The 25th Sunday After Pentecost; Proper 28

November 14 and 15, 2026

The Prelude Voluntary *in D minor* — *William Boyce*

The Processional Hymn *O Christ, the Word Incarnate* — *The Hymnal 1982,* **632**

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. — *The Book of Common Prayer,* page 355

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

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.**

The Gloria *said at 5pm; sung at 9:30.* — *The Hymnal 1982,* **S-280**

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson — **Judges 4:1-7**

In this lesson from the Hebrew Bible, the Israelites prove unfaithful to the Lord, going after foreign gods and doing what is evil in God's sight. In consequence, they fall under the oppression of the Canaanite King Jabin and the commander of his army, Sisera. The Lord raises up for the Hebrew people Deborah, a prophetess, to arbitrate for justice among them. Deborah, a gifted leader, is inspired to liberate the Israelites

from their Canaanite overlords and summons the warrior Barak. Deborah commands Barak in the name of the Lord to gather warriors against the superior chariots and troops of Sisera, confident that God will grant the Israelites success.

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand."

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Response, Psalm 123 *Ad te levavi oculos meos*

Those who are lowly and scorned place their trust in the merciful Lord. We will read the psalm responsively by half-verse.

1 To you I lift up my eyes, *
to you enthroned in the heavens.

2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, *
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

3 So our eyes look to the Lord our God, *
until he show us his mercy.

4 Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy, *
for we have had more than enough of contempt,

5 Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, *
and of the derision of the proud.

The Second Lesson **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

In this reading Paul counsels the new disciples to be alert as in the daylight, for the day of the Lord will come swiftly and unexpectedly, although at a time unknown to mortals. Many early Christians believed that the course of world history would soon come to an end. Paul urges the Thessalonians not to live like people of the night, but soberly and expectantly.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual Hymn *I want to walk as a child of the light* *The Hymnal 1982,* **490**

The Gospel *Please stand, as able.* **Matthew 25:14-30**

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

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

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had

received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon **The Rev. Barbara A. Peterson**

The Nicene Creed *Enriching Our Worship I*

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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

Leader Jesus said, "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places." Trusting in God's abundance and welcome, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all creation. Gracious God, you have made plenty good room for us in your household. Inspire your church to be a place of welcome, generosity, and love. We thank you for the resources you have entrusted to us, and we pray for wisdom to use them in service of your mission. Lord, in your mercy,

People ***Hear our prayer.***

Leader God of community, you bind us together in relationships of care and compassion. We remember our Bishop Julia, our rector Alan, and the churches of the Taunton River Deanery: **Bristol Trinity Episcopal Church** (North Easton), **St. Thomas' Church** (Taunton), **Trinity Church** (Wrentham), and the **Deputies to the Provincial Synod.** Strengthen the bonds within St. John's, and guide us to extend hospitality to our neighbors near and far. Lord, in your mercy,

People ***Hear our prayer.***

Leader God of abundance, you invite us to respond with gratitude for all your gifts. Bless this stewardship campaign, that our pledges of time, talent, and treasure may be faithful signs of our trust in you. Lord, in your mercy,

People ***Hear our prayer.***

Leader God of creation, you have made a world with *plenty good room* for all living things. Teach us to care for the earth and to share its resources with justice and joy. Lord, in your mercy,
People ***Hear our prayer.***

Leader God of mercy, your dwelling place has room for all who suffer. Be present with those who are sick, lonely, grieving, or in any kind of need. I invite your intercessions. Surround each with your healing and your peace. Lord, in your mercy,
People ***Hear our prayer.***

Leader God of hope, you prepare a place for us in your eternal home. We remember before you those who have died, confident that they now rest in your embrace especially **Stephen Elkins**. We remember the altar flowers are given to your glory, O God, in remembrance of **James and Alexander Connor** by **Sylvia Connor**. Lord, in your mercy,
People ***Hear our prayer.***

Celebrant Loving God, you call us into your abundant life and promise that there is plenty good room for all your children. Hear our prayers and accept the offerings of our hearts, through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

The Confession and Absolution
Celebrant Let us confess our sins to God.

Minister and People

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.

Celebrant May Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of 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.**

The Offertory Anthem *Gather 'Round the Table of the Lord* *Mary Kay Beall*

The Offertory Prayer, *at 5pm and 9:30am then, all standing in body or spirit.*
Celebrant Receive, O God, these fruits of the earth and of our hands: bring to completion in them the work of your creation, so that, transformed by the Holy Spirit, they may be for us the food and drink of eternal life. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer C *The Book of Common Prayer*, page **369**

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

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People ***We lift them up to the Lord.***

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People ***It is right to give him thanks and praise.***

Celebrant God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
People ***Glory to you for ever and ever.***

Celebrant At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.
People ***By your will they were created and have their being.***

Celebrant From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill.

You made us the stewards of your creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

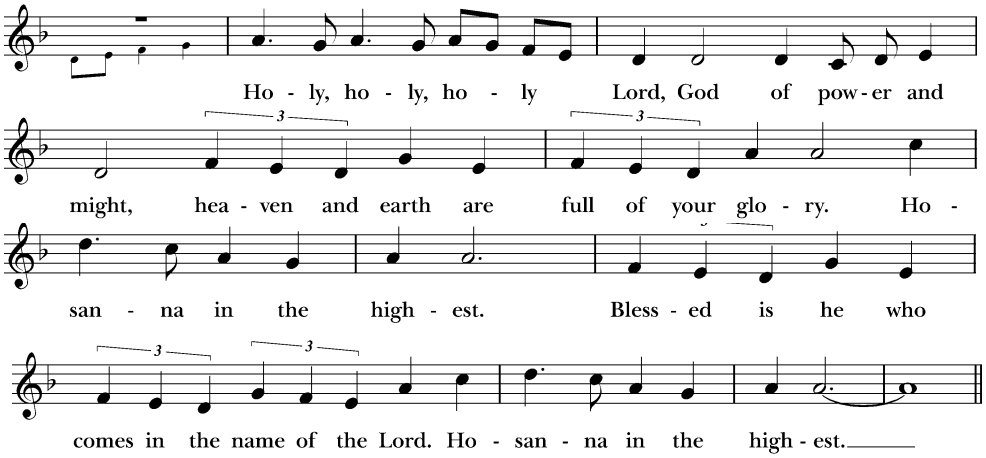
People ***Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.***

Celebrant Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages, you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, Mary, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People ***By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.***

Celebrant And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

The Sanctus *said at 5pm, sung at 9:30am.* *The Hymnal 1982,* **S-129**



And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring Before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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."

Celebrant Remembering now Jesus' work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

People ***We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.***

Celebrant Lord God of our Forebears: God of Abraham, Sarah and Hagar, Isaac and Rebecca, Jacob, Leah and Rachel. God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People ***Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.***

Celebrant Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer *The Book of Common Prayer*, page **364**

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

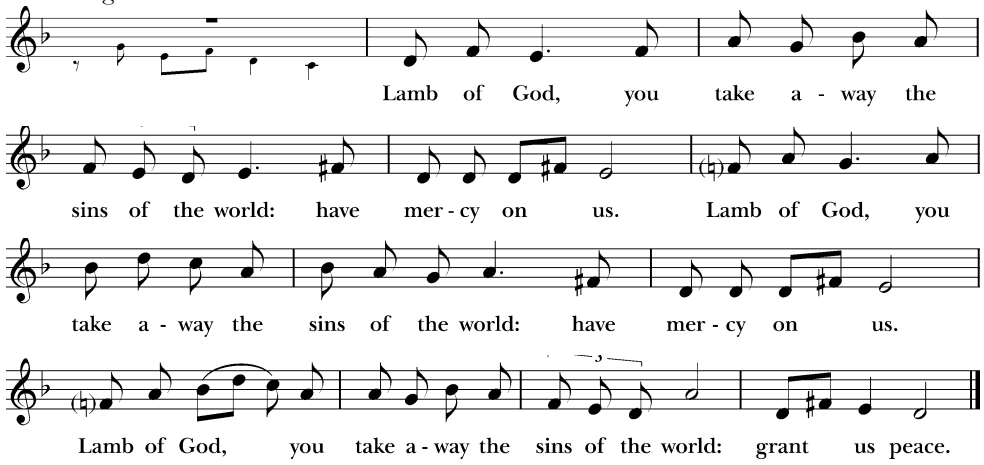
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,

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 *said at 5pm*

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

The Fraction Anthem *sung at 9:30am.* *The Hymnal 1982,* **S-163**

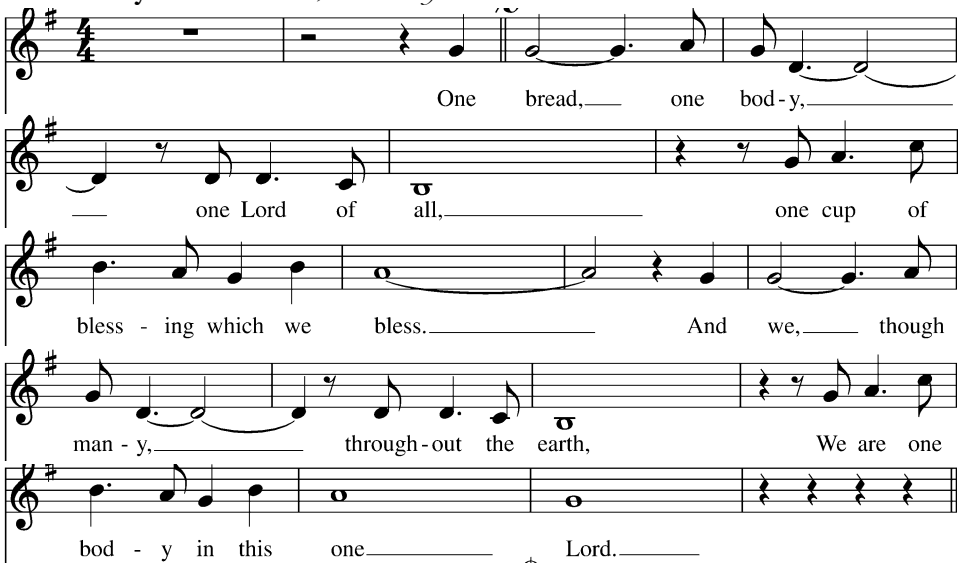


Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All who seek God and are drawn to Christ, are welcome at the Lord's table.

If you would rather receive a blessing rather than receiving Holy Communion, simply cross your arms. If you do not wish to receive the wine, please cross your arms when the minister comes to you following the bread and wait for the words "The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation."
If you are not able to join us at the communion rail, please indicate to an usher you would like to receive, and we will bring communion to you.
Gluten-free wafers are available. Please dispose of your communion cup as you exit, near the first pews on the piano side or in the chapel.

The Communion Hymn *One Bread, One Body* *LEVAS* **151**



Refrain ***One bread, one body, one Lord of all,***
one cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many, throughout the earth,
We are one body in this one Lord.

1 Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more.
One Lord. ***Refrain***

2 Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all.
One Lord. ***Refrain***

3 Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one for all.
One Lord. ***Refrain***

The Postcommunion Prayer

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 Blessing

Welcome, Announcements, Birthdays, and Anniversaries

The Recessional *Ye servants of God* *The Hymnal 1982*, **535**

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Postlude *Gavotte* *Matthew Camidge*

Liturgical Note: Introduction to the readings come from Frederick Borsch's "Introducing the Lessons of the Church Year, 3rd Edition" Morehouse 2009.

Announcements



Mark your calendars:

Christmas on the Run – November 14-December 12
Thanksgiving – November 26 (Office closed Friday Nov. 27)
Christmas Fair – December 4 and 5

CHRISTMAS ON THE RUN: You are invited to the home of Deb and Herb Roberts on Saturdays and Sundays, between November 14th and December 12th for this year's "Christmas on the Run" Open House, a benefit for the American Legion, and St. John's Church. The address is 14 Yearling Run Road, Bourne. Hours are 12pm-5pm. Suggested donation is $10.

FOOD DRIVE: Please consider making a donation to the Massachusetts Military Foundation's food drive. The donation box is located in the Narthex. If you have questions about this program, please see Ashton Bradford.

OUTREACH QUESTIONNAIRE: The Outreach Committee met on Sunday to choose a couple of potential projects. We came up with two programs to explore: A Giving Tree for Christmas and the Senior Center's Friendly Visitor Program. Stay tuned for more details and a publication of the Questionnaire Results. If you have any questions, talk with Rev Barbara, Bill Mills, Deacon Cathy, Colleen Portbriand or Joyce Newcomb..

OPEN PRAYER: Wednesdays from 12-1pm in the church.

CHRISTMAS FAIR RAFFLE BASKETS: Check the display in the Narthex for needed raffle basket items. Or you might like to suggest items for a themed basket. In either case, for questions call Mary Ames, 508-367-3658. The Christmas Fair is 4 weeks away! Deadline for donations is November 29th.

CHRISTMAS FAIR BAKE SALE: Bakers needed! Melissa Abbott reminds you that baked goods can be frozen ahead of time for the Fair. Let's get a head start on stocking up for the bake sale. Donations can be delivered to the office during business hours.

GENTLY USED CHRISTMAS: Now is the time to bring in your gently used Christmas items for the Christmas Fair.

It's only a month away! Leave them in the Narthex (clearly marked) or deliver them to the office during business hours. The Christmas Fair committee thanks you.

CARING FOR CREATION COMMITTEE: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86013659293. Join us on Fridays at 10am via Zoom. Ask Steve Tom or Fr. Al for details.

CHOIR REHEARSAL: Rehearsals take place in the Church or Parish Hall on Wednesdays from 2-4pm. Please join us in this joyful ministry. You do not need to be able to read music to join us.

THANK YOU: Deb Roberts and Wendy Nevins have added their time and talents to this ministry.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS CREW: We are blessed to have 2steadfast volunteers who maintain our buildings and grounds. This ministry could use a few additional volunteers to help share the weekly cleaning and maintenance of our facilities. No experience is necessary and we appreciate whatever time you can offer. Please prayerfully consider how you might offer your time and talents to this ministry. Contact Fr. Al, Alan Carlson, or call the office during business hours.

COFFEE MUGS: St. John's Coffee mugs are now available for purchase at $9.50. See the office if you are interested

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November 14-21, 2026

Saturday, November 14
9:30am AA, Parish Hall
5pm Worship Service with Holy Eucharist
Second Saturday Social, Parish Hall

Sunday, November 15
9:30am Worship Service with Holy Eucharist with Sunday School
10:15am Coffee Hour, Parish Hall

Monday, November 16
10am Al-Anon, Parish Hall
4:30-5:30pm, Lasit Theater Group, Parish Hall

Tuesday, November 17
12noon AA, Parish Hall

Wednesday, November 18
12noon Open Prayer
2pm Choir Rehearsal, Church

Thursday, November 19
12noon AA, Parish Hall
4:30-7pm Lasit Theatre Group, Church
6pm AA, Undercroft

Friday, November 20
10am Caring for Creation Zoom link
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86013659293

Saturday, November 21
9:30am AA, Parish Hall
5pm Worship Service with Holy Eucharist and Second Saturday Social

Serving This Weekend

Celebrants: The Reverend Barbara A. Peterson (Saturday)
The Reverend Alan R. Hesse (Sunday)
Director of Music: Misao Koyama
Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Lillian Woo and Deacon Cathy Harper
Lectors: Mary Ames and Eileen Donaruma
Acolyte: Will Hibbard, Jr.
Altar Guild: Jann Czarnetzki, Phyllis Helfrich, Bev Messersmith, Anne Miller, and Teddy Hibbard
Ushers: Alan Carlson, Mary Howe and Judy Cohen
Hospitality: Becky Coleman