

Holy Eucharist: Contemplative
Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025 - 5:00 p.m.

A Letter for the Season of Advent

As we begin, once again, a new Church year, during the season of *Advent*—a time of longing, reflection, and hopeful waiting we are invited to pause amid the rush of December and listen for the quiet footsteps of God drawing near. The word itself means “coming,” and throughout these four weeks, we prepare not only to celebrate Christ’s birth in Bethlehem but also to welcome His presence among us now and His promised return in glory.

Advent is a season of **light growing in the midst of darkness**, a time when candles and prayers together remind us that the world’s true hope does not come from our own efforts but from the faithfulness of God. Each Sunday deepens this hope and moves us closer to Christmas.

On the **First Sunday of Advent**, we hear Jesus’ call to *watch and stay awake* (Matt. 24:36–44). The Church year begins not in a manger but with a reminder of Christ’s final coming—a call to vigilance and trust. The message is clear: history has meaning because God is not finished with the world.

The **Second Sunday** brings us the voice of *John the Baptist* crying in the wilderness, “Prepare the way of the Lord” (Matt. 3:1–12). His urgent words invite us to repentance and renewal, to clear away the clutter in our hearts so there is room for the Christ who comes.

On the **Third Sunday**, known as *Gaudete Sunday*, the tone brightens as we hear John’s question from prison: “Are you the one who is to come?” (Matt. 11:2–11). Even in doubt, joy breaks through. The pink candle on the Advent wreath glows as a sign that God’s promises are already unfolding in our midst.

Finally, the **Fourth Sunday** turns our gaze toward *Joseph*, who dreams of angels and learns to trust God’s plan (Matt. 1:18–25). His quiet obedience mirrors the deep peace that comes from faith. As Mary and Joseph await the child, so too do we wait—with love, humility, and readiness for Emmanuel, “God with us.”

Through these four Sundays, we trace the path of hope, preparation, joy, and love—the true gifts of Advent. I encourage you to keep this season prayerfully: light your candles, read Scripture, attend worship, and let this time shape your heart for the coming of Christ.

May this Advent be for us all a holy journey from darkness to light, from waiting to wonder, from promise to fulfillment.

Grace and peace,



Fr. Andreis +
Vice-Rector

*Welcome to Christ Church Ponte Vedra Beach! We are delighted to have you worship with us.
In order to prepare for this service, we ask that you silence your phone. Thank you!*

THE WORD OF GOD

Silence for Prayer

This contemplative service is preceded by a period of silence at 4:50 p.m.

Prelude

Intrumental music

Please stand at the sound of the bell.

Advent Wreath Lighting (The Candle of Joy)

Reader The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

People **Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them, light has shined.**

Reader Week by week, the light grows stronger and brighter, as we anticipate the
coming Christ. The candles of Hope and Preparation are already ablaze.

People **Today, we light the candle of Joy.**

The third candle on the Advent Wreath is lit.

Reader The promise of healing, comfort, liberty, and freedom is good news that is
meant to be shared. Rejoicing in the mercy and justice of our Lord.

People **Together, we lift our hearts and voices in songs of joy.**

First Hymn

On Jordan's Bank

On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings of the King of kings.

Then, cleansed be every breast from sin;
Make straight the way for God within,
And let each heart prepare a home
Where such a mighty guest may come.

For thou art our salvation, Lord,
Our refuge, and our great reward;
Without thy grace, we waste away,
Like flowers that wither and decay.

To heal the sick, stretch out thine hand,
And bid the fallen sinner stand; shine forth,
And let thy light restore earth's
Own true loveliness, once more.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
Whose advent doth thy people free;
Whom, with the Father, we adore,
And Holy Spirit, evermore.

Prayer for the Evening

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

God of all hope and joy, open our hearts in welcome, that your Son Jesus Christ at his coming may find in us a dwelling prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Gospel

Leader A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew

11:2-11

People Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, hosanna in the highest!

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

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’

“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

Leader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People Thanks be to God.

One minute of silence follows.

Reflection

The Reverend Deacon Leila Quinlan

A reflection is essentially based on a personal experience and is a great way to share what God is doing in our lives. When we listen to what God is doing in our brothers' and sisters' lives, we are likely to grow in greater awareness of how God works in our own lives.

One minute of silence follows.

Music for Meditation

You may stand or kneel.

The Prayers of the People

Leader Be born again, O Christ, that the busy world may pause to behold the beauty of your face, and that we may come again to you, in adoration and joy.

With love and compassion

People **Come Lord Jesus**

Come to your world as King of the nations. We pray for those in authority in the nations of the world. For a recognition of our common humanity and for those who serve our Country.

With love and compassion

Come Lord Jesus

Come to the suffering as Savior and comforter, especially remembering,

People may add their own prayers either silently or aloud.

Break into our lives, where we struggle with sickness and distress, and set us free to serve you for ever.

With love and compassion

Come Lord Jesus

Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls. Give us with all the faithful departed a share in your victory over evil and death.

With love and compassion

Come Lord Jesus

Come from heaven, Lord Jesus, with power and great glory. Lift us up to meet you, that with and all your saints and angels we may live and reign with you in your new creation.

With love and compassion

Come Lord Jesus

Leader Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay; give new courage to your people, who trust in your love. By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom on earth as in heaven, where you live and reign with the Father and the Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Candlelighting

We continue our prayers through the lighting of the votive candles as a symbol of our love and concern for others. During the instrumental music, you are welcome to light a single candle as a symbol of your prayers.

Candles are located at the front of the main aisle to the left and right.

Please stand.

The Peace

Celebrant Jesus says: My Peace I give to you. Do not be afraid. I call you my friend. Abide in my love. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Please be seated.

Welcome and Announcements

*To make an offering online visit
ccpvb.org/give or scan this code.
Thank you for your support.*



THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory

Even So Come

Chris Tomlin

Please stand.

Eucharistic Prayer

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

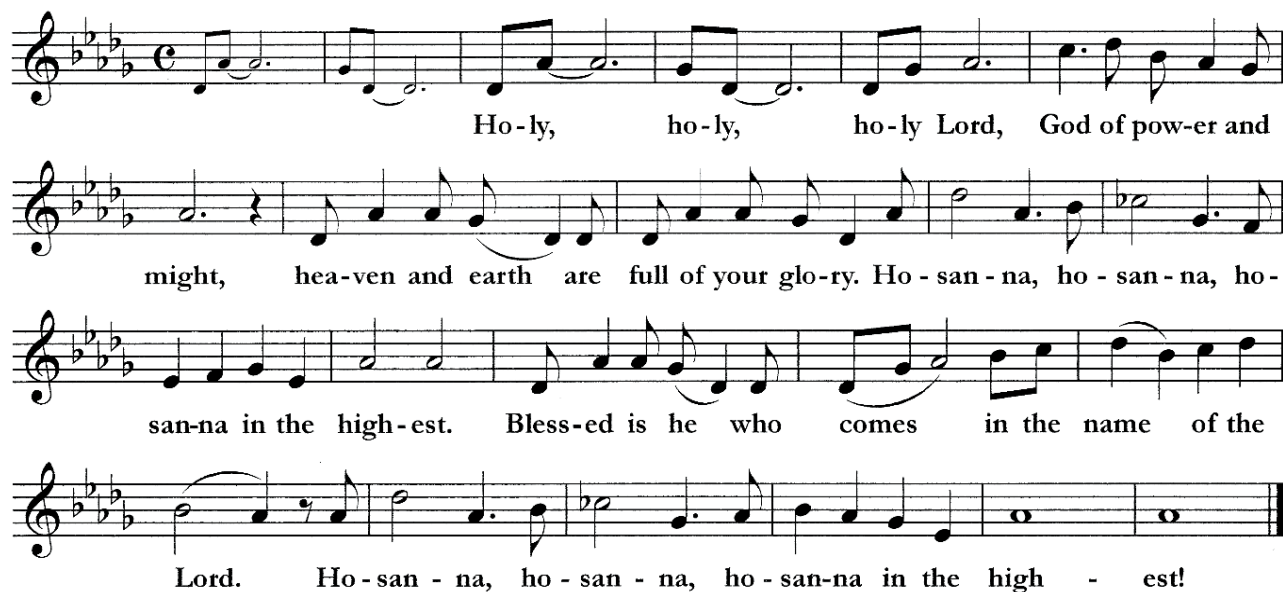
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant continues

It is our joy and delight to give you thanks and praise, Emmanuel, God with us. We give you thanks and praise for your hallowing of human flesh. We rejoice at your light that shines out of darkness and enlightens all who seek you. We praise you that you brought forth new life in the family of Mary and Joseph as you do today from all who faithfully await the fulfillment of your word.

So with the angels who sing “Glory” and with all the saints and ancestors who have known you to be with us, we sing together:



Celebrant continues

We bless you for Jesus, born of the Spirit's love and a woman's body and blood. We bless you for Jesus who shows us how to live the fullness of our humanity and thus become one with you.

We remember Jesus who, on the night before he died, shared a meal with his friends. He took bread, blessed it and broke it and gave it to them saying: "Take and eat. This is my own body given for you. Do this to remember me." After supper he took a cup of wine, gave thanks and gave it to them saying: "This is my life-blood given for you. Do this to remember me."

So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All together

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Celebrant continues

O God who is known to us in human flesh, send your Holy Spirit on us and on these material things of bread and wine, that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ, and we may be the body of Christ, food and life for the world. We ask these things through Christ, with whom and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit be glory now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Cantor As our Sa - vior Christ has taught us we now pray,

All Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,
 your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.
 Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins
 as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al,
 and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours,
 now and for - ev - er. A - men.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.
People God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.

Lamb of God

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, Re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world, do - na no - bis

pa - cem, do - na no - bis pa - cem, do - na no - bis pa - cem.

Celebrant continues

This is the table of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little; you who have been here often and you who have not been here long; you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is the Lord who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

Please be seated.

Distribution of Communion

Please join us at God's table.

All people, including children, are invited to receive Communion. Gluten-free wafers are also available. If you would prefer not to take Communion but would like a blessing, please fold your arms across your chest.

Communion Music

One Bread, One Body

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.

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

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

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

Two minutes of silence follow.

After Communion Music *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

Vs. 5, 6 & Refrain

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.

Refrain Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us, by thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*

After Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Loving God, we give you thanks that in the sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood, you awaken us to your indwelling Presence and our true life. Help us to recognize and honor your Presence in one another, to treat each other with reverence and humility, and to become, more and more, the people we already are in you. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant Bless us, O God the Father, who hast created us,
Bless us, O God the Son, who hast redeemed us,
Bless us, O God the Holy Ghost, who sanctifieth us.
O Blessed Trinity, keep us in body, soul, and spirit unto everlasting life. **Amen.**

Music for Meditation

Please stand.

Dismissal

Leader May God, who is present in sunrise and nightfall, and in the crossing of the sea,
guide your feet as you go.
May God, who is with you when you sit and when you stand,
encompass you with love and lead you by the hand.
May God, who knows your path and the places where you rest,
be with you in your waiting, be your good news for sharing,
and lead you in the way that is everlasting.

All Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Intrumental Music

Feel free to depart during the postlude.

Music by Rachel Kamps

TODAY, Sunday December 14

Youth Mission Trip to Bolivia - Info Meeting

Today, Sunday, December 14 at 12:30pm

Come join our Director of Youth Ministries, Parker Wheeler, for an informational session about next summer's mission trip.

Grab a Bag Sunday-Advent!

For the Advent season, we're turning our monthly food drive into a weekly food drive. Help stock the shelves of BEAM and St Mary's food pantries by picking up a shopping bag and list after worship, and bring your donations to the M25 Room.

A delicious **Sunday Breakfast** will be served in the dining room from 8:15am - 10:45am. \$10/adult, \$7/children under 8; \$34 family max.

Nursery Care - Available from 8:45 am to 12:30 pm, for children ages four months to 5.

Children's Chapel -9:15 am - Hospitality Lobby

Voices of Advent: The Bible's Insights for a Season of Hope (100) Sundays (Dec14, 21) 10:15-11:00 am in Room 106

This clergy-led Bible study will explore Biblical texts to examine how they shape our lives and Christmas celebrations.

Gabe Bove Bible Study (100)

10:15 – 11:00 am in F209

Scott Burch Bible Study (200): Excavating the Bible; 10:15 – 11:00 am; Room 224

Contact: scottburch@yahoo.com

Children's Formation – 10:15-11:00am

Meet downstairs in the F&A Building

Youth Forum -10:15-11:00am

SPECIAL EVENTS THIS WEEK

Blue Christmas – Wednesday, December 17 at 5:30pm – Main Sanctuary

Blue Christmas is the time when we can, with others, acknowledge any sad feelings we may have at Christmas time, the reasons for them, and offer them to God. We invite you to reflect on your feeling and we pray that you will find hope and comfort in knowing that you are not alone. Contact Deacon Leila at Leila@ccpvb.org for more information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Children's Christmas Pageant There is still space in the 6:00pm children's pageant on Christmas Eve! Please contact Amy Schmitt at aschmitt@ccpvb.org for more information.

Christ Church Preschool's enrollment is open year round and we are taking inquiries for the 2026-2027 school year. Contact Head of School, Christy Maurer, at cmaurer@preschoolcec.org

Spaces are available for our next pilgrimage to the **Camino de Santiago**, taking place from

April 19 - May 2, 2026 AND on our **Grace and Gardens** trip to England from September 13-25, 2026. Please contact Deacon Leila Quinlan at Leila@ccpvb.org for more information about the Camino and Rev. Amy Slater at aslater@ccpvb.org for England.

Our **Flower Ministry** is looking for medium size clear vases. If you have received flowers or have vases that you are not using, please bring them to the front office. If you have received flowers and are unable to return the vase, please call the front office and let us know. We will stop by and pick them up. Questions, please reach out to Julie McAvity flowers@ccpvb.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

January 17, 2026 – Long Haul Love Encore Concert with Rachel & Friends
10:00am - Contemporary Worship Space

Christ Church Women's Retreat 2026
Friday, January 30 - Sunday, February 1
Don't miss the 2026 Women's Retreat! Our theme is *Prayers of the People*, and our speaker, the Rev Dr Linda Privatera, will lead us through a deep exploration of the ways and the reasons we pray. Make plans to join us at Epworth By the Sea for this time of fellowship, rest, and inspiration! Scan the code to register, or drop by the front office for a brochure. For questions, contact Deacon Leila or Mother Laura.



Cursillo Coed Weekend 2/27-3/1 2026

Cursillo is an adult spiritual renewal ministry and community of the Episcopal Church, which begins with a three-day retreat of learning, sharing, and living together in Christina community. This weekend features separate men's and women's sleeping cabins, meals, and discussion groups, while lectures and services in the Chapel will be held jointly. Registration is required.

There will be separate Men's and Women's Cursillo Weekends in the Fall of 2026.

Dates will be announced later next year. For more information see diocesefl.org/cursillo or contact Ron Kessner at cursilloccpvb@gmail.com

General Warning - Phishing & Other Scams

Please note that all of our clergy and some of our lay staff continue to be victims of phishing attempts and other online scams. There is nothing that we can do to stop these attacks apart from warning you about them. Please note on the church website (www.ccpvb.org) the real and valid email addresses of our clergy and staff. Phishing attacks work by taking our valid email addresses and changing them just a little bit. The scammers then impersonate the clergy or staff, using these faked email addresses, sending emails to you (yes, they have your email address as well), asking for money or gift cards. **Please do not fall for this scam.** No one from this church will ever ask you for gift cards. And please pray for the scammers, that they may repent from their thieving ways, and give their life to Jesus!

Christmas Worship Schedule

Blue Christmas - December 17 at 5:30pm.

A service of remembrance and comfort for prayers, and healing. Contemporary Worship Space.

December 24 – Christmas Eve

2:00 p.m. Main Sanctuary Traditional Rite II Holy Eucharist & Pageant

3:00 p.m. Vicars Landing

Traditional Rite II Holy Eucharist

4:00 p.m. Main Sanctuary

Traditional Rite II Holy Eucharist

***4:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship Space**

Contemporary Christmas Eve Candlelight service with the Jordan band.

***6:00 p.m. Main Sanctuary Traditional Rite**

II Christmas Eve with Pageant and Candle lighting

6:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship Space

Misa en Español. Spanish language Eucharist.

8:00 p.m. Main Sanctuary Traditional Rite II

Christmas Eve Candlelight Holy Eucharist

10:00 p.m. Main Sanctuary Traditional Rite

II Christmas Eve with incense.

Note: Those with sensitivities or respiratory issues may wish to consider attending a different service.

December 25 – Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. Main Sanctuary Christmas Morning Eucharist with hymns

First Sunday After Christmas

Sunday, December 28

***9:00 a.m. Main Sanctuary**

Traditional Rite II Holy Eucharist

11:15 a.m. Main Sanctuary

Christmas Festival of Lessons & Carols

Nursery care will be available on Christmas Eve for the 2, 4 & 6 p.m. services. No registration is required.

*These services will be live streamed on our YouTube channel.

MINISTRY CONTACTS

Caring Connections Director

Liz McCarthy / Lmccarthy@ccpvb.org
904-285-6127, ext. 235

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Newcomers + Spirituality

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wwbillingslea@gmail.com

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Christy Maurer / cmaurer@preschoolcec.org
904-285-6371, ext. 243

Recovery

The Rev. Deacon Priscilla Wodehouse /
pdwodehouse@icloud.com

Worship

The Rev. Andreis Diaz / adiaz@ccpvb.org
904-285-6127, ext. 226

Youth

Parker Wheeler / CECYouth@ccpvb.org

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

Year-End Contribution Checklist

To ensure the deductibility of your Church contributions, do not file your 2025 income tax return until you have received a written acknowledgement of your contributions. Some of your contributions may not be tax deductible if you file your tax return before receiving a written acknowledgment of your contributions from the Church.

Type of contribution	Report for 2025	Report for 2026
* Checks written in Dec 2025 and deposited in church offering in Jan 2026.		X
* Checks written and deposited in church offering in Jan 2026 but "backdated" to Dec 2025.		X
* Checks written and deposited in church offering in Dec 2025 but "postdated" to Jan 2026.		X
* Checks written in Dec 2025 and deposited in the mail and postmarked in Dec 2025 but not received by the Church until Jan 2026.	X	
* Checks written in Dec 2025 deposited in the mail in Dec 2025 but not postmarked until Jan 2026 and not received by the Church until Jan 2026.		X
Your 2025 tax receipt will be available by January 31, 2026. The Church cannot assign "value" to any non-cash donations, including donated stocks. Please consult your broker or tax adviser for the value of donated stock.		

STOCK DONATION INSTRUCTIONS - Christ Church receives its stock donations at Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Please deliver all OTC-Eligible Securities to Charles Schwab. All deliveries MUST include client name (Christ Episcopal Church) and Schwab account #8572-5407. Delivery to: DTC Clearing 0164, Code 40, Account #8572-5407, Christ Episcopal Church of Ponte Vedra Beach. Please notify Ronda Toonk, CFO, rondatoonk@ccpvb.org or 904-285-7390 x 232 with details of your donation. This will ensure that the donation is received and sold promptly and that your donation is recorded on your contribution statement correctly. Thank you for your continued support.





Worship Services

7:30 a.m.	Church Sanctuary	Holy Eucharist, Rite I
9:00 a.m.	Church Sanctuary	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
9:00 a.m.	Cooper Chapel	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
9:00 a.m.	Parish Center, 2nd floor	Jordan Service
9:00 a.m.	NSIA Community Center	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
11:15 a.m.	Church Sanctuary	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
11:15 a.m.	Parish Center, 2nd floor	Jordan Service
12:45 p.m.	Cooper Chapel	Spanish-language Service
5:00 p.m.	Church Sanctuary	Contemplative Service
5:30 p.m. (Wed)	Cooper Chapel	Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Vestry

Jack Parker, Sr. Warden	Heather Fouts, Jr. Warden	Janet Burnside, Treasurer
Kathy Blackman	Chris Brownlee	Jim Evanger
David Gagnon	Katharine Loeb	Doug Long
Justin Udelhofen	Wendy Waller	Trey Wilson
		Gretna Zerebny

Staff Clergy

The Rev. Thomas P. Reeder, Rector

The Rev. Andreis Diaz, Vice Rector

The Rev. Amy Slater, Sr. Associate Rector The Rev. Laura Magevney, Associate Rector

The Rev. Wendy Billingslea, Chaplain

The Rev. Sandy Tull, Vicar for Christ Church Among the Oaks

Deacons

The Rev. Deacon Leila Quinlan

The Rev. Deacon Priscilla Wodehouse

The Rev. Deacon Marsha Holmes

Adjunct Clergy

The Rev. Dr. Jim Cooper, Rector Emeritus

The Rev. Michael Ellis

The Rev. Keith Oglesby

The Rev. Eric Kahl

The Rev. Bob Morris

The Rev. Burt Shepherd

The Rev. Rich Roos

The Rev. Joan Bryan, Emeritus

The Rev. Deacon Jo Hoskins, Deacon Emeritus



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