant said to Laban, "I am Abraham's servant. The LORD has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, 'You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.'

"I came today to the spring, and said, 'O LORD, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, "Please give me a little water from your jar to drink," and who will say to me, "Drink, and I will draw for your camels also" —let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master's son.'

"Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, 'Please let me drink.' She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, 'Drink, and I will also water your camels.' So I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, 'Whose daughter are you?' She said, 'The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him.' So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshiped the Lord, and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left."

And they called Rebekah, and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" She said, "I will." So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, "May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes." Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, "Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said, "It is my master." So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he

had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

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

Psalm 45: 11-18, *Eructavit cor meum*

Jerome Webster Meacham



- 11 "Hear, O daughter; consider and listen / closely; *
forget your people and your / father's house.
- 12 The king will have pleasure in your / beauty; *
he is your master; therefore do him / honor.
- 13 The people of Tyre are here with a / gift; *
the rich among the people seek your / favor."
- 14 All glorious is the princess as she / enters; *
her gown is / cloth-of-gold.
- 15 In embroidered apparel she is brought to the / king; *
after her the bridesmaids follow in pro / cession.
- 16 With joy and gladness they are / brought, *
and enter into the palace of the / king.
- 17 "In place of fathers, O king, you shall have / sons; *
you shall make them princes over all the / earth.
- 18 I will make your name to be remembered
from one generation to a / nother; *
therefore nations will praise you for ever and / ever."

The Second Reading

Romans 7:15-25a

A Reading from the Letter to the Romans.

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

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

Please stand as you are able.

The Gradual Hymn

"Eternal Father, strong to save"

*The Hymnal 1982 #608
Melita*

The Gospel

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

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

Jesus said to the crowd, "To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we wailed, and you did not mourn.'

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

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

People remain standing until the homilist invites all to be seated.

The Homily

The Rev. Dr. Erica Ridderman

A moment of silence follows the homily.

Please stand as you are able.

The Nicene Creed

BCP 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.**

The Prayers of the People

Form IV (adapted)

BCP 388

People's Response: **Hear our prayer.**

Confession & Absolution of Sin

BCP 360

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Please kneel or stand as you are able. The Celebrant and People say

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.

The Celebrant stands and says

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.**

The Peace

BCP 360

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

Please be seated.

Welcome, Announcements, & Offertory Sentence

If you would like to donate online, follow the QR code found here or on the giving card in the back of the pews. At the end of the announcements, you are also welcome to come forward to make a special donation to Heifer International, a non-profit organization whose mission is to end hunger and poverty, to mark an anniversary, blessing, or other event.



The Holy Communion

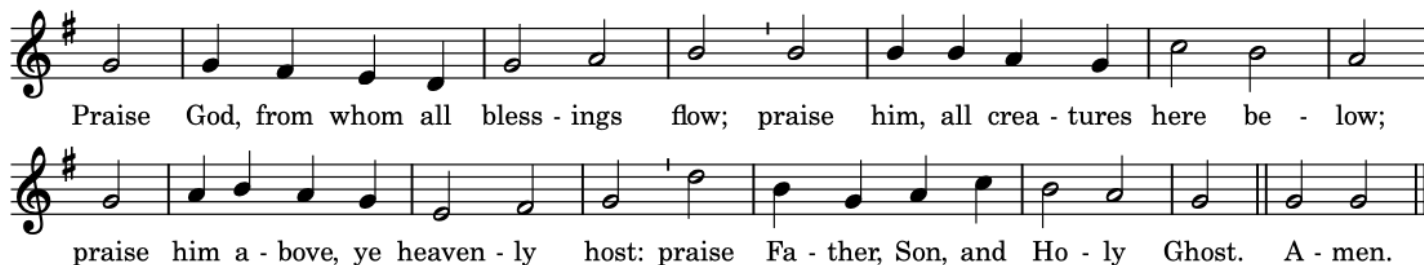
The Offertory

Carol Yeargin, Organist

Please stand as you are able while the offering is presented.

The Offertory Response: *The Doxology*

Old 100th



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

The People remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says

Celebrant 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.

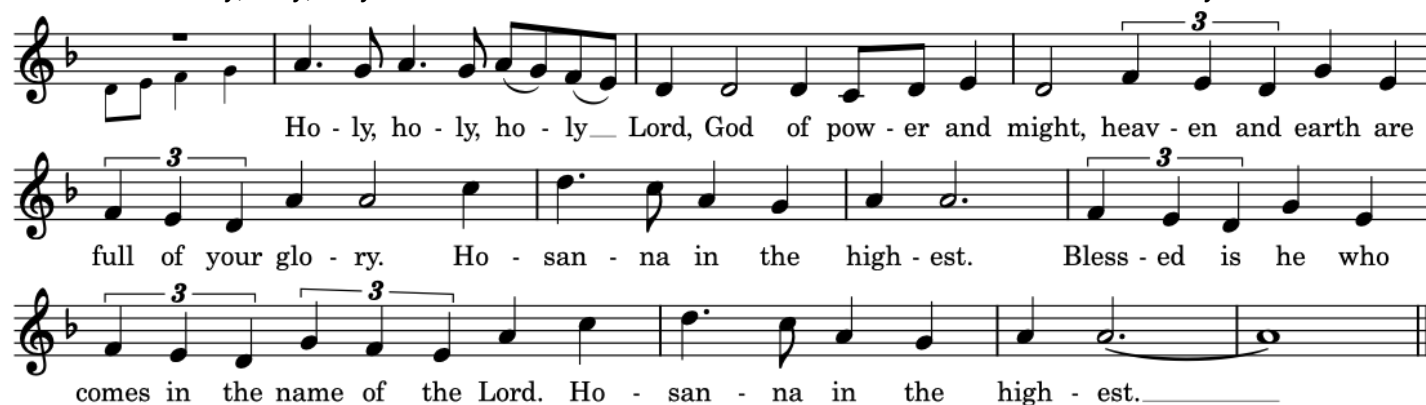
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:

Celebrant and People

The Sanctus: *Holy, Holy, Holy*

The Hymnal 1982 #S129



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly - Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant then continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.**

The Celebrant then continues

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

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

People and Celebrant

**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 period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Fraction Anthem: O Lamb of God

The Hymnal 1982 #S163

The image shows three staves of musical notation for the Fraction Anthem. The music is in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on_ us." The first staff is for the Celebrant, the second for the People, and the third is a continuation of the melody. There are triplets of eighth notes in the second and third staves. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on_ us." and "Lamb of God_ you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace."

The Presentation & Invitation

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All are welcome to come forward for Communion, including children. Please follow the ushers' guidance as you come to the rail. If you would like a gluten-free host, extend your hands palms down. If you would like to receive the wine by intinction (dipping the bread in the cup), keep the bread in your hands and wait for the communion server to come to you with a pottery chalice. If you would like to drink from the chalice directly, please consume the bread first and a communion server will offer you the silver chalice (common cup). If it is not your custom to receive communion, you are still welcome to come forward for a blessing. Simply cross your arms across your chest and a priest will offer a blessing or a deacon will offer a prayer. A person may be available to provide prayers for healing in the back southwest corner of the church. Simply head to the back during communion distribution and wait for your turn.

Music During Communion	“I come with joy to meet my Lord”	<i>The Hymnal 1982 #304 Land of Rest</i>
	“Our fathers’ God, to thee” (v.4)	<i>The Hymnal 1982 #717 America</i>
	““O God, our help in ages past”	<i>The Hymnal 1982 #680 St. Anne</i>
	“Abide with me: fast falls the eventide”	<i>The Hymnal 1982 #662 Eventide</i>

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

The Post-Communion Prayer

Enriching our Worship (EOW) 69

Celebrant and People

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

Please stand as you are able.

The Retiring Processional

“Come, thou fount of every blessing”

*The Hymnal 1982 #686
Nettleton*

The Dismissal

BCP 366

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

Postlude

Carol Yeargin, Organist

GENERAL INFORMATION

New to St. Paul’s? Welcome! Please let us know you are here by filling out a visitor card in the pew. Stop by our Connecting Station in the narthex (lobby) to chat and find materials that might help if you are new to St. Paul’s or The Episcopal Church. Join a tour of our campus the third Sunday of the month after the 10 a.m. service to learn more and meet others. Contact Mary Kintz, our Community Connector, at mary.kintz@stpaulscary.org to find out more about us!

Kids in Worship at St. Paul’s: Children are always welcome in our worship services without exception, but if parents should wish for a space where your kids have more room to move around during the service, you are welcome to make use of the Comfort Room (glassed-in room at the rear of the worship space from which you can still hear and see the service). Ask an usher if you need help finding it. Also, our Kids' Club (free nursery care) is available during the 10 a.m. service, and infants/toddlers through 36 months (3 years old) are welcome to attend.

Accessibility: St. Paul’s strives to make our services and programs comfortable and accessible to all. Ushers and Greeters are available to help. Please let us know how we can work together to improve your experience here.

Please wear your nametags when you’re here at church! And if you don’t yet have a nametag, please complete an order form in the narthex (lobby) so we can get you one!

HAPPENING TODAY – JULY 5, 2026

Children’s Chapel: Children 3 years old through 5th grade are invited to process to Children’s Chapel during the 10 a.m. service and will return to their families during announcements.

Favorite Hymn Discussion: During summer, members of the clergy or staff will lead a 20-minute discussion on one of the hymns included in Sunday’s liturgy. Today, Music Minister Rusty McKinney will discuss “Eternal Father, strong to save.” The discussion will be in the Parish Hall and should begin 15 minutes after the conclusion of the service.

Popsicles and Parables: All children are invited to the playground to hear a Bible story, eat popsicles, and enjoy time to play! We’ll meet after the 10 a.m. service on the playground.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Summer Schedule Continues Through Sept. 6: Services are 8 a.m. (Rite I) and 10 a.m. (Rite II) through Sept. 6.

“Brighter Days Ahead” Fundraiser: Help us make an immediate impact, making our spaces more welcoming and inviting this summer by donating to the Brighter Days Ahead project. Every donation toward our \$30,000 goal will help refresh our most-used spaces, brighten our walls, and care well for the spaces God has entrusted to us. If you have walked through the narthex, met in the Youth Wing, or gathered in one of our offices, you will appreciate the importance of caring for these spaces. Learn more online and donate by July 31 so we can complete this work before September!

Youth Bible study at Chipotle: On Wednesdays in July, the youth of St. Paul's will gather with Deacon Erica Ridderman for Bible study at Chipotle (100 Wrenn Dr. in Cary). Middle schoolers (rising 6th-8th) will gather from 5:30-6:30 p.m., and high schoolers (rising 9th-12th) will gather from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Bibles will be available, or you can bring your own. Chips and guac are on St. Paul's; feel free to purchase your own burritos or anything else. Hope to see y'all there!

Refuge for Refugees (R4R) Help for a New Family: We are assisting a family of five (husband, wife, three young boys) from Gaza who relocated from New Jersey to Cary last week. R4R has offered to help with a few items, including grocery gift cards, to support them in the first few months of their adjustment. Details on how you can help are on the website and in the narthex. Learn more about this and all the work of R4R by contacting Deb Richard at debrakrichard@gmail.com.

Help Support Vacation Bible Camp (VBC): We're gearing up for *#KidsConnect* (July 27-31) and looking for help from the community. Our crew has made volunteering super easy and welcoming for adults who want to volunteer. You can also help by purchasing supplies from our Amazon wish list. See the flyer in the narthex for more details. Don't miss this opportunity to welcome families and experience a fun week of learning about God's love. Spread the word!

Help us Pick Hymns this Summer: During the summer, we want to include your favorite hymns on Sunday mornings. Sign up online or on the sheets in the narthex, and we will include them throughout the summer. Parameters: All hymns should be from The Hymnal 1982. One favorite per person. No seasonal hymns, please (i.e. Christmas, Lent).

We pray for Noah, Sally, Parrish, Janet, Nancy, Susan, Chuck, Carter, Anne, Ethan, Mary Jo, Judy, Carl, Martha, Henry, Althea, Jan, Zemiria, Henry, Louise, Terri, Lee, Andy, Benita, Mary, Sherry, Louane, Keith, Jimmy, Sharo, Claudia, Ethan, Mauricio, Allison, Theresa, Ben, Rich, Isabelle, Nancy, Kenny, Chris, Paige, Mary Martha, Jerry, Erika, Stacey, Lisa, and Kay.

In the prayers for the deceased, we pray for David Dorschel, Aleta Violet Ober Carter, James Willis, and Alvin Keller.

If you have a name you would like to include on the prayer list, or a ministry event that you would like to announce in this printed bulletin, please send information to announcements@stpaulscary.org. Names included in the prayer list will remain for a month, and we are happy to extend at your request. Please note that there is a 2-week lead time on printed announcements.

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Worship. Serve. Grow.
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The Rev. Dr. Erica Ridderman, Assistant Rector for Children, Youth, & Family Formation
The Rev. Candy Snively, Deacon
The Rev. Nathaniel Lee H.K. McKinney, Deacon
Russell McKinney, Director of Music Ministries
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