



CHURCH OF
OUR SAVIOUR
圣公会救主堂

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO
DECEMBER 14, 2025 | 10:00 AM



St. John the Baptist in Prison, Visited by Salomé
Drawing possibly by Giovanni Francesco Barbieri (1591–1666)

THE WORD OF GOD

At 9:55, the gathering Tower Bell rings.

Welcome

Prelude

Sleepers, wake (Wachet auf)

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Celebrant Today we light the first, second, and third candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE, and the third candle is JOY.

The candle is lit.

Leader You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

Celebrant Loving God, your mercy and compassion endure forever. Open our hearts, that we may receive your love; and following the example of your Son, spread that love to a love-starved world. Through Jesus Christ, who loved us to the end. **Amen.**

The final Tower Bell rings. All stand, as they are able, to sing the following hymn:

Hymn in Procession

Hymn 65 – Prepare the way, O Zion

Bereden väg för Herran

Opening Acclamation

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

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

Celebrant 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.**

During the Kyrie we invite all children ages 4 years through 5th grade to follow the cross and process out of the historic sanctuary and into Grace Chapel to have their own worship experience. While everyone ages 4 years through 5th grade is invited, they certainly are not expected or required to go to Children's Church. We hope to give you a variety of ways to worship and encourage you to engage in a way that feels life giving for you and your family.

Kyrie

Kyrie Eleison

Robert Lehman (b. 1960)



Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

The Reading

James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence is kept.

Canticle 15

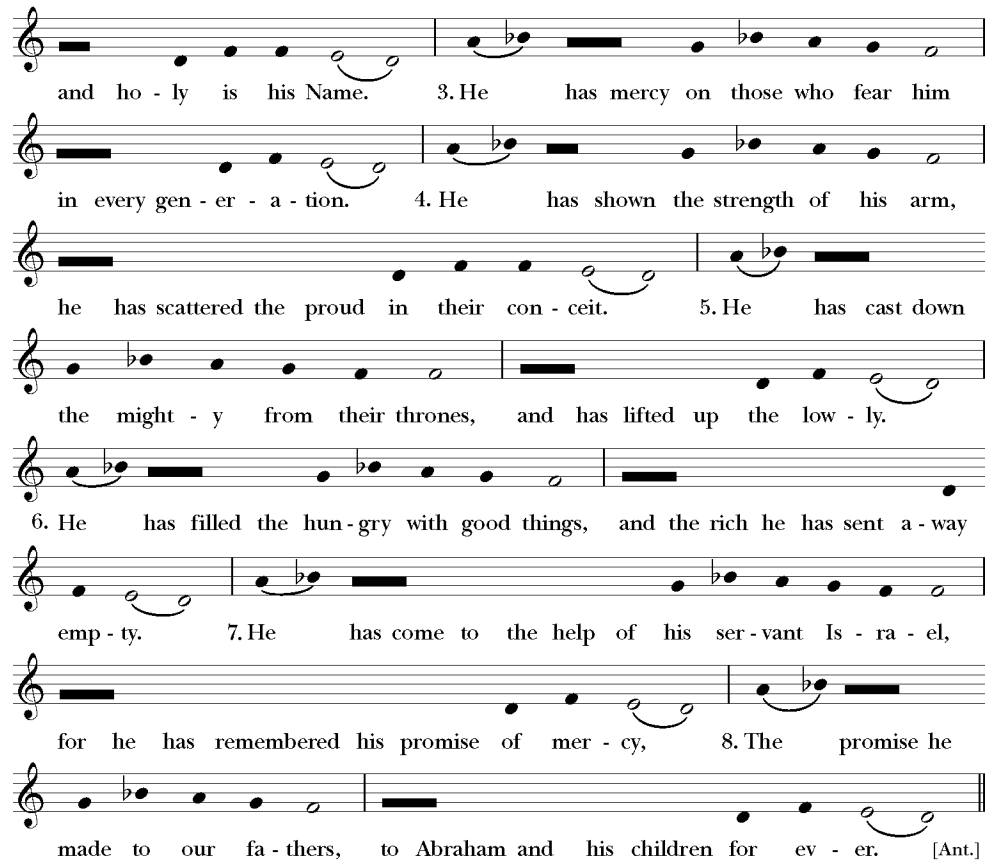
Hymn S242 – The Song of Mary *Magnificat*

Plainsong

Antiphon

The Al - might - y has done great things for me,
and ho - ly is his Name.

1. My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices
in God my Sav - ior; for he has looked with favor on his
low - ly ser - vant. 2. From this day all generations will
call me bless - ed: the Almighty has done great things for me,



Sequence Hymn

Hymn 67 (vv. 1-2) – Comfort, comfort ye my people

Psalm 42

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

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

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ “Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

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

Sequence Hymn

Hymn 67 (vv. 3) – Comfort, comfort ye my people

Psalm 42

The people are seated for the sermon.

The Sermon

The Rev. Marilyn Omernick

After a brief silence for reflection, the people stand, as they are able.

The Nicene Creed

Celebrant and People

**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

*When the Intercessor invites us by saying "Lord in your mercy," please join in saying "**Hear our prayer.**"*

During the silence, the people add their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

The Celebrant concludes with a Collect.

Confession of Sin

The Celebrant says the following,

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People

**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

Celebrant 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

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

All greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Celebrant says the offertory sentence.

Offertory Music

And the glory of the LORD (Messiah)

G. F. Handel (1685-1748)

And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together:
for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

The Great Thanksgiving *Eucharistic Prayer B*

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.**

The people remain standing, as they are able, and the Celebrant begins,

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said.

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:

The Celebrant and people sing together,

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Sanctus and Benedictus qui venit

Lehman

(Organ) Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - sanna in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

The people remain standing, or kneel, as they are able. The Celebrant continues.

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 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;

The Celebrant continues

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 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 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,

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!**

The Celebrant says the Invitation to Communion.

Communion Anthem

Drop down ye heavens from above

Judith Weir (b. 1954)

Drop down ye heavens from above,
And let the skies pour down righteousness.
Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people;
My salvation shall not tarry.
I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions.
Fear not, for I will save thee;
For I am the Lord thy God,
The holy one of Israel, thy redeemer.
Drop down ye heavens from above,
And let the skies pour down righteousness.

Prayer for Spiritual Reception

(A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion).

The Celebrant says the following,

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

(St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787; from Bishop Curry)

The Sending Forth of Lay Eucharistic Visitor

Celebrant 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.

People **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread and one cup.**

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.

The Priest blesses the People.

Hymn in Recession

Hymn 62 – Sleepers, wake

Wachet auf

Dismissal

After the Dismissal, you are welcome to leave quietly.

Please join Coffee Hour in Telleen Courtyard (exit through the nave to the patio in front of Cleaver Hall).

If you would like to remain in your seat to listen to the Postlude, please do.

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Comfort Now My People

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

**For this week's E-News scan the QR code below
or go to: <https://bit.ly/Messenger1214>**



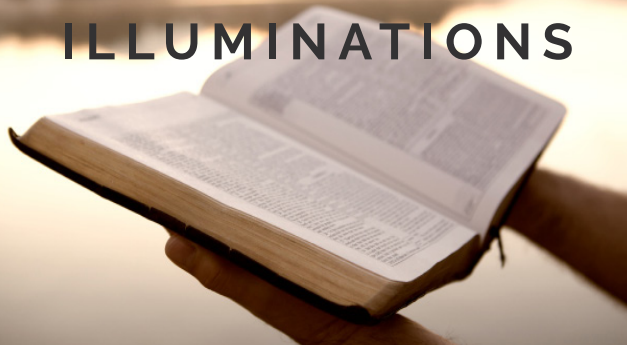
Please join us on the patio for coffee and fellowship!

Today's Old Testament Lectionary Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

ILLUMINATIONS



Advent 3, Year A

First reading: Isaiah 35:1-10

Hebrew poems, like the Psalms, typically take the form of couplets—two-line verses—where the second line is either a restatement of or else a night-and-day contrast to the first line. Chapters 34 and 35 of Isaiah almost form a poem of two *chapters*: chapter 34 speaks of the destruction of God’s enemies, and chapter 35 speaks of the return of God’s people from exile. There will be no half-measures in the restoration, and there will be no mistaking God’s hand in it. Hear, now, the extravagance of God’s comforting hand.

Second reading: James 5:7-10

The verses immediately preceding today’s reading from James speak of the arrogance of the rich and the powerful. The author notes that the rich seem to trust in their own actions *alone* to bring about their own ends, in their own time. James counsels his audience to patience: not apathetic *resignation*, but active *patience*, giving practical examples.

-JAB

PRAYER LIST

SHORT TERM

Ariana
Carl
Celso & Ching
Sheri Ferguson
Gina
The Goodrich Family
Hal
Heidi
Jessica
Tom Kibler
Mike & Barb
Erik L.
Marina & Juan Medina
Nick
Jim P.
Phil & Joan
Alan Potter
Jeanne Roberts
Danna Rountree
Ben Stafford
Trisa
Dr. Colin Zimbleman

LONG TERM

Maria Lucero Aguilar	Tracey Lemon
Robert Aguilar	Charlene Liebau
Wilma & Alistair Anderson	Linda & Sarah
Anne & family	Greg M.
Annamarie Arnold	the MacDonald family
David Arnt	Angel Manuelos, Jr.
Bettina Ayers	Dewey Martin
Freya Baldwin	Mary McConnell-Garside
Virginia Barger	Elizabeth Meek
Mary Betancourt	Meredith
Bill & Dina	Jerry Messing
Steve Black	the Moss family
Amy Bonady	Marion N.
Gary & Peg Bradley	Harriette Nagata
Michael Bradley	Laurie Norman
Shirley Brown	Octavia
Travis Burgdorf	Trevor Orme
Nancy Bushnell	Sally Padilla
Kathy Buskirk	Susan R.
Andrew Cairns-Berteau	Erin and Josh Rehard
Maria Clement	Lorraine Richter
Margaret Coombe	Diana Davis Rieger
Karen Cranston	Olive Rosvall
Lenny Dalrymple	Nicholas Ruggiero
Saraswathi Dasu	Bo S.
John De Modena	the Schlichter family
Sara Dooley	Sheryl Schreiner
Gail Downs	Sylvia Seitz
Will Dumain	Gigi Sherman
Eliza	Nicholas Pinkerton Smith
Sherri Enz	Kirsten Stanwyck
Thomas Ewig	Paul Stapp
Brennan Feidler	Sterling
Bill Ferry	Amanda Stringer
Trevor Fox	Natasha Suter
Russ Giambelluca	Patti Teele
Alaine Gill	Marge Telleen
Fabian Gonzalez	Vicki Thompson
Michael & Stephen Gutierrez	Rebecca Trouber
Renee Guy	Lillian Turner
Ursula Hawkins	Victoria
Blanca Hidalgo	Jason Vine
Jerry Hoff	Marnee W.
Terri Hoff	Michael W.
Ian and David Jackson	Cathy Wetzell
John	Ashley Whitehead
Maria Juarez	Claire Hornsby Windham
Kathleen	Marnee Woodruff
Jaimi Keller	Jacob Wright
Joanna Kinsley	Liliana Eileen Wysocki
Michael Lawler	Sherry Xiao
the Lee family	Milana Zotovich

Departed

We pray for the dying and the dead, especially Chris Goodrich.

Memorials & Thanksgivings

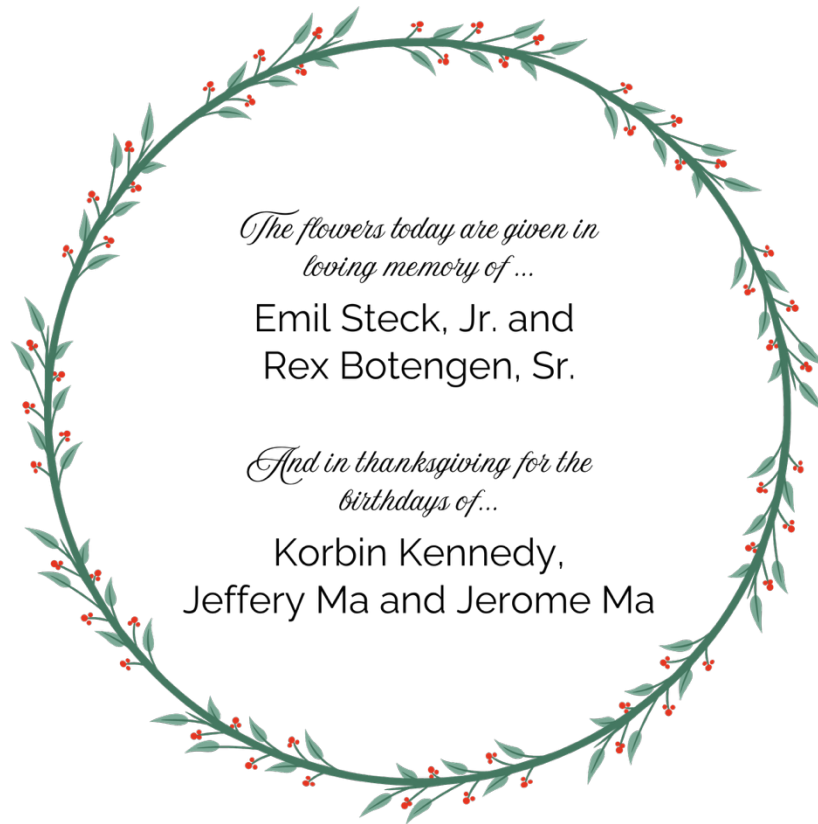
The flowers this Sunday are given in loving memory of Emil Steck, Jr. and Rex Botengen, Sr., and in thanksgiving for the birthdays of Korbin Kennedy, Jeffery Ma and Jerome Ma.

Law Enforcement & Military

We pray for all those serving in our law enforcement and military, especially:

Los Angeles Police Sergeant Louie Origel
Captain Thomas Matthews
Lieutenant Commander Ross Cooper
1st Class Petty Officer Kevin Rossini
Air Force Captain Daniel McAllister
Lieutenant Jonathan Moss
Staff Sergeant Adam Briceno

Captain K. C. Chase
Major J. W. Hammond
USMC First Class Michael Yeast
Captain William Cooper
Private First Class Vito He
Private First Class James Zhang
Officer Dylan Bartley (Upland PD)



PARTICIPANTS

Clergy The Rev. Jeff D. S. Thornberg, *Rector* • The Rev. Tim Hartley • The Rev. Dr. Thomas Ni • The Rev. Brian O'Rourke • The Rev. Anne Thornberg • The Rev. Marilyn Omernick • The Rev. Reese Riley • The Rev. Bill Doulos, *Deacon*

Church Staff Bob Crocker, *Music Director/Choirmaster* • Alice Rucker, *Organist* • Hannah Riley, *Congregational Life* • Kevin Quach, *Sexton* • Maria Quach, *Sexton* • Raul Barrera, *Sexton* • Rose Gonzalez, *Development* • Anh Nguyen, *Accountant* • Lucero San Lucas, *Preschool Director* • David Waller, *Treasurer* • Deacon Bill Doulos II and Bp. Michael Purry, *Church Cats*

Vestry Kit Shenk, *Senior Warden* • Jeff Ross, *Junior Warden* • Virginia Barger • Clyde Beswick • Myron Castro • Rosemary Choate • Joanna Cory • Sara Dooley • Brent Schindele • Ann Seitz • Esther Siu



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