

**St. Thomas' Episcopal Church
Isle of Hope
The Fifth Sunday in Lent
April 6, 2025**



*We are a welcoming community of faith and love that serves one another
and seeks to draw others to God through our ministries.*

WELCOME TO ALL GUESTS

If you are new or with us for the first time, thank you for joining us at worship. We hope you will join us again. Restrooms are available in our parish hall and Christian Education buildings. Nursery care is available in our Christian Education building for children ages 0-4. Please, see an usher to assist you in locating the nursery if that is the preferred option for your family. Children are always welcome to stay in the church at St. Thomas' as they are full members of the body of Christ. If you do choose to utilize our nursery, we hope you will bring your children back into church to receive communion or a blessing. We also have a Children's Chapel for the first part of the service (the Liturgy of the Word). Children in grades Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to follow the little cross in the opening procession where they will exit to go to our chapel. Adults are welcome to accompany them if that would be helpful. The children will return to the church from Children's Chapel at the Peace.

In the Episcopal Church, all baptized Christians, regardless of denomination or age, are invited to be fed at God's table. When it is your turn, hold your hands out open in front of you to receive the bread. When the cup of wine comes to you, help guide it to your mouth to take a sip, dip the top of the wafer into the cup, or signify that you want to abstain from drinking by crossing your arms over your chest. If you would like to learn more about the customs of our tradition, please, contact The Rev. Melanie Lemburg.

Please, fill out a visitor card from the pew rack and give to one of the clergy or the ushers so that we may greet you more formally in the days to come.

As you travel throughout the year, remember that it is easy and safe to give through our website: <https://www.stthomasioh.org/give> or on Venmo @StThomasEpiscopalChurch.



HOLY EUCHARIST: A PENITENTIAL ORDER RITE ONE

8:00 AM

The Opening Acclamation	BCP 319
<i>Celebrant</i> Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.	
<i>People</i> His mercy endureth for ever.	
The Confession of Sin and Absolution	BCP 320
The Kyrie	BCP 324
<i>Celebrant</i> Lord, have mercy upon us.	
<i>People</i> Christ, have mercy upon us.	
<i>Celebrant</i> Lord, have mercy upon us.	
The Collect of the Day	BCP 167
<i>Celebrant</i> The Lord be with you.	
<i>People</i> And with thy spirit.	
<i>Celebrant</i> Let us pray. O Almighty God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men: Grant unto thy people that they may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.	
The First Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14	Bulletin 6
Psalm 126	Bulletin 6 or BCP 782
The Gospel: John 12:1-8	Bulletin 7
The Homily	
The Nicene Creed	Bulletin 7 or BCP 326
The Prayers of the People	Bulletin 8
The Peace	BCP 332
Announcements, Birthday and Anniversary Blessings	
The Presentation of the Gifts	
<i>Celebrant</i> All things come of thee, O Lord.	
<i>People</i> And of thine own have we given thee. Amen	
The Great Thanksgiving	BCP 333
The Lord's Prayer	BCP 336
The Fraction and The Prayer of Humble Access	BCP 337
The Post-Communion Prayer	BCP 339
The Solemn Prayer Over The People and Blessing	Bulletin 12
The Dismissal	Bulletin 13

HOLY EUCHARIST: A PENITENTIAL ORDER- RITE TWO
10:00 AM AND 11:30 AM

PRELUDE *Christus, der uns selig macht, BWV 620* *J.S. Bach (1685 - 1750)*
OPENING HYMN *In the Cross of Christ I glory* Hymnal#441

All children in kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to follow the small cross out of the church into the chapel for children's chapel. Adults or older siblings are welcome to accompany them. They will return to the church at the Peace.

OPENING ACCLAMATION BCP 351

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

Celebrant Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SIN BCP 352

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

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.

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.**

KYRIE (10:00 am) Hymnal #S-91

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

KYRIE (11:30 AM)

Celebrant Lord, have mercy
People **Christ, have mercy.**
Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 219

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

The First Lesson

A Reading from Isaiah.

Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the Lord,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.

I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.

The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches;

for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,

to give drink to my chosen people,
the people whom I formed for myself

so that they might declare my praise. The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 126 *said in unison*

BCP 782

1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.

2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

3 Then they said among the nations, *
"The Lord has done great things for them."

4 The Lord has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.

5 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.

6 Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.

7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

The Second Lesson

A Reading from Philippians.

Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his

sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN

When I survey the wondrous cross

Hymnal #474

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

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

John 12:1-8

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me." The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Colette Hammesfahr

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

Celebrant Let us affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

**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

Litanist We pray for the church. May she drink deeply from living springs and travel the deserts in trust and hope.

People **God of mercy, make us new.**

Litanist We pray for the world. May we come to live as one family and grow beyond the violence of war.

People **God of mercy, make us new.**

Litanist We pray for this nation. May we be healed of division and shine like a lamp on a hill.

People **God of mercy, make us new.**

Litanist We pray for our community. May our children be safe, our leaders be wise, and our lives be peaceful and just.

People **God of mercy, make us new.**

Litanist We pray for the afflicted, especially those we now name. (*silence*) May every sadness find you at its heart, and may there be grace when we suffer.

People **God of mercy, make us new.**

Litanist We pray for the departed, especially those we now name. (*silence*) May they ever grow in faith and love, and may we always remember them by name.

People **God of mercy, make us new.**

Litanist God of mercy, make us new. Change our hearts, mend our lives, and lead us to any who need us, for the sake of Jesus who came that all might have life, and have it abundantly. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS, BLESSING FOR BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

THE DOXOLOGY (V. 3) (10:00 am)

Hymnal #380

**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.**

THE PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS (11:30 am)

Celebrant All things come of you, O Lord.

People **And of your own have we given you. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

BCP 361

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 him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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

S-114

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.

SANCTUS (10:00 am)

Hymnal #S-114



- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

The people stand or kneel. Then 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.

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.

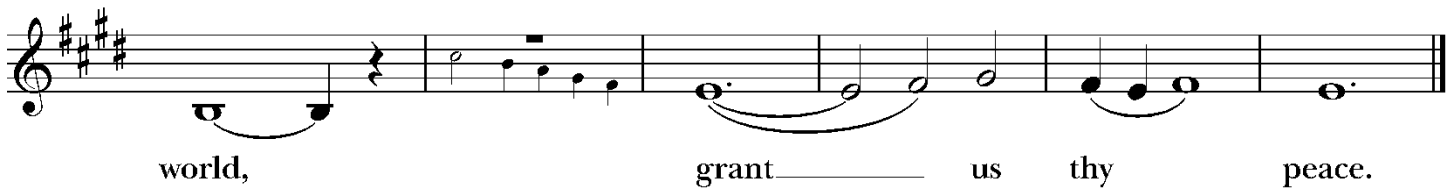
All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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 FRACTION ANTHEM (10:00 am)

Hymnal # S-158

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -
 way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
 on us. O Lamb of God, that
 ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have
 mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of
 God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the



Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

THE FRACTION ANTHEM (11:30 am)

Celebrant O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world:

People **Have Mercy on Us**

Celebrant O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world:

People **Have Mercy on Us**

Celebrant O Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world:

People **Grant us Your Peace**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

COMMUNION HYMN

Let thy blood in mercy poured

Hymnal #313

A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (for those worshipping virtually)

Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. Though I cannot consume these gifts of bread and wine, I thank you that I have received the sacrament of Christ's presence, the forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may I embody your desire and be renewed for your service through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

COMMISSIONING OF LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITOR

Celebrant In the Name of God and of this congregation we send you forth bearing 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, for we all share One Bread and One Cup. Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 366

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.**

THE SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE AND BLESSING

Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Lift high the cross

arr. Carolyn Hamlin

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP TODAY

<i>Ushers</i> (10:00) Billy Steinhauser and Daniel Sims	(11:30) Bill Franklin
<i>Vestry on Duty</i> : (10:00) Amy Minis	(11:30) Chris Conner
<i>Lectors</i> : (8:00) Dave White	(10:00) David Castleberry
	(11:30) Bill Franklin
<i>Lay Eucharistic Minister</i> : (8:00) Dave White	(10:00) Annie Quaile and Karen Otto
<i>Lay Eucharistic Visitor</i> : Rick Lantz	<i>Worship Tech</i> : Tino Aguilar
<i>Acolytes</i> : Gabriella Gonzales and Marin Brooks	<i>Cantors</i> : Abbey Terry & Tanner King
<i>Altar Guild</i> : Sally Minis, Pam Smith, Boo McCullough	<i>Children's Chapel</i> : Elizabeth Varner
<i>Hospitality</i> : Bill and Betsy Franklin	<i>Nursery</i> : Dianne Jones and Eva Aguilar

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, April 6	11:30 am EYC in the EYC Room 1:00 pm Vestry Retreat in the Parish Hall 5:30 pm AA Meeting in the CE Building
Monday, April 7	Rev. Melanie out of the office for college tour 10:00 am Planning in the Library 2:00 pm Women Sharing Wisdom in the St. Thomas' Room 5:30 pm B&G Meeting in the Library 6:30 pm Choir Room Cleanout
Tuesday, April 8	9:00 am Staff Meeting 11:30 am Lunch Bunch
Wednesday, April 9	7:30 am Unseen Guest Cooks 11:30 am Healing Service in the Chapel 2:00 pm Communion at River's Edge 5:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal in the Choir Room 6:00 pm Lenten Formation and Dinner in the Parish Hall 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal in the Choir Room
Thursday, April 10	Rev. Melanie out of the office for college tour
Friday, April 11	11:00 am Chapel Wedding Rehearsal
Saturday, April 12	5:00 pm Chapel Wedding

Volunteers Needed...

Acolyte Robes: We are looking for one or two people to help launder the acolyte and LEM vestments as we prepare for Easter. If you can help, contact Rev. Colette.

Unseen Guest: For over 30 years, Unseen Guest has been cooking over 200 meals, once a month, for residents living in Phoenix House of Union Mission. They are short on volunteers to help cook and package the meals at St. Thomas' on the second Wednesdays of the month at 7:30 am (this Wednesday!). If you are interested in helping this great ministry, please contact Angie Nichuals at ascano@bellsouth.net.

Office Assistance: Please, use the link in the Monday email to sign up to volunteer to assist in the office one or two days from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm while we search for our new parish administrator. There is a link in the Monday email.

Choir Room Cleanout: We're asking for help in cleaning out the choir room before its renovation project begins. On Monday, April 7th, at 6:30 we'll be moving furniture and taking things out to the dumpster. If you can do light work or heavy work, we need you! Please see Tripp Hardee for more information.

Interim Office Hours

While we continue the search for our new parish administrator, our office hours will be 10am to 2 pm Monday through Thursday. The clergy are always available via cell phone for emergencies.

Lenten Outreach Project

The I AM Food Pantry is open on Tuesdays and serves 35-45 families each week. A family of three receives a bag of bakery items and a bag of canned goods/non-perishables. Larger families receive more. At a minimum, the pantry goes through 140 cans of food each week. This year, a large donor was only able to supply 1/5 of the food they have provided in past years, so the pantry is in great need of canned goods, especially canned meats and canned fruits. Our Lent Outreach Project supports the food pantry. Please leave your donations on the table in the parish hall.

Easter Flowers in Memory or Thanksgiving

We're taking orders for Easter Flowers until April 13th (Palm Sunday). If you'd like to order flowers for the altar in honor of someone or in memory of someone, please use the link at the QR code or in the Monday email or stop by the church office. The suggested donation is \$20 per plant and can be paid via cash, check, or Venmo. Place checks or cash in the collection plate or drop them by the church office or in the white dropbox by the exterior door to the office.



Holy Week & Easter at St. Thomas'

Palm Sunday Worship Sunday, April 13 8:00AM, 10:00AM*, 11:30AM

Maundy Thursday Worship Thursday, April 17 6:00PM*

Good Friday Worship Friday, April 18 12:00PM* & 6:00PM*

Easter Vigil Saturday, April 19 8:00PM* (reception to follow)

Easter Worship Sunday, April 20 8:00AM, 10:00AM*

Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt 11:15AM

*nursery care provided



ST. THOMAS'
LUNCH BUNCH
Second Tuesday of Every Month
open to all community members



THIS MONTH:
COME HELP THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE PACK
60+ EASTER BASKETS TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO
CHILDREN LIVING AT
SAVANNAH SAFE SHELTER
&
UNION MISSION

Free Lunch this month! **April 8th 11:30 am**

2 St. Thomas Avenue Savannah, GA 31406
912-355-3110



EASTER DONATIONS NEEDED
Items can be left in the parish hall

Non-chocolate candy to fill eggs for the
St. Thomas' Easter Egg Hunt

No Eggs Needed!



The Rt. Rev. Frank Sullivan Logue, Bishop of Georgia
The Very Rev. Melanie Lemburg, Rector
The Rev. Colette Hammesfahr, Associate Rector
Tripp Hardee, Minister of Music
Greg Washabaugh, Sexton
Tara Bell, Bookkeeper
Olivia Kate Castleberry, EYC Youth Coordinator
Dianne Jones, Nursery Supervisor

The Vestry

Chris Conner, Senior Warden
Lizann Roberts and David Castleberry, Co-Junior Wardens
Mitch Green, Treasurer
Jane Gilchrist, Clerk

Joseph Bernard	Jennifer Calver	David Castleberry
Marie Centgraf	Chris Conner	Mary Haley
Betty Henderson	Robert Hughes	Andrew Lyons
Amy Minis	Lizann Roberts	Claudia Welch

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