

A Celebration of the Life  
of  
Marguerite P. McCartney



Sunday, June 7, 2025

Christ Episcopal Church, Valdosta Georgia

The liturgy for the dead is an Easter liturgy. It finds all meaning in the resurrection. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we too, shall be raised.

The liturgy, therefore, is characterized by joy, in the certainty that "neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian. The very love we have for each other in Christ brings deep sorrow when we are parted by death. Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend. So, while we rejoice that Marge has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.

## **The Burial of the Dead: Rite Two**

*All stand while the following anthem is said.*

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord.  
Whoever has faith in me shall have life, even though he die.  
And everyone who has life,  
and has committed himself to me in faith,  
shall not die for ever.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives  
and that at the last he will stand upon the earth.  
After my awaking, he will raise me up;  
and in my body I shall see God.  
I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him  
who is my friend and not a stranger.

For none of us has life in himself,  
and none becomes his own master when he dies.  
For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord,  
and if we die, we die in the Lord.  
So, then, whether we live or die,  
we are the Lord's possession.

Happy from now on are those who die in the Lord!  
So it is, says the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you  
**People**            **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our sister Marge. We thank you for giving her to us, her family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Celebrant may add the following prayer*

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with Marge's family and friends in their grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The people sit.*

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

Old Testament Reading

Wisdom 3:1-5,9

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself. Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

<sup>1</sup>The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup>He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:  
he leadeth me beside the still waters.

<sup>3</sup>He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the  
paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>Yea, though I walk through the valley of the  
shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou  
art with me; thy rod and thy staff they  
comfort me.

<sup>5</sup>Thou preparest a table before me in the  
presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my  
head with oil; my cup runneth over.

<sup>6</sup>Surely 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 Epistle

1 John 3:1-2

A reading from the First Letter of John

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Hymnal 671 – *Amazing Grace*

1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that  
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his  
 4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I  
 \*5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but  
 2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
 3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
 4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me  
 5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

1 now am found, was blind but now I see.  
 2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
 4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

*The melody may be sung in canon at distances of either two or three beats.*

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

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

The Gospel

John 14:1-6

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

*Deacon* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Homily – ***The Rev. Walter Hobgood***

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say,

*Celebrant and People*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## Prayers of the People

For our sister Marge, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said,  
"I am Resurrection and I am Life."

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us  
who mourn for Marge, and dry the tears of those who weep.

**Hear us, Lord.**

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in  
our sorrow.

**Hear us, Lord.**

You raised the dead to life; give to our sister eternal life.

**Hear us, Lord.**

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our  
sister to the joys of heaven.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Our sister was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit;  
give her fellowship with all your saints.

**Hear us, Lord.**

She was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant her a  
place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our sister;  
let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Celebrant*

Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our sister Marge, who was reborn by water and  
the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that her death may recall to us your victory over death,  
and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father's love. Give us, we pray, the  
faith to follow where you have led the way; and where you live and reign with the Father  
and the Holy Spirit, to the ages of ages. **Amen.**

The Peace

*Celebrant*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*

And also with you.

Offertory – *Prayer of St. Francis*

Adapted by  
Sebastian Temple

# The Prayer of St. Francis

Music by  
Sebastian Temple



1. Make me a chan-nel of Your peace. — Where there is ha-tred, let me bring Your  
2. Make me a chan-nel of Your peace. — Where there's des-pair in life, let me bring



love. — Where there is in - ju - ry, Your par - don, Lord, — And  
hope. — Where there is dark-ness — on - ly light, — And



where there's doubt, true faith in You. —  
where there's sad - ness ev - er joy. — joy. — Oh,



Mas-ter, grant that I may nev-er seek — so much to be con-soled as to con-



sole, — to be un-der-stood as to un-der - stand, — to be loved as to



love with all my soul. — 3. Make me a chan-nel of Your



peace. — It is in par-don-ing that we are par-doned, — in giv-ing to all



men that we re - ceive, — and in dy - ing that we're born to e-ter-nal life,

# The Great Thanksgiving

## Eucharistic Prayer A

*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.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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

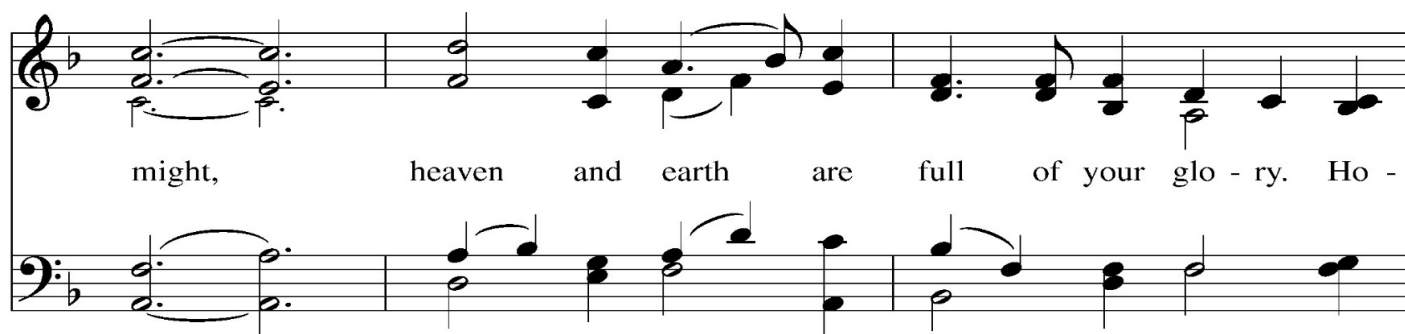
Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victorious from the dead, and comforts us with the blessed hope of everlasting life. For to your faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body lies in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens.

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:

Sanctus WLP 858 *Holy, holy, holy (Folk/Pruner) (American folk melody)*



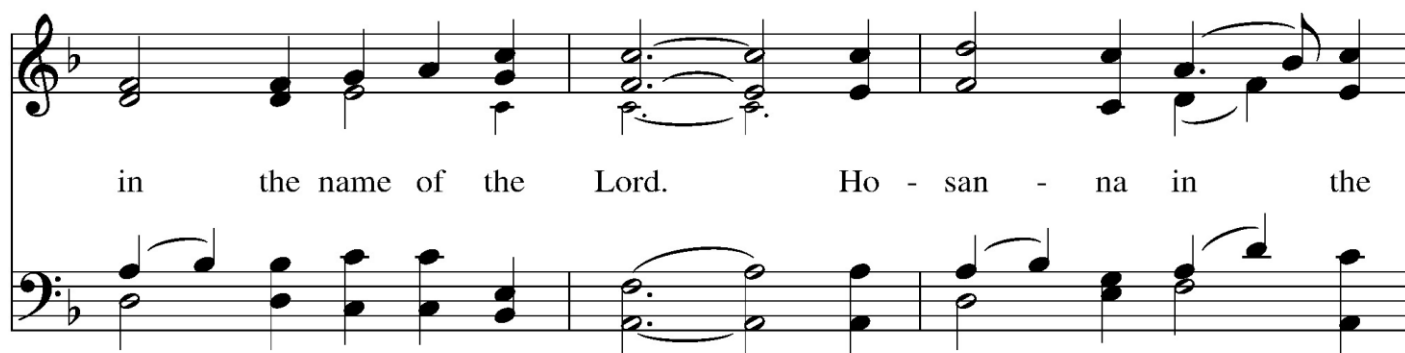
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and



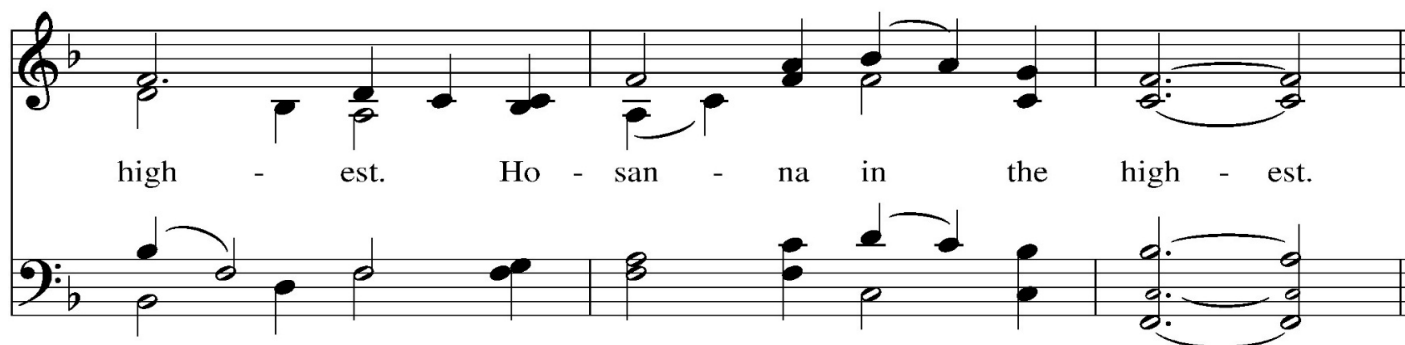
might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. \* Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the



high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*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.**

*The Celebrant continues*

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,

*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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

**CHRIST OUR PASSOVER** *beth prout* final

Al -le -lu -ia Christ our Pass-ov-er is sac-ri - ficed for - us  
There-fore let us Al - le - lu - ia - let us - keep the - feast.

**ALLELUIA**

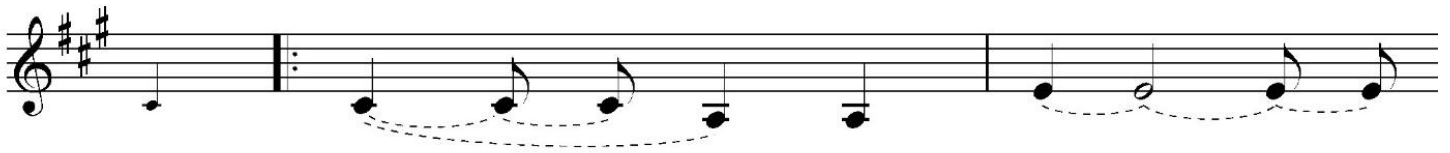
Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia

Detailed description: The image contains two staves of musical notation. The first staff is for the hymn 'CHRIST OUR PASSOVER' in 4/4 time, starting with a Dm chord and ending with a D7 chord. The lyrics are: 'Al -le -lu -ia Christ our Pass-ov-er is sac-ri - ficed for - us'. The second staff is for 'ALLELUIA' in 4/4 time, starting with a G chord and ending with a G chord. The lyrics are: 'Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia'. Chords are indicated above the notes.

*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.

Hymn during Communion -  
Hymnal 335 – *I am the Bread of Life*



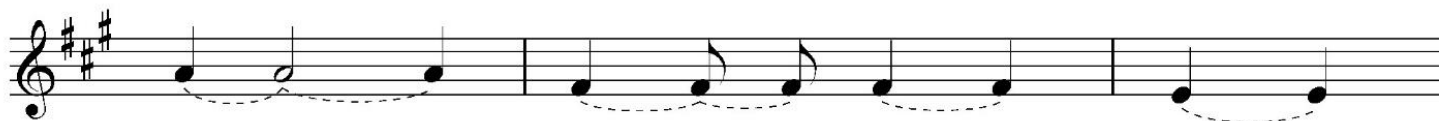
1 I am the bread of life;— they who  
2 (The) Bread that— I will give— is my  
3 (Un-) less— you eat— of the  
4 I am the re - sur - rec - tion,  
5 (Yes,) Lord, — we be - lieve— that—



1 come to me shall not— hun - ger; they who be -  
2 Flesh for the life of the world,— and they who  
3 Flesh of the Son of— Man— and—  
4 I— am the— life.— They who be -  
5 you— are the— Christ,— the—



1 lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to  
2 eat— of this bread, they shall— live for  
3 drink— of his Blood, you shall not have life with -  
4 lieve— in me, e - ven— if they  
5 Son— of God who— has



1 me— un - less the— Fa - ther draw them.  
2 ev - er.— they shall— live for ev - er.  
3 in you. you shall not have life with - in you.  
4 die,— they shall— live for ev - er.  
5 come— in - to— the— world.—

*Descant*

And I will raise them up, and I will raise them

*Refrain*

And I will raise them up, and I will raise them

up, and I will raise them up on the

up, and I will raise them up on the

last day. 5 Yes, day.

last day. 2 The 3 Un- day. 4 — 5 Yes, (2)

*Final Ending*

The descant may be sung after stanzas 4 and 5.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be

to us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our Inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

## The Commendation

### *Refrain*

“And I will raise you up on ea - gle’s wings,

bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the

sun, and hold you in the palm of my hand.”

1. You who dwell in the shel - ter of the Lord, who a -  
 2. Snares of the fowl - er will nev - er cap - ture you, and  
 3. For to the an - gels God's giv - en a com - mand to

bide in his sha - dow for life, say to the Lord: "My  
 fam - ine will bring you no fear; un - der God's wings your  
 guard you in all of your ways; up - on their hands they will

ref - uge, my rock in whom I trust!"  
 ref - uge with faith - ful - ness your shield.  
 bear you up, lest you dash your foot a - gainst a stone.

*Celebrant*

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,  
**where sorrow and pain are no more,  
neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,  
where sorrow and pain are no more,  
neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

*The Celebrant, facing the body, says*

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Marge. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

### **Dismissal**

*Deacon* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

**People Thanks be to God.**

Everyone the Father gives to me will come to me;  
I will never turn away anyone who believes in me.

He who raised Jesus Christ from the dead will also give new life to  
our mortal bodies through his indwelling Spirit.

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;  
my body also shall rest in hope.

You will show me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy,  
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

# The Committal

## The Consecration of a Grave

O God, whose blessed Son was laid in a sepulcher in the garden: Bless, we pray, this grave, and grant that she whose body is to be buried here may dwell with Christ in paradise, and may come to your heavenly kingdom; through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our sister Marge, and we commit her body to the ground; \* earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The Lord bless her and keep her, the Lord make his face to shine upon her and be gracious to her, the Lord lift up his countenance upon her and give her peace. **Amen.**

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you

**People**         **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

*Celebrant and 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.**

Rest eternal grant to her, O Lord;

And let light perpetual shine upon her.

May her soul, and the souls of all the departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

*Celebrant*        Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**People**         **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*Celebrant*        Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

**People**         **Thanks be to God.**

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Celebrant & Homilist:*      *The Reverend Walter Hobgood*

*Deacon:*                      *The Reverend Deacon Stella Clark*

*Vergers:*                      *Nancy Lutsko*

*Crucifer:*                      *Phyllis Holland*

*Lectors:*                      *Katherine Mayer*  
   *Sharon McCartney*

*Eucharistic Ministers:*      *Stefani Carroll*  
   *Eric Nielsen*

*Organist:*                      *Chris Rutland*

*Ushers:*                      *Tom Carroll*  
   *Mike Tanner*