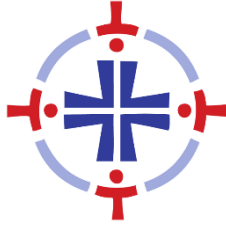




St. Simon's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 28, 2025



Welcome to St. Simon's

I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. (John 10:10)

St. Simon's exists so that everyone can experience the abundant life Jesus came to bring. While there are many, many ways God's abundance comes to us, here at St. Simon's we understand our call to help each other and our neighbors...

- ...experience delight and joy as a way to connect with God.
- ...have basic needs met as a way to be safe.
- ...enjoy connection to community as a way to avoid loneliness.

If you are here today, you belong, no matter where you are on your journey of faith. St. Simon's is a joyful and hopeful congregation that invites everyone to this abundant life, doubts and questions included. Please feel free to participate as fully in the worship of God as you wish. Lift your voice in praise, respond to the prayers and readings, and come to the altar for communion or a blessing. Or, if you prefer, sit back quietly and allow God's Spirit to speak to you in the way that feels most comfortable.

Wherever you find yourself on the journey, there is a place for you here.
May you encounter God in this community.

The Holy Eucharist

** Indicates the assembly stands, if able.*

*All portions of the service in **Bold** are spoken by the assembly.*

Please silence your cell phone.

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Opening Hymn VF 109 "People of God, gather together" *Earth and All Stars*



- 1 Peo - ple of God, ga - ther to - ge - ther, come, let us
- 2 Hear-ing God's word, heed-ing the mes - sage, come and re -
- 3 Bear-ing your gifts, en - ter God's pre - sence; come, let us
- 4 Wo - men and men, har - mo - ny blend - ing, come, swell the



sing on this glo - rious day. Shout-ing a - broad
joice as we an - swer the call. With one ac - cord,
share in the hea - ven - ly feast. Mend-ing all rifts,
cho - rus in lov - ing ac - cord. Rais - ing a - gain



praise to the Mak - er, come and with bo - dy and soul let us pray.
made in God's im - age, come in com - mu - ni - ty, wel - com - ing all.
heal - ing di - vi - sions, come and from sor - rows and hurts be re - leased.
thanks ne - ver end - ing, come to the God who is Wis - dom and Word.

Refrain



Come, let us join in the hea - ven - ly dance,



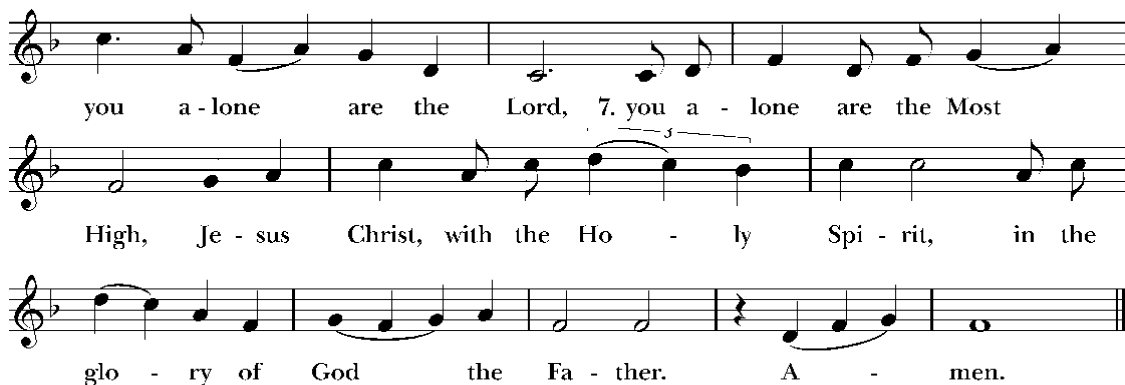
prais - ing in joy - ous ce - le - bra - tion.

Blessed be God: the Author, the Only-Begotten, and the Gift.
And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Gloria

S-280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,



The Word of God

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy: 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 Lessons

The Assembly is seated

The First Lesson

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15

A reading from the book of Jeremiah.

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord in the tenth year of King Zedekiah of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar. At that time the army of the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, and the prophet Jeremiah was confined in the court of the guard that was in the palace of the king of Judah, where King Zedekiah of Judah had confined him.

Jeremiah said, The word of the Lord came to me: Hanamel son of your uncle Shallum is going to come to you and say, "Buy my field that is at Anathoth, for the right of redemption by purchase is yours." Then my cousin Hanamel came to me in the court of the guard, in accordance with the word of the Lord, and said to me, "Buy my field that is at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, for the right of possession and redemption is yours; buy it for yourself." Then I knew that this was the word of the Lord.

And I bought the field at Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel, and weighed out the money to him, seventeen shekels of silver. I signed the deed, sealed it, got witnesses, and weighed the money on scales. Then I took the sealed deed of purchase, containing the terms and conditions, and the open copy; and I gave the deed of purchase to Baruch son of Neriah son of Mahseiah, in the presence of my cousin Hanamel, in the presence of the witnesses who signed the deed of purchase, and in the presence of all the Judeans who were sitting in the court of the guard. In their presence I charged Baruch, saying, Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware jar, in order that they may last for a long time. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalter

Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16



All you sheltered by the Most High,
who live in Almighty God's shadow,
say to the Lord, "My refuge, my fortress,
my God in who I trust!"

God will free you from hunters' snares,
will save you from deadly plague,
will cover you like a nesting bird.
God's wings will shelter you.

No nighttime terror shall you hear,
no arrows shot by day,
no plague that prowls the dark,
no wasting scourge at noon.

"I deliver all who cling to me,
raise the ones who know my name,
answer those who call me,
stand with those in trouble.
These I rescue and honor,
satisfy with long life,
and show my power to save."

The Second Lesson

1 Timothy 6:6-19

A reading from the first letter to Timothy.

There is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time-- he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

The Assembly stands as they are able to face the Gospeler.

*The Gospel Procession

All join in singing both before and after the gospel.

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the
ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give
Praise to his Name. Name.

1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
4 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,

Repeat Refrain

He is the King of cre - a - tion.
joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - vior.

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house-- for I have five brothers-- that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Dianne Shields

A period of silence is shared after the sermon.

***An Affirmation**

We believe that Jesus took the form of a slave,
so we commit ourselves to serve others.

We believe that God is love,
so we commit ourselves to reconciliation.

We believe that Jesus gives us his Spirit,
so we commit ourselves to his work in the world.

We believe that God is the light of life,
so we commit ourselves to bearing God's light in our world.

We believe that the Spirit speaks through us,
so we commit ourselves to proclaim the good news
of abundant life in the world God loves.

***The Prayers of the People**

Friends in Christ,
God invites us to hold the needs of our siblings
as dear to us as our own needs.

Loving our neighbors as ourselves,
we offer our thanksgivings and our petitions
on behalf of the church and the world.

Come Holy Spirit, take and transform our societies
That your beloved may find justice, equity, and community.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat

Come Holy Spirit, take our world's leaders and bring renewal
**That your beloved may have safety, peace, food, water, education, and
medicine.**

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat

Come Holy Spirit, fill your Church

That your beloved would be changed in prayer, grow in faith, serve in your name, and partner with you.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat

Come Holy Spirit, cleanse us of all violence in thought, word, and deed

That your beloved may live together in right relationship.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat

Come Holy Spirit, strengthen and heal all who suffer, especially Jan Becker, Mike Bruce, Lindy Camardella, Sharon Grieger, Sandra Janowski, Sunita Johnston, Bonnie Liess, Jerry Shields, Judy Wade, Charlotte Weber and Maria Whelan

That your beloved may turn again to thank and praise you.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat

Come Holy Spirit, console all who mourn

That your beloved may not be overwhelmed by loss, but find comfort and strength.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat

Come Holy Spirit, guide us through change and the unknown

That your beloved may rest in your eternal changelessness.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat

Hear our prayers, God of power,

And through the ministry of your Son

fill us with your Spirit,

that we may desire you as the fullness of life

and proclaim your saving deeds to all the world.¹ **Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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.**

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.

***The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Ministers and Assembly stand to greet one another in the peace of Christ.

Blessing Birthdays and Anniversaries

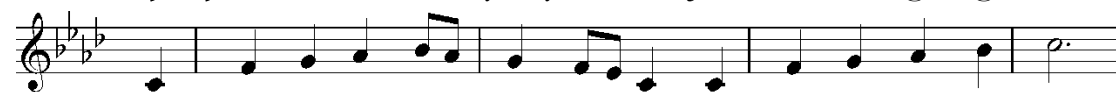
All those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries of any kind are invited to add their name to the chat on Zoom or feed on Facebook

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Engagement Opportunities

Offertory *Text 73256 to give. In the body of the text type saintsmons*

Offertory Hymn 583 “O holy city, seen of John” *Morning Song*



1 O ho - ly ci - ty, seen of John, where Christ, the Lamb, doth reign,
2 O shame to us who rest con - tent while lust and greed for gain
3 Give us, O God, the strength to build the ci - ty that hath stood
4 Al - rea - dy in the mind of God that ci - ty ris - eth fair:



with - in whose four - square walls shall come no night, nor need, nor pain,
in street and shop and ten - e - ment wring gold from hu - man pain,
too long a dream, whose laws are love, whose crown is ser - vant - hood,
lo, how its splen - dor chal - leng - es the souls that great - ly dare—



and where the tears are wiped from eyes that shall not weep a - gain!
and bit - ter lips in blind de - spair cry, "Christ hath died in vain!"
and where the sun that shin - eth is God's grace for hu - man good.
yea, bids us seize the whole of life and build its glo - ry there.

*Presentation of the Gifts

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all crea-tures

here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host: Cre -

a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - - men.

*The Great Thanksgiving

BCP form 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 God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven 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.

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.

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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

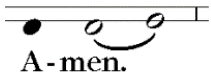
Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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.



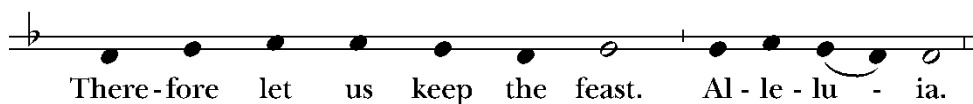
And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, | hallowed be thy Name, | thy kingdom come, | thy will be done, | on earth as it is in heaven. | Give us this day our daily bread. | And forgive us our trespasses, | as we forgive those | who trespass against us. | And lead us not into temptation, | but deliver us from evil. | For thine is the kingdom, | and the power, and the glory, | for ever and ever. | Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:



A period of silence is kept.

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.

The Presider and those worshipping online consume the host together with these words:

The body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

Everyone has a place at God's table and all are invited to share in communion. You may stand or kneel at the rail. Wine is offered in individual cups around the outside of the tray. Grape juice is offered in the middle. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, please tell the priest. If you would like to participate but do not wish to receive the bread and wine, simply cross your arms across your chest and the priest will give you a blessing instead.


Both the common cup (chalice) and individual cups are offered. Join the line for the chalice on the left (pulpit) side or the line on the right (screen) side to receive the individual cups. Grape juice is available in the individual cups.

Communion Hymn 711

“Seek ye first”

Seek Ye First

1



1 Seek ye — first the king - dom of God
2 Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you,



and its right - eous - ness, and all these things shall be
seek, and ye shall find, knock, and the door shall be



add - ed un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!
o - pened un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

Refrain

2



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

*Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

In gratitude for this moment,
this place,
those around us,
Christ among us,
we give ourselves to you our God.

Take us out to live as changed people
because we have met the risen Christ
and cannot be the same.

**Ask much of us,
expect much from us,
enable much by us,
encourage many through us.**

**So may we live to your glory
both as inhabitants of earth
and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven.
Through Jesus our brother,
with the aid of the Holy Spirit we pray. Amen.²**

When members of the community are unable to attend the service, representatives of the people are sent with bread and wine to extend our communion with them.

In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

***The Blessing**

Now may God,
who gives seed to the sower
and grain to the reaper,
provide all that we need
so that we may produce a rich harvest
of faith, love, justice and joy
for the good of the earth and its people
and to the glory of God. **Amen.³**

Closing Hymn 494 “Crown him with many crowns”

Diademata



1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne; Hark!
 2 Crown him the Son of God be - fore the worlds be - gan, and
 5 Crown him the Lord of heaven, en - throned in worlds a - bove; Crown



1 how the heaven - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own; a -
 2 ye, who tread where he hath trod, crown him the Son of man; who
 5 him the King, to whom is given the won - drous name of Love. Crown



1 wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and
 2 ev - ery grief hath known that wrings the hu - man breast, and
 5 him with man - y crowns, as thrones be - fore him fall, crown



1 hail him as thy match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 2 takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest.
 5 him, ye kings, with man - y crowns, for he is King of all.

Dismissal

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Happy 68th Birthday St. Simon's!

In 1957 a group of Episcopalians gathered together to worship of South Middle School in Arlington Heights. Within a very few weeks, their number had more than doubled and a request was made to the Bishop of Chicago to establish a new church in the community. The first step in that process would be for the Bishop to approve a mission, lead by a Vicar. If successful, this would become a church, headed by a Rector.

In September of 1958 The Rev. Samuel N Keys was named the first full-time Vicar, parish members having pledged to donate an adequate salary for a priest, and eventually three acres of land were purchased on Kirchhoff Road, adjacent to land that had been bought to build what eventually would become Northwest Community Hospital. On December 4, 1960 the mission was dedicated at St. Simon's later to become St. Simon's Episcopal Church.

In December 1974, kneelers which had been needlepointed by women of the parish were dedicated. [You can see them on the east wall of the church]

October of 1975 saw the dedication of the church's stained-glass windows, endowed by the parish. The windows depict major stories from the Bible, with the final window illustrating the community of Arlington Heights. In May of 1981 the organ was dedicated, crafted by the Austin Organ Company of Hartford, Connecticut. That same year saw the addition of a wing to house offices and classrooms, necessitated by rapid growth of the parish.

In 1989 the first of two columbariums was blessed at the rear of the church followed in 1991 by the addition of the second set of niches. These has since been expanded. The steeple, part of the original plans for the edifice, had been delayed financial considerations. It was finally added in 1990.

The above was written for the 50th Anniversary of St. Simon's



LIVE-STREAM NOTICE

A reminder, this public service will be live-streamed and your image or the image of any children or vulnerable adults in your care may appear in the video. By your entry and presence in this service, you agree on behalf of yourself and any children or vulnerable adults attending with you to be photographed, filmed, and/or otherwise recorded, and also agree to our use of such images in any and all media.

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¹ Adapted from *Daily Prayer for all Seasons*, p.84, © 2014 The Office of the General Convention of the Episcopal Church;

² Iona Abbey Worship Book, p 131-2

³ Iona Abbey Worship Book, p 132

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St. Simon's Episcopal Church

717 W. Kirchhoff Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005

847.259.2930 ~ office@saintsimons.org ~ www.saintsimons.org

Parish Office Hours ~ Monday—Thursday ~ 9:00am—3:00pm

The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, *Bishop of the Diocese of Chicago*

The Rev. Jennifer Hulen, *Rector*

Jo Gantzer, *Associate for Parish Ministry*

Today's Service Leaders

Presider	The Rev. Deborah Dresser
Preacher	The Rev. Dianne Shields
Crucifer	Dave Howley
Chalice Minister	Sara Lewandowski
Readers	Caryl Medsker Ed Petit
Intercessor	Terry Petit
Ushers	Patricia Grund Cleo Nykol
Altar Guild	Betty Bacula
Porter	Myk Snider
Organist	Patricia Spencer
Technical Production Team	Brian Kuczynski