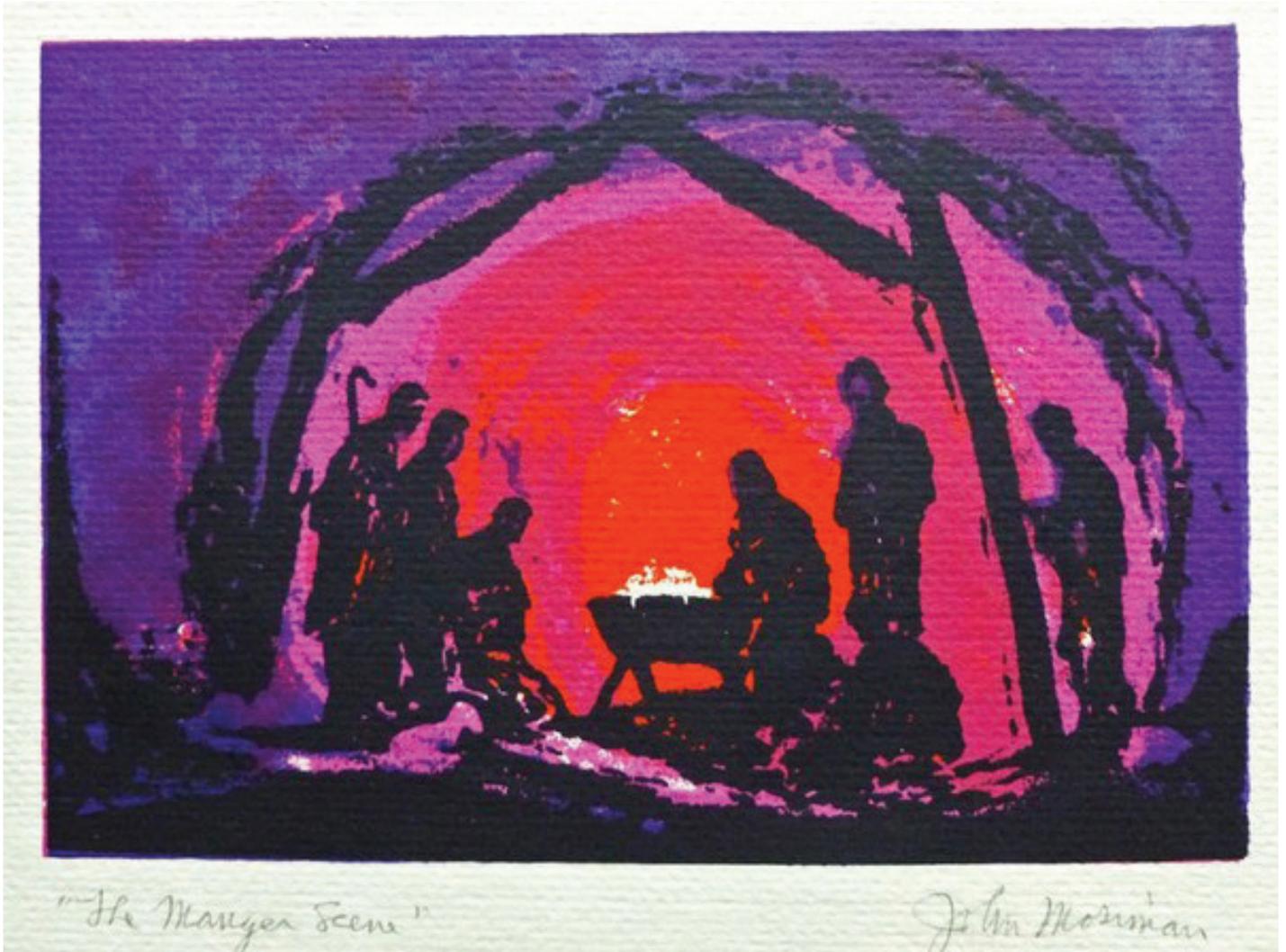




ST. JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
JACKSON HOLE

DECEMBER 24, 2020
THE EVE OF THE NATIVITY



"The Manger Scene" serigraph by John Mosiman

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

We are delighted to have you with us today. If you are looking for a church to call home, you are welcome to join us in making a love-spreading difference in Jackson Hole and beyond.

The altar flowers are given by Dine Dellenback in memory of Bob Dellenback.

PRELUDE

Jackson Hole Brass Quintet

“Away in a Manger” (Kirkpatrick, arr. McNeff)
“Deck The Halls/In Dulci Jubilo” (arr. Robertson)

OPENING HYMN

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” vs. 1-3, 6, The Hymnal 83

The People stand as able for the Hymn and opening

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;

Refrain
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -
dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing;

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant

The glory of God has been revealed.

People

And all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, you have given us a new revelation of your loving providence in the Coming of your Son Jesus Christ to be born of the Virgin Mary: Grant that as he shared our mortality, so we may share his eternity in the glory of your kingdom; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

ACCLAMATION

Celebrant

Blessed are you, holy and living God.

People

You come to set your people free.

Celebrant

Let us pray. O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE LESSONS

A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

ISAIAH 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

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

PSALM 98

“Joy to the World” vs. 1-4, The Hymnal 100

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
*3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the
ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and
heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
as the curse is found, far as the curse is
won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

TITUS 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN

“Angels We Have Heard on High” The Hymnal 96

Verses 1-3 are sung before the Gospel and verse 4 is sung after the Gospel

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

Refrain

Glo - - - - - ri - a
in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -
- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 2:1-20

Deacon

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

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Deacon

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

Jimmy Bartz

A moment of silence will be observed for reflection after the sermon

THE NICENE CREED

The People stand as able and say together

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

Celebrant

My sisters and brothers in the peace of God, all the gifts we shall give and receive in these days are but small tokens of the gift that shines forth in God's word made flesh this night. From grateful hearts let us intercede for all who find themselves longing for this deepest, truest gift, saying: O God, in your goodness, hear our prayer.

Intercessor

That the peace proclaimed by angels in the shepherd's field might be realized on every field of war and on every street of violence, O God, in your goodness,

Hear our prayer.

That the child born to us might find in our hearts warm welcome by our openness to the needs of the homeless and the hungry, O God, in your goodness,

Hear our prayer.

That in this time of gift-giving we might become more responsive to the abandoned, the despairing, and the mourning, O God, in your goodness,

Hear our prayer.

That the rejoicing of this day might be a bond leading us to true communion of life and worship, O God, in your goodness,

Hear our prayer.

That the joy and consolation of the Wonderful Counselor might enliven all who are struck down by disease and illness, O God, in your goodness,

Hear our prayer.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially those on our prayer list, and those we now name:

People may add their petitions silently or aloud at this time.

O God, in your goodness,

Hear our prayer.

For those who have died, especially those we name before you:

People may add their petitions silently or aloud at this time.

O God, in your goodness,

Hear our prayer.

That the blessed hope we celebrate this night might be the fulfillment of all who have gone before us in faith, O God, in your goodness,

Hear our prayer.

Celebrant

God of darkness and silence, you have pierced the quiet of this night by the utterance of your word in our flesh.

May our words of praise and petition be strong echoes of your Christmas word, so that all might come to the

peace you promise in Jesus, who is Lord and God this night and forever.

THE PEACE

The People stand as able

Celebrant

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The People may be seated. Please see Revelations Newsletter for a more in-depth look at what is happening in and around the parish.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

ANTHEM

“I Believe” (Levi) Eric Woodson & Adele Erickson

OFFERTORY

“Gesù Bambino” (Yon, arr. Christofferson) Jackson Hole Brass Quintet

GREAT THANKSGIVING

WYOMING EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The People remain standing

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.**

We thank you, Creator God, that we live in a place where the glorious revelation of you is all around us. The prairie bursts with song from wind and birds and waving grasses. The abundance of animals roaming freely reminds us of our own freedom and the many ways you provide sustenance in your kingdom. From the depths of the ocean floor, you lifted your massive mountains and pointed them toward the heavens.

We, like your Son, our Lord, are called to these high places to get away and rest in communion with you. We marvel as we wander through stately pines and twirling aspens along the creeks, where trout dance on their tails above the rocks, and deer and elk sip from the water's edge. And we remember that you have given us the Living Water to quench our thirst. Our spirit is refreshed and our strength renewed.

We welcome the passing of seasons in broad circles of time, with anticipation of new things to come, and we recognize that same feeling of hope that encircles our faith. Our lives are lived between sunrises and sunsets and brilliant colors. But at night, the limitless stars have a way of pushing back the boundaries of our lives and we dream of heaven and your wonder.

And with all these blessings of your creation around us, O God, we come together in communities on the prairie, by rivers and streams, on mountain tops, and in their shadows in the valley, to receive your Word, which has been sown in rich soil and grown into a fruitful crop in the Body of Christ.

And so we join with saints and angels in proclaiming your glory, as we say,

Celebrant & People

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

As we gather to praise your name, we see your greatest glory, your Son our Savior, reflected in each other's faces and we know the magnitude of your love for us and ours for you. On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends.

He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, 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. Again, he gave thanks to you, 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."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ.

Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time, bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

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.**

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

*Celebrant
& 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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

As the Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread, a period of silence is kept

Celebrant

Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People

Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

In the Anglican tradition, the sacrament of Holy Communion takes place in a gathering of the whole people of God together, remembering together, and sharing together in a meal. We look forward to resuming this practice once the present constraints are relaxed. Witness this holy sacrament as a visible sign of God's love for us, and our love for one another. Let us welcome God, Father Son and Holy Spirit into our hearts, with faith and thanksgiving.

COMMUNION HYMN

The People are invited to sing

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” vs, 1-3, 5, The Hymnal 79



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
*4 Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,
5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
2 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
4 where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;
5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
2 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
4 where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,
5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
2 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
4 the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.
5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

LIGHTING OF THE PEOPLE'S CANDLES

Light a candle of hope and celebration as we sing together "Silent Night"

POST COMMUNION HYMN

The People are invited to sing

"Silent Night" The Hymnal 111

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

The People kneel or stand as able, you may extinguish your flame

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Celebrant

Most loving God, creator and redeemer, we give thanks for this foretaste of your glory. Through Christ and with all your saints, we offer ourselves and our lives to your service. Send us out in the power of your Spirit, to stand with you in your world. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the servant, our friend and brother. Amen.

BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing” The Hymnal 87

1 Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing glo-ry to the new-born King!
2 Christ, by high-est heaven a-dored; Christ, the ev-er-last-ing Lord;
3 Mild he lays his glo-ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer-cy mild, God and sin-ners rec-on-ciled!
late in time be-hold him come, off-spring of the Vir-gin's womb.
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec-ond birth.

Joy-ful, all ye na-tions, rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car-nate De-i-ty.
Risen with heal-ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an-gel-ic host pro-claim Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je-sus, our Em-man-u-el!
hail, the Sun of Right-eous-ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Refrain
Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing glo-ry to the new-born King!

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Let us go forth in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

POSTLUDE

“I Saw Three Ships” (arr. Henderson)
“We Wish You A Merry Christmas” (arr. Rutter)

Thanks to the Jackson Hole Brass Quintet and Our Vocalists

Alan Bergeron, trumpet

Liz Sunshine, trombone

Amanda Flosbach, horn

Ron Maassen, tuba

Dean Scofield, trumpet

Zach Singer, timpanist

Adele Erickson, vocalist

Eric Woodson, vocalist

“Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night.”



THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

To learn more about St. John's Episcopal Church go to our website, stjohnsjackson.org.

Service is live streamed to the internet and available for future views from our website.

Reprint permission for texts and music in this bulletin obtained from Christian Copyright Solutions with License #12507. All rights reserved.

The Reverend Jimmy Bartz, Rector

The Reverend Brian Nystrom

The Reverend Suzanne Harris

The Reverend Mary Erickson

Rob Fabry, Music Director

Catherine Morahan, Director of the Children & Youth Community

Pam Woodson, Parish Life

Robyn Reed, Director of Operations

Haley Deming, Communications Director

Liz Collins, Assistant to the Pastoral Staff

Stephanie Abbey, Administrative Assistant

Tim Schwarz, Sexton

Lonnie Brown, Browse 'N Buy Manager

Tawnya Sorensen, Bright Beginnings Preschool Director