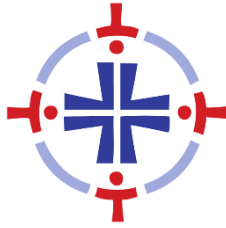




St. Simon's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 11, 2026



Welcome to St. Simon's

Celebrating God's love for all. Embodying Christ in the world.

If you are here today, you belong, no matter where you are on your journey of faith. Welcome.

St Simon's is a joyful and hopeful congregation that invites all who seek God into community, questions and doubts 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.

Welcome, Children. You are invited as full participants in our worship just as you are. God delights in you.

Welcome, Elders. Your wisdom and experience are valued in our community. God has shaped you and you are beautiful.

Welcome, you.

Welcome, everyone, to God's table. This is the table of the risen Lord Jesus Christ, and all who seek God are invited to share in communion. If you wish to participate, but prefer not to receive communion, please join everyone coming forward. Cross your arms over your chest and we will be glad to give you a blessing instead. If you wish to have communion brought to you at your seat, or if you desire a gluten-free wafer, please notify an usher.

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 7 “Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies” *Ratisbon*

1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true, the on - ly Light,
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pan - ied by thee;
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine! Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!

Sun of Right-cous - ness, a - rise! Tri-umph o'er the shades of night:
joy-less is the day's re - turn, till thy mer - cy's beams I see,
Fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine; scat - ter all my un - be - lief;

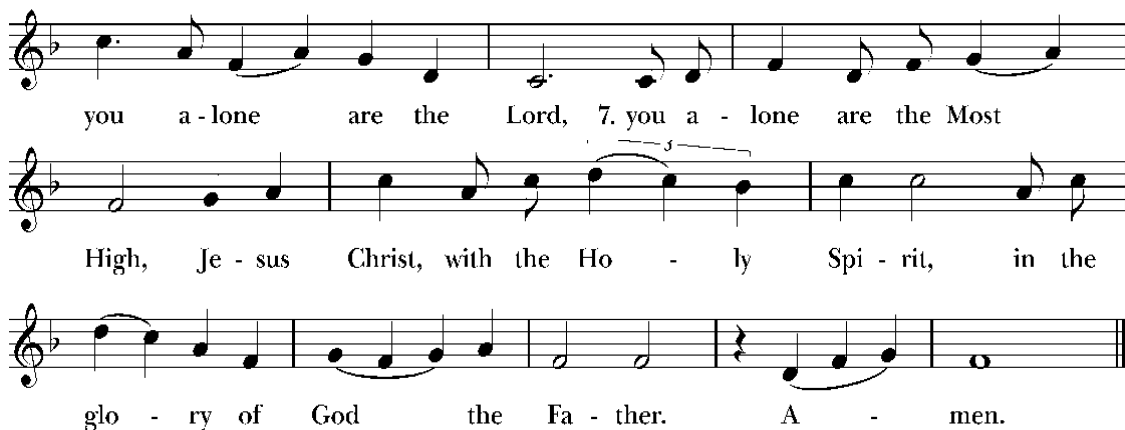
Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.
till they in - ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

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.

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The Assembly is seated

The First Lesson

Isaiah 25:1-9

A reading from the book of Isaiah.

O Lord, you are my God;

I will exalt you, I will praise your name;

for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of aliens is a city no more,
it will never be rebuilt.

Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,
the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.

It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him,
so that he might save us.

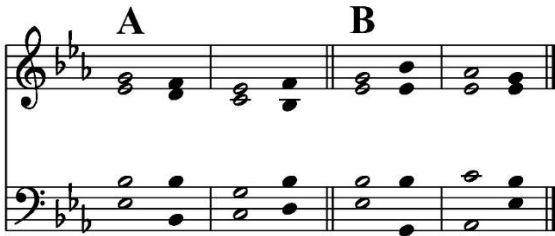
This is the Lord for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

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

Thanks be to God.

The Psalter

Psalm 23



- A The Lord is my shepherd,
I need nothing more.
- B You give me rest in green meadows, setting me near calm waters,
where you revive my spirit.
- A You guide me along sure paths,
you are true to your name.
- B Though I should walk in death's dark valley,
I fear no evil with you by my side, your shepherd's staff to comfort me.
- A You spread a table be-fore me
as my foes look on.
- B You soothe my head with oil;
my cup is more than full.
- A Goodness and love will tend me
every day of my life.
- B I will dwell in the house of the Lord
as long as I shall live.

The Second Lesson

Philippians 4:1-9

A reading from the letter to the Philippians.

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

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.



***The Holy Gospel**

Matthew 22:1-14

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Once more Jesus spoke to the people in parables, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Jenny Hulen

A period of silence is shared after the sermon.

*The Creed

Hyfrydol



1. We be-lieve in God al-might-y, Au-thor of all
 2. We be-lieve that Je-sus suf-fered, scourged and scorned and
 3. We be-lieve in God's own Spir-it, bond-ing all the

things that be, Mak-er of the earth and heav-ens,
 cru-ci-fied; tak-en from the cross, was bur-ied,
 saints with-in one church cath-o-lic, one church ho-ly,

Keep-er of the sky and sea. We be-lieve in
 True Life there had tru-ly died. We be-lieve that
 where for-give-ness frees from sin; in the bod-y's

God's Son, Je-sus, now for us both Lord and Christ,
 on the third day Christ was raised up from the grave,
 res-ur-rec-tion, for the break-ing of death's chain

of the Spi-rit and of Mar-y
 then as-cen-ded to God's right hand.
 gives the life that's ev-er-last-ing.

born to bring a-bun-dant life.
 He will come to judge and save.
 This the faith that we have claimed.

***The Prayers of the People**

In gratitude for all we have received, every perfect gift that comes from God, we gather to offer our intentions, petitions, and thanksgivings to God.

We pray for the Church, founded on the gift of your Word, and for all who gather to worship, praise, and work. Pour your blessings on Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean, Presiding Bishop, Paula our Bishop, and our clergy and leadership. Pray for the Church.

Silence

We who witness your saving acts in the world,
are grateful for all your gifts

We pray for the world and the gift of all Creation. We pray for the welfare of our planet, and for the wise stewardship of our world. Bless and guide our President, Donald, our legislative and judicial institutions, and the members of our local government. May they care for the people they represent and work for peace and justice.

Silence

We who witness your power in the world,
are grateful for all your gifts

We pray for the work of St. Simon's in the world. As we enter this season of intention and focus on the gifts that we give, inspire us to be generous with our time, our talent, and our treasure to care for all.

Silence

We who witness the impact of our service in our community
are grateful for all your gifts

We pray for our neighbors and all who need our prayers. We remember the sick, the lonely, the suffering; those oppressed domestically or abroad and

those in prison; for all who give care and comfort to those in need; for the poor and those who sleep on our streets, and for those whose needs are known to you alone. Especially we pray for Jane and Michael and all patients, family members and staff at Northwest Community Hospital

Silence

We who witness your healing in the world
are grateful for all your gifts

We pray for those who have died. May they rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon them.

Silence

We who witness your eternal love in the world
are grateful for all your gifts

With grateful hearts we thank you, Abundant God for hearing the faithful prayers of your people. Open our eyes to see all the gifts you have given and all the gifts we can offer to our world in your name.
Amen.

Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

***The Confession and Absolution**

Let us confess our sins to God.
Silence may be kept.

**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 the grace of 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

Giving Season Song

“God whose giving know no ending”

Ode to Joy



1. God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, From Your rich and end - less store:
2. As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.



Na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, Cost - ly cross, grave's shat - tered door,
Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.



Gift - ed by You, we turn to You, Off - 'ring up our - selves in praise;
Ev - 'ry per - fect gift we ga - ther, let us use for caus - es just;



Thank - ful song will rise for - ev - er, Gra - cious do - nor of our days.
We are stew - ards of the bount - y loaned to us in sol - emn trust.

Giving Season Story

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

Offertory Hymn 671



“Amazing Grace”

New Britain

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.

*Presentation of the Gifts



*The Great Thanksgiving

BCP form C

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

And so, O God, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Forbearers: God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, Jacob, Leah, Rachael, Bilhah and Zilpah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, O God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

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:

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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.

Come to the center aisle and forward to receive the Bread. 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.

Having received the Bread then step to the left to receive the Wine from the Chalice or to the right to receive the Wine or Grape Juice from individual cups. Grape Juice is offered in the middle of the individual cups tray. Empty cups can be placed in the basket located on the windowsill on the right side of our worship space.

Note: Generally, we will begin to sing the communion hymn once the final group of communion recipients has knelt at the rail. This way, more of the congregation can fully participate in singing most of the communion hymn.

Communion Hymn

“I, the Lord of sea and sky”

Verses



1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the



peo - ple cry. All who dwell in dark and sin
peo - ple's pain. I have wept for love of them.
poor and lame. I will set a feast for them.



My hand will save. I who made the
They turn a - way. I will break their
My hand will save. Fin - est bread I



stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.
hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love a - lone.
will pro - vide Till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

***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.¹**

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.**²

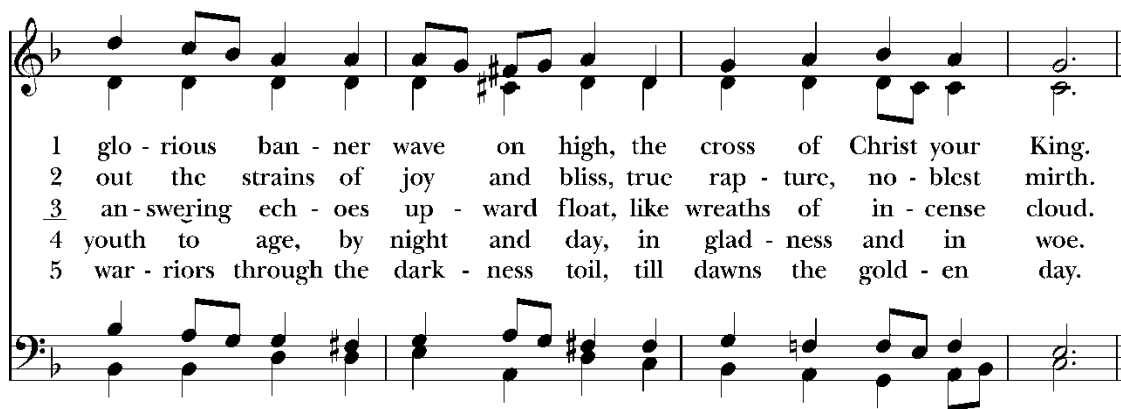
*Closing Hymn 556

“Rejoice you pure in heart”

Marion



1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing! Your
2 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints of earth, pour
3 Your clear ho - san - nas raise, and al - le - lu - ias loud; while
4 Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing as ye go, from



1 glo - rious ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.
2 out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
3 an - swering ech - oes up - ward float, like wreaths of in - cense cloud.
4 youth to age, by night and day, in glad - ness and in woe.
5 war - riors through the dark - ness toil, till dawns the gold - en day.

Refrain



Re - joice, re - joice, re - joice, give thanks, and sing.
re - joice, re - joice,

***Dismissal**

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

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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 Iona Abbey Worship Book, p 131-2

² Iona Abbey Worship Book, p 132

Hymn, Standing at the Future's Threshold, New Century Hymnal, Pilgrim Press.

Our Cover Art:

Tanner, Henry Ossawa, 1859-1937. Good Shepherd, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/58136> [retrieved October 5, 2026]. Original source:

https://commons.m.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Henry_Ossawa_Tanner_-_The_Good_Shepherd.jpg.

St. Simon's Episcopal Church

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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*

Martin Pazdioch, *Music Director*

Jo Gantzer, *Associate for Parish Ministry*

Today's Service Leaders

Presider & Preacher	The Rev. Jenny Hulen
Crucifer	Sara Lewandowski
Chalice Minister	Jo Gantzer
Readers	Dave Howley
	Bob Arnold
Intercessor	Caryl Medsker
Ushers	Cleo Nykol
	Robbin Thompson
Altar Guild	Dave Howley
Porter	Rachel Jarosik
Organist	Martin Pazdioch
Vocalists	Madison Monnette
	Margie Willson
Technical Production Team	David Romanowski