



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH  
IN THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

# THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Holy Eucharist Rite II – 9:30 a.m.**

September 27, 2026

## **SUNDAY SERVICES**

8:00 a.m. — Holy Eucharist, Rite I

9:30 a.m. — Holy Eucharist, Rite II

11:15 a.m. — Holy Eucharist, Rite I

*Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent, for this is the house of God.  
Before the service speak to the Lord; during the service let the Lord speak to you;  
after the service speak to one another.*



# THE RECTOR'S WELCOME

Happy new academic year!

Here we go again! The summer has flown by, the children are back in school, the halls and classrooms are buzzing, and the life of this wonderful parish is once again in full swing. Our Choir is back from its summer respite, and we are ready for another year of proclaiming the Gospel and making Jesus Christ known, worshipped, and adored here in Tampa!

Children's Chapel is back on Sunday mornings during the 9:30 a.m. Mass, and we are looking forward to another fantastic year of growing together in faith. We also have some wonderful once-per-month Wednesday evening activities planned for our whole community. I have a feeling this may be one of the most fun years we have ever had at St. John's! Sunday School is available for all adults and school-aged children between the 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. Masses. We ask that children attending the 9:30 a.m. Mass receive Holy Communion before heading to Sunday School.

There is always a place for you here at St. John's. Whether you have been coming for years or this is your very first visit, we want you to know how grateful we are to have you here. We especially love welcoming visitors and new members into the life of this parish. If you are looking for a church home, look no further—you have found it! Please stop by the welcome table in the courtyard and introduce yourself. We would love the opportunity to meet you, get to know you, and welcome you into the Saint John's family.

We pray that everyone who comes through these doors encounters not only a friendly face, but the love of Christ. It is our hope and our calling to be a blessing to all who worship, learn, serve, and fellowship here. May the Holy Spirit continue to guide us as we welcome one another and invite others into the joy of life in Christ.

Above all, we must always remember where the glory belongs. This is God's church, and all that we do is ultimately for His glory. So, as we begin another academic year, let us do so with grateful hearts, joyful spirits, and great expectation for what God has in store for St. John's.

Thanks be to God, and God bless us all!

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "The Rev. Christian M. Wood". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. To the right of the signature is a vertical yellow line.

The Rev. Christian M. Wood  
*Rector*

# Felix Mendelssohn

*St. Magnus*

*Celebrant*



Bless - ed be God: Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit.

*People*

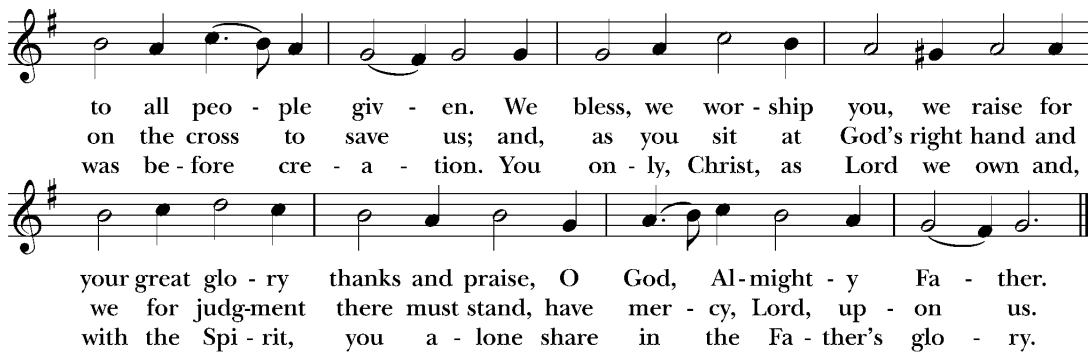
And bless - ed be his king - dom, now and for ev - er. A - men.

*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.**

*Allein Gott in der Hoh*

1 All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace on earth from  
 2 O Lamb of God, Lord Je - sus Christ, whom God the Fa - ther  
 3 You on - ly are the Ho - ly One, who came for our sal -  
 hea - ven, and God's good will un - fail - ing - ly be  
 gave us, who for the world was sac - ri - ficed up -  
 va - tion, and on - ly you are God's true Son, who



to all peo - ple giv - en. We bless, we wor - ship you, we raise for  
on the cross to save us; and, as you sit at God's right hand and  
was be - fore cre - a - tion. You on - ly, Christ, as Lord we own and,  
your great glo - ry thanks and praise, O God, Al-might - y Fa - ther.  
we for judg-ment there must stand, have mer - cy, Lord, up - on us.  
with the Spi - rit, you a - lone share in the Fa - ther's glo - ry.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The people sit*

## THE LESSON

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

*Lector* A Reading from the Book of Prophet Ezekiel.

The word of the Lord came to me again: "What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sins shall die. "Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? When a righteous man turns away from his righteousness and commits iniquity, he shall die for it; for the iniquity which he has committed he shall die. Again, when a wicked man turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is lawful and right, he shall save his life. Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions which he had committed, he shall surely live, he shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that

are not just? “Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of any one, says the Lord God; so turn, and live.”

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL** Psalm 25:1-8 *Sung by the choir*

Henry Stonex

*UNTO thee, O LORD, will I lift up my soul; my God, I have put my trust in thee:*

*O let me not be confounded, neither let mine enemies triumph over me.*

*For all they that hope in thee shall not be ashamed;*

*but such as transgress without a cause shall be put to confusion.*

*Show me thy ways, O LORD,*

*and teach me thy paths.*

*Lead me forth in thy truth, and learn me:*

*for thou art the God of my salvation; in thee hath been my hope all the day long.*

*Call to remembrance, O LORD, thy tender mercies,*

*and thy loving-kindnesses, which have been ever of old.*

*O remember not the sins and offences of my youth; \**

*but according to thy mercy think thou upon me, O LORD, for thy goodness.*

*Gracious and righteous is the LORD;*

*therefore, will he teach sinners in the way.*

*Them that are meek shall he guide in judgment;*

*and such as are gentle, them shall he learn his way.*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;*

*as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

**THE EPISTLE**

Philippians 2:1-13

*Lector*        A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians.

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any incentive of love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfishness or conceit, but in humility count others better than yourselves. Let each

of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for God is at work in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*All elementary-aged students will now follow the cross down the center aisle and process to  
Children's Chapel in the Parish Hall*

## SEQUENCE HYMN 574

*St. Petersburg*

## THE GOSPEL

Matthew 21:23-32

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

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

And when Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you a question; and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. The baptism of John, whence was it? From heaven or from men?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'From men,' we are afraid of the multitude; for all hold that John was a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things. "What do you think? A man had two sons; and he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' And he answered, 'I will not'; but afterward he repented and went. And he went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but did not go. Which of the two did the will of his

father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the harlots believed him; and even when you saw it, you did not afterward repent and believe him.

*Deacon*      The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*      **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **THE SERMON**

Father Christian M. Wood

*All stand*

## **THE NICENE CREED**

*Celebrant and people*

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** (*Form II*)

*The people kneel*

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean, the Presiding Bishop, and Douglas, our Bishop; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for Donald, our President; Ron, our Governor; and Jane, our Mayor; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

*Silence*

*Additional petitions may be added here*

*Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored especially the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed John, and all the saints whom we remember today. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*Silence*

*The Celebrant adds this concluding collect*

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

*Deacon* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*All* 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.**

*All stand*

## THE PEACE

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

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

*The people sit for the announcements*

## GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Call to remembrance, O Lord — Richard Farrant*

*Call to remembrance, O Lord, thy tender mercy and thy loving kindness which hath been ever of old. O remember not the sins and offences of my youth, but according to thy mercy think thou on me, O Lord, for thy goodness*

*The people stand*

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 GREAT THANKSGIVING *Eucharistic Prayer A*

*Celebrant*                      *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Celebrant*                      *People*

Lift up your hearts. 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.

## *Celebrant*

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

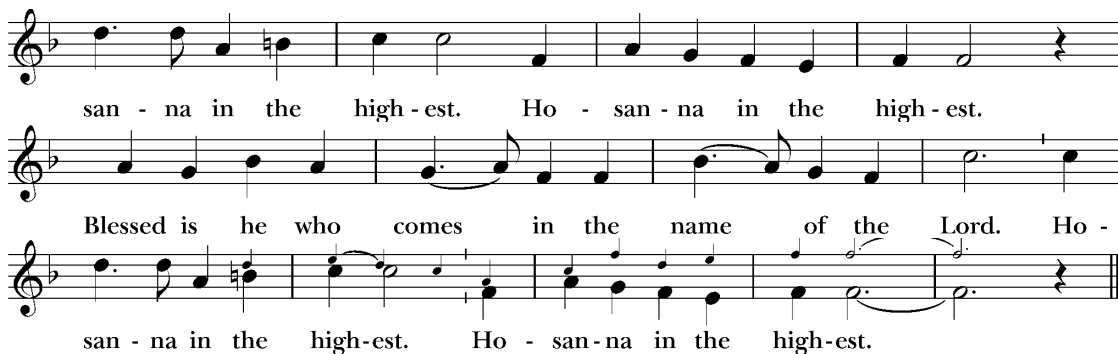
## *Here a Proper Preface is sung or said*

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 AND BENEDICTUS S-125

Richard Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



*The people kneel*

*Celebrant*

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.**

*Celebrant*

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,

*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,  
forever and ever. Amen.

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

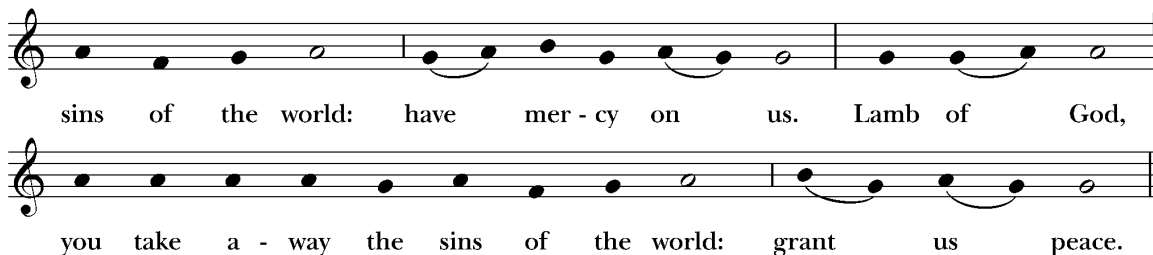
*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread after which the following is sung*

### FRACTION ANTHEM S-160

Mason Martens

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:

have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God.



*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's Table. If you are not baptized or choose not to receive, you are invited to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest. Please follow the direction of the ushers, and inform them if you need communion brought to you. Gluten-free hosts are available upon request.*

*Communion is offered in both kinds (bread and wine). You may receive the host and then sip from the chalice, receive the host only, or receive by intinction. For intinction, a member of the clergy or a chalice bearer will dip the host into the chalice and place it directly on your tongue.*

*Even if receiving in one kind, please remain at the altar rail until the chalice has passed.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words:*

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen.**

*or with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. **Amen.**

## COMMUNION MOTET

*Lord Jesus, think on me* — from Daman's Psalter

*Lord Jesus, think on me And purge away my sin; From earthborn passions set me free And make me pure within. Lord Jesus, think on me, With many a care oppressed; Let me Thy loving servant be And taste Thy promised rest. Lord Jesus, think on me Amid the battle's strife; In all my pain and misery Be Thou my Health and Life. Lord Jesus, think on me Nor let me go astray; Through darkness and perplexity Point Thou the heav'nly way. Lord Jesus, think on me When floods the tempest high; When on doth rush the enemy, O Savior, be Thou nigh! Lord Jesus, think on me That, when the flood is past, I may th'eternal brightness see And share Thy joy at last. Lord Jesus, think on me That I may sing above To Father, Spirit, and to Thee the strains of praise and love*

## COMMUNION HYMN 343

*St. Agnes*

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The people kneel*

*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 BLESSING

*The Celebrant gives the Blessing*

*People* Amen.

## THE DISMISSAL

*The Deacon gives the Dismissal*

*People* Thanks be to God.

*The people stand*

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN 477

*Engelberg*

## VOLUNTARY *Fugue in F minor (BWV 534)*

J.S. Bach

*The Organ Voluntary is an integral part of the service. Please leave the church quietly out of respect for those people who choose to stay to listen.*

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# Prayer Requests

*Your prayers are bid today and throughout the week for:*

**All bishops and other ministers:** Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean, the Presiding Bishop; Douglas, our Bishop; and the clergy and staff of our Parish

**Those who govern:** Donald, our President; Ronald, our Governor; and Jane, our Mayor

**Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:** The Smith Center, DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center and St. Thomas Chapel; Camp Dayspring, Youth and Young Adult Ministries, Cursillo of SWFL, and Episcopal Charities of Southwest Florida

**Our Companion Dioceses:** Dominican Republic, Georgia, South Carolina, and Western Louisiana

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Church of Bangladesh

**Also remembering in prayer:** Our Parish Day School, our Pastoral Care Team, healthcare workers, first responders, and all who serve the common good, peace in Ukraine and the Holy Land

**Members of our armed forces deployed abroad and their families:** Rich, Mike, Jake, Matthew, David, Tyler (Libya), and Brandon

**Those celebrating the anniversary of their birth:**

September 27: Gwen Hedges, Ambrose Jones, Tucker Witte, Kate Shenk, Adeline Martin, Blake Hammond

September 28: Tim Killgoar, Amy Patenaude, Jack Mitchell

September 29: Erika Johnson, Patti Cowart, Cynthia Hunter

September 30: Witt Graff, Kaivon Madani, Hailey Stricker, Perry Soash, Ayla Masella, Walker Smith, Benya Crawford

October 1: Greg Gaar, Peter Hubbell, Janice Straske, Frank Shelton, Frances Gardner, Virginia Galavis, Christopher Poor, Monica Bowen

October 2: Lisa Jacobson, Ginny VanOsdol, Daniel Blanner

October 3: Virginia Bever, Carolyn Hardy, John Koch, Liz Hinckley

## **The sick and others for whom our prayers have been especially requested:**

Jackie and family; Jeff, Pam, Shailee, and Courtney; Anna, her family, and her medical team; Jayce, Michael, Richard, Will, Tor, Ron, Scott, Sam, Collin, Lee, David, Jack, Jim, Katy, Minnie, Berta, Mary, Ellie, Sunny, Gwen, David, Melinda, Damian, Cole, Sue, Kathy, Lee, Holly, Brandon, Halley, Lisa, Christopher, Harry, Jill, John, Ava, Barbara, Jim, Burt, Steve, Douglas, Mohammad, Gabriella, Samuel, Stacey, Billy, Theodore, Monroe, Max, Lori, Tom, Paul, Jeremiah, Billy, Will, Anne, Chris, Pete, Shirleen, Hallie, Molly, Michael, Jim and all those who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

## **For all the faithful departed**

Patrick Dean

*Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

## **Assisting in Today's Services**

*Want to know who's serving today? Scan the code to view all our serving schedules:*









# ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

## AND Episcopal Parish Day School

906 SOUTH ORLEANS AVENUE · TAMPA, FLORIDA 33606-2941

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STJOHNSTAMPA.ORG

### THE DIOCESE OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

THE RIGHT REVEREND DOUGLAS FREDERICK SCHARF

*VI Bishop of Southwest Florida*

### THE WARDENS, VESTRY, AND OFFICERS OF THE PARISH

JEFFREY M. HUNT (2026)

*Senior Warden*

NORMAN F.J. ALLEN III (2027)

*Junior Warden*

DOUGLAS F. ARTHUR

*Treasurer*

ELIZABETH S. GRAHAM

*Assistant Treasurer*

AMY YOST

*Clerk of the Vestry*

ROBERT O. ALTER (2026)

CLAYTON BRICKLEMYER (2028)

CARY R. BROWN (2026)

HUGH CRUSE (2028)

VERA FARMEN (2028)

LYNN L. FLUHARTY (2027)

ANDREW B. GALAVIS, SR. (2027)

ELIZABETH S. KURZ (2028)

LISA J. LEAL (2026)

CHRISTINA C. MCADAMS (2027)

### CLERGY AND STAFF

THE REVEREND CHRISTIAN M. WOOD

*XVII Rector*

THE REVEREND CAROLINE F. DEVITT

*Priest Associate for Evangelism &*

*Communications*

THE REVEREND MARY ALICE LOPEZ

*Deacon*

SIMON J. MORLEY

*Organist and Director of Music*

LAURIE D. LAWThER

*Parish Administrator*

AYANA S. GRADY

*Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries*

SAMANTHA SANTOS

*Parish Coordinator*

THE REVEREND DONALD P. GOODHEART

*Retired Priest in Residence*

THE REVEREND CHARLES E. CONNELLY

*Retired Priest in Residence*

HUGH A. R. JEBSON

*Head of St. John's School*