



# CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

## Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 8, 2022



200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

[www.christchurchbluefield.org](http://www.christchurchbluefield.org)

## Prelude

### The Processional Hymn

*Welcome, happy morning!*

**H179**

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

*People* The Lord is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

### 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.*

### Hymn of Praise

*Glorious thing of thee are spoken*

**H522**

### The Collect for the Day

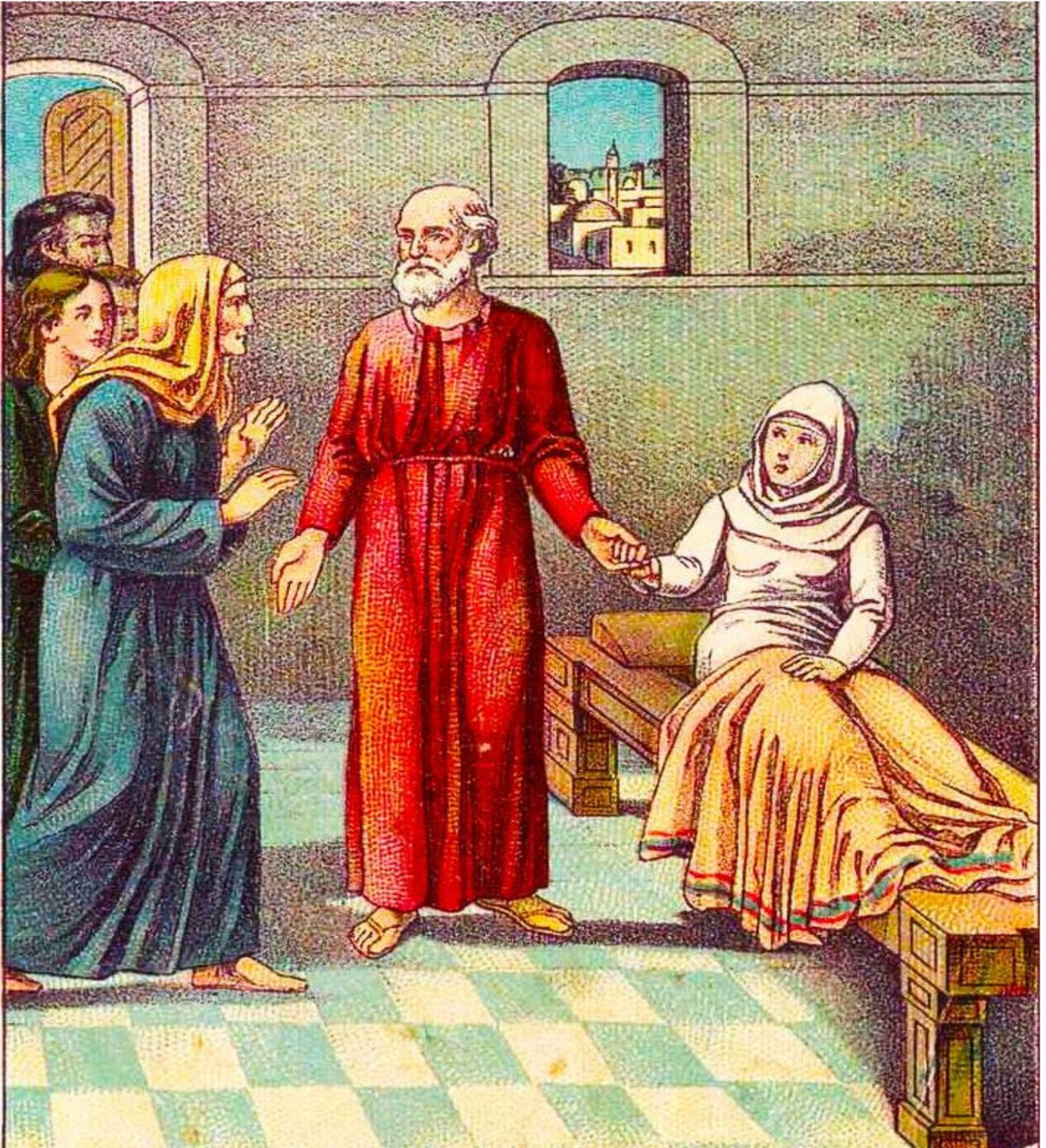
O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### The First Lesson

*Acts 9:36-43*

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known

throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.



*Lector*  
*People*

The Word of the Lord.  
Thank be to God!

## The Psalm

Psalm 23:1-6

*Dominus regit me*

*The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse*

1. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.
2. He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.
3. He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
4. Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
5. You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
6. Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

## The Second Lesson

*Revelation 7:9-17*



I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom  
and thanksgiving and honor  
and power and might  
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God,  
and worship him day and night within his temple,  
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;  
the sun will not strike them,  
nor any scorching heat;

for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,  
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,  
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        Thank be to God!

Sequence Hymn

*The King of love my shepherd is*

**H645**



## The Gospel Lesson

John 10:22-30

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

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What



my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## The Sermon

The Rev. Russ Hatfield

## The Nicene Creed

*All stand as they are able*

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**

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for Mike and Matthew, our Bishops, for Lou our priest, and for all  
bishops, priests, and deacons;  
*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest;  
*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

In our Diocesan Cycle of prayer, we pray for the Lawrenceville Parish,  
Wheeling

In our Anglican Cycle of prayer, we pray for the Church in Rwanda

We pray for all who are on our parish prayer list, and for any others that we  
might now name, either silently or aloud

*Pause*

We pray for all who have died, especially our loved ones who have gone before  
us, and for any others that we might now name, either silently or aloud

*Pause*

We give thanks for all of the blessings of this life, for our family, friends and loved ones, and for any other thanksgivings we might now name, either silently or aloud.

*Pause*

Let us join together in the Prayer for the Transition

Dear God, we ask for mercy and grace in this journey. We commit to the process of finding a new rector for our parish, and that it will be in your name and to your glory. We ask for insight and self-reflection, that we may know our needs and properly envision a future together, uplifting all and seeing the incredible ministries that you will share with us. We pray for the members of the Search Committee, the Vestry, and our Interim Rector, as well as our bishops and their staff, that all may be blessed and guided in this search process. Open our eyes and our hearts to all possibilities and lead us with your wisdom. May your glory shine through us in this mission we are undertaking. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

*The Celebrant concludes the prayers*

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*The Confession of Sin may be omitted during the Season of Easter*

## **The Peace**

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

*People*        And also with you.



## The Holy Eucharist

### Offertory

*After the Offertory piece has been played the People stand and sing to the familiar tune of the "Old 100"*

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.



### Eucharistic Prayer B

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.

*The Celebrant continues*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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*

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.

*The people remain standing as able in solidarity with the risen Christ*

*Then 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.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

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,

*Celebrant and People*

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,

*People and Celebrant*

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

*The Celebrant then breaks the Consecrated Bread*

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

*The Celebrant then presents the Sacrament to the People*

The Gifts of God, for the People of God.

### The Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

### The Distribution of the Holy Sacrament

All baptized Christians, regardless of age or denomination, are invited and encouraged to receive the sacrament. Everyone, regardless of faith, is welcome to receive a blessing— simply cross your arms in front of you approach the priest. Each row, beginning in the front, should come up to the chancel step to receive the Blessed Bread. The Chalice cannot be offered at this time by direction of the Bishop of West Virginia. Once the priest has dropped the Blessed Bread in your hand you should return by the side aisle to your pew. Once a row has been Communed, the next is free to come to the chancel steps. Gluten free wafers are available to those who request them.

### Communion Hymns

*My Shepherd will supply my need*

**H664**

*Savior, like a shepherd lead us*

**H708**

### Our Prayer after Communion

*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 Easter Season Blessing

*The Celebrant then pronounces the following blessing over the people*

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through  
the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of God's  
blessing. Amen.

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into  
newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever.  
Amen.

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting  
freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. 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.

*People Amen!*

### Recessional Hymn

*My faith looks up to thee*

**H691**

### The Dismissal

Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!*

### Postlude

**Birthdays This Week:** Chris Justice, Parker Anderson, and Joyce Morgan

**Attendance Last Sunday:**

30

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The Altar Flowers are given today for the greater Glory of God  
by Dr. and Mrs. James Paine

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**Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers:**

Dorene Dimes, Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Bea Paine, Bob and Peggy Walk, John Kersey, Martha Linkous, Jay Kephart, Buck and Louisa Sowers, Donna Fortune, Ed and Gladys Fortune, Ivy and the Gaines Family, Chris Justice, Brian, Lane, Loraine, and Sherry.

**Participants in Today's Liturgy**

Celebrant

The Rev. Russ Hatfield

Organist & Choirmaster

Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Acolytes

Katherine Lewis

Lectors

Mike Lilly

Intercessor

Teresa Paine

Altar Guild

Betty Nash and Grey Kiser

**Calendar of Events**

Wednesday – May 11

Serving Dinner at the Union Mission 4:00pm

Sunday – May 15

Special Service in Rowley Hall 9:30am

Wednesday – May 18

Vestry Meeting 6:00pm

Thursday – May 19

Food Pantry 9:00 – 11:00 am

Wednesday – May 25

Serving Dinner at the Union Mission 3:30pm

**Announcements:**

**COFFEE HOUR IS BACK!!!** If you haven't signed up for coffee hour, consider doing so. It has been over two years since we have been able to do this ministry. The sign-up board is outside the library. The church provides coffee, cups, and plates.

Special Meeting May 15<sup>th</sup>: Please join us on Sunday, May 15 at 9:30 am in Rowley Hall for a critical event in our Rector search process, capped off by a delicious lunch catered by David Hardin. In the context of Holy Eucharist we will have a series of Spirit-led conversations about our core values, our hopes and dreams for the future, and the characteristics of the person we believe God is calling to serve as the next Rector. Your investment of time and thoughts will pay dividends for years to come! Please mark your calendar and use the sign-up sheet at church to assist us in planning for food and refreshments.

ECW at Bluefield Union Mission: The ECW will be preparing dinner for the Bluefield Union Mission on Wednesday, May 11. If you are willing to help prepare the meal or contribute to the cost of the meal, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex or contact Patty Richardson at 304-952-8502. Also, additional help will be needed to pack the dinner boxes at the Mission starting at 4:00 and finishing around 5:15. Hope you can help.

### **Clergy, Staff, and Wardens of this Parish**

The Rev. Lou Hays  
Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr.  
Ms. Emma Bennett  
Mrs. Vanessa Hall  
Mr. David Kersey  
Mr. Peter Richardson

Interim Rector  
Organist & Choirmaster  
Parish Administrator  
Sexton  
Senior Warden  
Junior Warden