



St. John's Episcopal Church

"Our mission is to know and to share the love of Jesus Christ"

August 23rd, 2026

9:00am

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

Piano Voluntary

Andantino from Sonatina No. 1 - A. Diabelli

Piano Duet by Barbara Nagle Stewart & Michele Voss

Opening Acclamation

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

All: And Blessed be God's Kingdom now and forever. Amen.

Collect for Purity (BCP p. 355)

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.

Processional Hymn

Blue Hymnal #522 - *Glorious thing of thee are spoken*

Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
he whose word cannot be broken
formed thee for his own abode;
on the Rock of Ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See! the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters
and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint, when such a river
ever will their thirst assuage?
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver
never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hovering,
see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a covering,

showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner,
light by night, and shade by day,
safe they feed upon the manna
which he gives them when they pray.

Blest inhabitants of Zion,
washed in the Redeemer's blood!
Jesus, whom their souls rely on,
makes them kings and priests to God.
'Tis his love his people raise
over self to reign as kings:
and as priests, his solemn praises
each for a thank-offering brings.

The Collect

One: The Lord be with you

Many: **And also with you**

One: Let us pray

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 51:1-6

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many.

For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found

in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be for ever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 138 *Confitebor tibi*

Spoken

- 1 I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; *
before the gods I will sing your praise.
- 2 I will bow down toward your holy temple
and praise your Name, *
because of your love and faithfulness;
- 3 For you have glorified your Name *
and your word above all things.
- 4 When I called, you answered me; *
you increased my strength within me.
- 5 All the kings of the earth will praise you, O LORD, *
when they have heard the words of your mouth.
- 6 They will sing of the ways of the LORD, *
that great is the glory of the LORD.
- 7 Though the LORD be high, he cares for the lowly; *
he perceives the haughty from afar.
- 8 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; *
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.
- 9 The LORD will make good his purpose for me; *
O LORD, your love endures for ever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God-- what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

Blue Hymnal #508 - *Breathe on me, Breath of God*

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
till I am wholly thine,
till all this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will,
to do or to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die;
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
All: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

The Rev. Jarrett Kerbel

The Nicene Creed (BCP p. 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.

Prayers of the People

Focus our hearts this day and always, O God, as those who seek for righteousness, and as those who seek after you, the Rock from which we were hewn, so that, founded on truth, we may seek understanding:

I will give thanks to you with my whole heart.

Visit the homes and families wherein your people dwell, strengthening the bonds of affection between us and empowering us to live one for another. Graft the solitary into your Church and make us all to be one communion and fellowship:

You have glorified your Name, and your Word above all things.

Comfort us in the waste places of our lives, and turn our deserts to gardens of refreshment, praying especially for our sick, including Kent, Ann, Mannone, Patrick, R & L., Katie, Ross, MarLynne, Esther, Russell, Jane, Kurt, Earlene, Donald, Jane, Sean, Susan, Elena, Jay, Susan, Mikenzy, Laurel, Roy, Loretta, David, Jane, Henry, Kelly, D., M., L., and Robin. Bring justice, and steep us in sound teaching, that we may live in righteousness, and be found in joy and gladness:

When I called you answered me and increased my strength within.

Grant us wise and discerning hearts, praying especially for our leadership (intercessions for the Church may be offered), that we may not be conformed to this world, but that we may rather be transformed by the renewing of our minds, discerning your will – that which is good and acceptable and perfect:

The Lord cares for the lowly and perceives the haughty from afar.

Help us not to think of ourselves more highly than we ought, but to accord respect to all members of the human community and within the body of Christ, for we are individually members one of another, each with our own gifts and calling:

God will make good the divine purpose for me.

Assist us to a clear and intelligent confession of Jesus the Messiah, the Son of the living God, and give us power to express this commitment in deed as well as word, in our choices and manner of life, and in our care for others:

Your love endures for ever; you will not abandon the works of your hand.

Confession of Sin (Enriching Our Worship)

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through

our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will.
Amen.

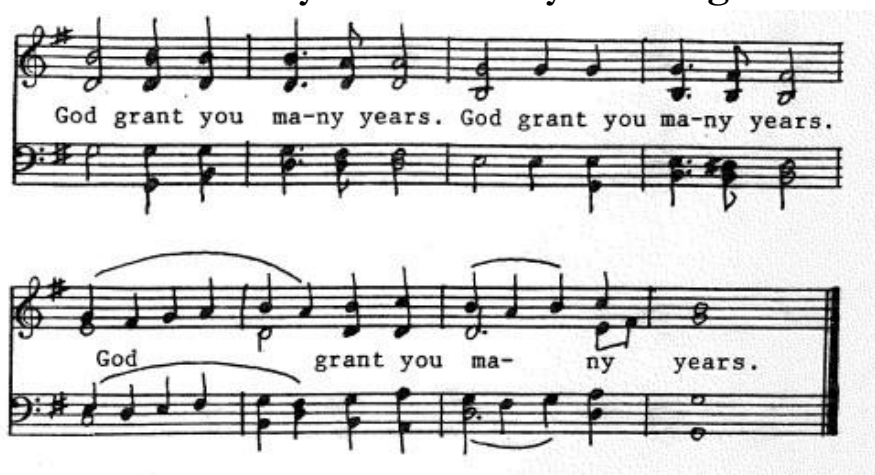
Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace (BCP p. 360)

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Anniversary and Birthday Blessings



The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

Berceuse Op 56 No 1 - G. Faure (edited by Weekley and Arganbright)

Piano Duet by Barbara Nagle Stewart & Michele Voss

Doxology with Alleluias

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all crea - tures

here be - low: al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise him a -

bove, ye heav'n - ly host, praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost:

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

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

Thomas Ken, 1709; alt.

LASST UNS ERFREUEN L.M.al.
Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Cologne, 1623

The Great Thanksgiving

Sursum Corda (Enriching our Worship)

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

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. 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, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

Sanctus

Blue Hymnal # S125 - *Holy, Holy, Holy*

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.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another,

and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life. On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, 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." As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with Saint John and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (BCP p. 363)

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,

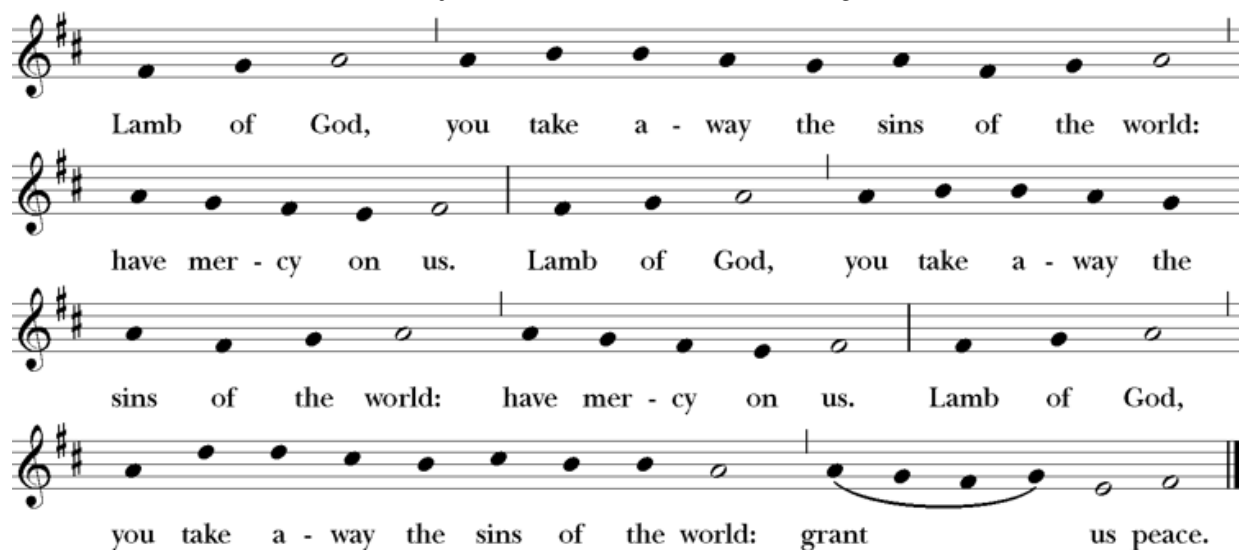
and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread (BCP p. 364)

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Blue Hymnal # S 161 - *Lamb of God*



Invitation to Communion (BCP p. 364)

Communion

Communion Hymns

Blue Hymnal #318 - *Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face*

Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face;
 here would I touch and handle things unseen;
 here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace,
 and all my weariness upon thee lean.

Here would I feed upon the Bread of God;
 here drink with thee the royal Wine of heaven;
 here would I lay aside each earthly load,
 here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.

I have no help but thine; nor do I need

another arm save thine to lean upon;
 it is enough, my Lord, enough indeed;
 my strength is in thy might, thy might
 alone.

Mine is the sin, but thine the
 righteousness;
 mine is the guilt, but thine the cleansing
 Blood.

Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace;
 thy Blood, thy righteousness, O Lord, my
 God.

Blue Hymnal #535 - *Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim*

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad his wonderful Name;
the Name all-victorious of Jesus extol:
his kingdom is glorious; he rules over all.

God ruleth on high, almighty to save;
and still he is nigh: his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall
sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.

Salvation to God who sits on the throne!
Let all cry aloud, and honor the Son.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces, and worship the
Lamb.

Then let us adore, and give him his right:
All glory and power, all wisdom and might,
and honor and blessing, with angels above,
and thanks never-ceasing and infinite love.

Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion

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.

Sending out Eucharistic Visitors (as needed)

[Celebrant: In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. With whom will you share this communion?

Eucharistic Visitors: (they say the names of those they will visit.)

Congregation: **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread one cup.]**

Final Blessing (BCP p. 366)

Live without fear: your Creator has made you and restored you in holiness, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing be with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn at Retiring Procession

Blue Hymnal #460 - Alleluia sing to Jesus

Alleluia! sing to Jesus!
his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph,
his the victory alone;
Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation
hath redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluia! not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! he is near us,
faith believes, nor questions how:
though the cloud from sight received
him,
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise,
'I am with you evermore'?

Alleluia! bread of Heaven,
Thou on earth our food, our stay!
Alleluia! here the sinful
flee to thee from day to day:
Intercessor, friend of sinners,

earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal,
thee the Lord of lords we own:
Alleluia! born of Mary,
earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:
thou within the veil hast entered,
robed in flesh, our great High Priest:
thou on earth both Priest and Victim
in the eucharistic feast.

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!
his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph,
his the victory alone;
Hark! The songs of holy Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation
hath redeemed us by his blood.

Dismissal

One: Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia!

All: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Turn and greet your neighbors, especially someone you have not met yet.

Piano Voluntary

Allegro from Sonatina No. 6 - A. Diabelli

Piano Duet by Barbara Nagle Stewart & Michele Voss

Liturgy Note: During the summer season we will be using worship materials from Enriching Our Worship (EOW) which is a supplemental liturgical resource approved by the Episcopal Church. EOW is a source for expansive language liturgies which bring previously neglected images of God into our worship as well as language that is less likely to gender God. You will notice that the Rector prefers expansive language except in the case of references to the Trinity where modified language detaches God's revelation from history.

Serving on Sunday August 23rd at 9:00am:

Lectors – Zach W., Ann H. and Kelsi H.

Acolytes - Grant P., Isaac P., Cindy L. and Evelyn S.

Chalice Bearers - Cindy L. and Grant P.

Ushers – Katharine F. and Mary W.

Counters – Paul J. and Ken H.

Serving on Sunday August 30th at 9:00am:

Lectors – Richard W., Ben O. and Chris M.

Acolytes - Grant P., Isaac P. and Dakota M.

Chalice Bearers - Jacquie W. and Cassy P.

Ushers – Ken H. and John H.

Counters – Marsha C. and Mary W.

Thank you to all who volunteer as **Lectors, Acolytes, Chalice Bearers** and **Ushers**. If you would like to serve in one of these positions, please let us know.

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Parish Prayer list

If you would like to add or reinstate a name or concern for our parish prayer list, please contact the church office or prayers@stjohnsbangor.org.

For the Sick, Injured, or Distressed, and for those who have requested prayer: Kent C., Ann C., Mannone, Patrick and R & L. **Continued prayers for** – Katie B., Ross M., MarLynne M., Esther R., Russell M., Jane M., Kurt K., Earlene B., Donald K., Jane Z., Sean C., Susan J., Elena B., Jay B., Susan S., Mikenzy, Laurel, Roy G., Loretta, David B., Jane P., Henry L., Kelly M., D., M., L., and Robin S.

For our Homebound Members: Bonnie A., Kathy C., Ginny F., Carolyn L., Evelyn L., Roberta D., Carolyn S., Esther R., Gary S., Deborah T., Lee W., Donna W., Lura W., Lilly P., Earlene B., and Eileen H.

For the World: for Peace and Goodwill among Nations and for peoples in places of violence or oppression, and for the many places in our world where there is danger and desperation. We continue to pray for the people in Ukraine and for the people in the Middle East and Sudan. For an end to war and all forms of violence. For all who suffer for conscience's sake. For our enemies and those who wish us harm. For all suffering effects of climate change and of natural disasters. For refugees, immigrants, and those who are displaced.

For our Nation: For the healing of divisions and the celebration of diversity; for the recognition that no single viewpoint on any issue, no matter how important, is without human error; and for all who struggle to change our world and its systems of oppression and exploitation.

For the Leaders of our Country, State and Community: Donald J. Trump, President; Members of Congress, especially, Susan Collins, Angus King, Chellie Pingree, Jared Golden of Maine; Janet Mills our Governor; and Susan Hawes our Mayor; for those who administer justice in the courts of this land, that they all may serve our nation and the world with wisdom, civility, and compassion.

For our Military Personnel, especially those of this Parish: Sarah M., Dillan L., and Joshua M. For all members of our military currently in harm's way. We pray for peace.

With Thanksgiving for the lives of those celebrating birthdays during the coming week including: Jessica H., June P., Michael P., Ted P., Mark U. and Fran W.

For the Departed: for our service members killed in the current conflict.

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Lev Sherman+ by Ann Holland.

The Ministers: *All the members of this church because we believe in the “priesthood of all believers” (1 Peter 2:5).*

Vestry and Officers

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Jeff Perry, Junior Warden, 944-6413

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2027

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2028

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2029

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The Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Brown, *Bishop of Maine*

The Rev. Jarrett Kerbel, *Rector*

Mr. Colin Graebert, *Choir Director*

Mr. Joshua Singer, *Organist*

Ms. Michele Voss, *Guest Choir Director & Pianist*

Barbara Nagle Stewart, *Guest Pianist*

Ms. Vanessa Young, *Office Manager*

Ms. Mary-Frances Beesorchard, *Director of Christian Education*

Ms. Tricia Drake, *Sexton*

Mr. Dakota Miller, *Bookkeeper*

Ms. Susanna Pathak, *Parish Librarian*

Ms. Patricia Sprague, *Director of Adult Formation*

St. John's Episcopal Church

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