



**St. Simon's**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



**The Twenty Second Sunday after Pentecost**  
**October 25, 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 645**  “The King of love my shepherd is” *St Columba*



1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness  
2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed  
5 Thou spread'st a ta-ble in my sight; thy unc-tion  
6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness



1 fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if  
2 soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant  
5 grace be-stow-eth; and oh, what trans-port  
6 fail-eth nev-er: Good Shep-herd, may I



1 I am his, and he is mine for ev-er.  
2 pas-tures grow, with food ce-less-tial feed-eth.  
5 of de-light from thy pure chal-ice flow-eth!  
6 sing thy praise with-in thy house for ev-er.

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 - mighty - 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,  
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most



## The Word of God

### \*The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; 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

Leviticus 19:1-2,15-18

A reading from the book of Leviticus.

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:

Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the Lord.

You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

## The Psalter

## Psalm 1



- A If you would be happy:  
never walk with the wicked,
- B never stand with sinners, never sit among cynics,  
but delight in the Lord's teaching and study it night and day.
- A You will stand like a tree planted by a stream,  
bearing fruit in season,
- A its leaves never fading,  
its yield always plenty.
- B Not so for the wicked,  
like chaff they are blown by the wind.

- A They will not withstand the judgment,  
nor assemble with the just.
- B The Lord marks the way of the upright,  
but the corrupt walk to ruin.

## The Second Lesson

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

A reading from the first letter to the Thessalonians.

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

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 22:34-46

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him.

“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: “What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

“The Lord said to my Lord,  
“Sit at my right hand,  
until I put your enemies under your feet”?”

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **The Sermon**

Kathy Ponce

*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 Sean, Presiding Bishop, Paula our Bishop, and our clergy and leadership. We also pray for those preparing for the sacrament of baptism, Beatrix and Harrison, and their parents Griffin and Peter, Megan and Ryan.

*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 Teri-Ellen, Bill 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.**

# Recognition of New Members

## Liturgy of Welcome

The Church is the Body of which Jesus is the Head, and of which all baptized persons are members. It is called the People of God, the New Israel, a holy nation, a royal priesthood and ground of truth.

These, our siblings in Christ, have found a home here, have heard God call them beloved, and have experienced God's love in this place. Now they seek to deepen their relationship and commitment to this congregation

*The Presider addresses the questions to the new members:*

Do you reaffirm your faith in God the Creator, Jesus the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit the Sustainer?

I do.

Will you join the people of God at St. Simon's in our mission as we pray and worship, proclaim the gospel, and promote justice peace, and love?

I will, with God's help.

Will you be among your siblings in Christ regularly for corporate worship, and work, pray, and give for the spread of God's kingdom?

I will, with God's help.

Will you join us in our work so that everyone can experience the abundant life Jesus came to bring?

I will, with God's help.

*The presider addresses this question to the congregation*

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support and uphold these, our siblings on their journey of faith?

**We will, with God's help**

Let us pray.

Holy One, we thank you for the life journey that brought each of these, our siblings in Christ, to join this faith community. We celebrate the unique impact each will make here and already has made here, through their presence, gifts and talents. May this congregation offer support in times of trouble and rejoice with them always. May our faith community strengthen their faith and deepen their discipleship. Through Christ our Lord, with the aid of the Holy Spirit, we pray. **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;



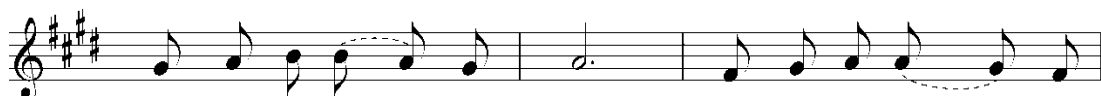
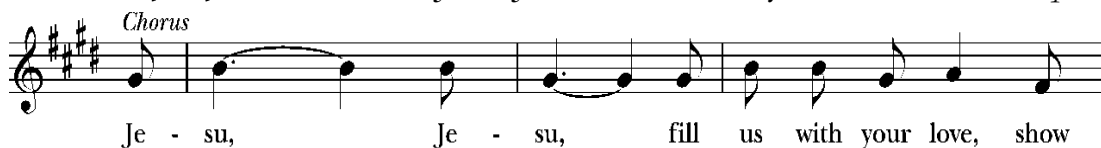
Thank-ful song will rise for - ev - er, Gra - cious do-nor of our days.  
We are stew-ards of the bount-y loaned to us in sol-emn trust.

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

# Offertory Hymn 602

“Jesu, Jesus, fill us with your love”

*Chereponi*

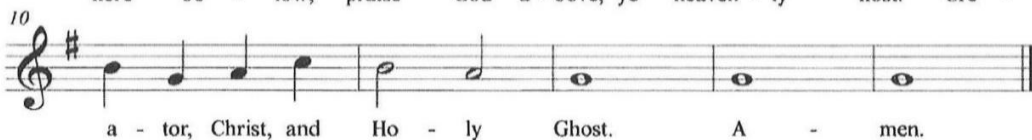
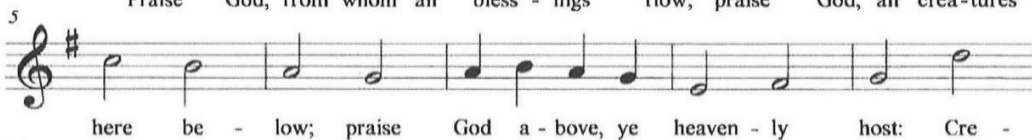
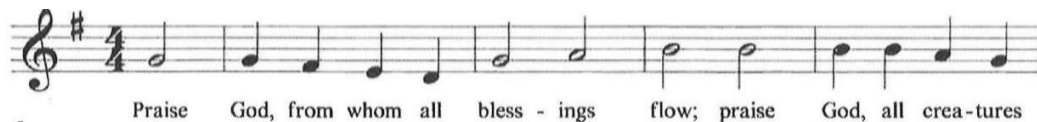


- 2 Neigh-bors are rich and poor, neigh-bors are black and  
 3 These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should  
 4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees, serv - ing as though we were



feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.  
 white, neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.  
 love. All are neigh-bors to us and you.  
 slaves; this is the way we should live with you.

## \*Presentation of the Gifts



## \*Giving Season Thanksgiving

**O God, source of all being: all we have comes from the outpouring of your generosity. Lead us, we pray, to give as we have received—abundantly, generously, and joyfully—that our common ministry may continue to bear witness to your unfailing grace. Accept and bless these intentions offered for the mission and ministry of St. Simon’s. Give us courage, insight and grace to use these gifts to nourish your people and to proclaim the reconciling work of God in Christ.**

**In the name of the Three in whom we are One. Amen.**

## \*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 thanks and praise.**

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 Forebearers: 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.*

*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.*

*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 316

“This is the hour”

*Canticum refectionis*



1 This is the hour of ban - quet and of song;  
2 Too soon we rise; we go our sev - eral ways;  
3 Feast af - ter feast thus comes and pass - es by,



this is the heaven - ly ta - ble spread for me;  
the feast, though not the love, is past and gone,  
yet, pass - ing, points to the glad feast a - bove,



here let me feast, and feast - ing, still pro - long the  
the Bread and Wine con - sumed: yet all our days thou  
giv - ing us fore - taste of the fes - tal joy, the



brief, bright hour of fel - low - ship with thee.  
still art here with us—our Shield and Sun.  
Lamb's great mar - riage feast of bliss and love.

## \*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.<sup>1</sup>**

*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.<sup>2</sup>**

\*Closing Hymn 657 

“Love divine, all loves excelling”

*Hyfrydol*



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to  
2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy  
3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less



earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,  
ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, cn - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.  
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

\*Dismissal

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

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

# 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*

Martin Pazdioch, *Music Director*

Jo Gantzer, *Associate for Parish Ministry*

## Today's Service Leaders

|                           |                                  |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Presider                  | The Rev. Jenny Hulen             |
| Preacher                  | Kathy Ponce                      |
| Crucifer                  | Sara Lewandowski                 |
| Chalice Minister          | Jo Gantzer                       |
| Readers                   | Mark Leimbeck<br>Deborah Dresser |
| Intercessor               | Bob Arnold                       |
| Ushers                    | Rachel Jarosik   Barb Drummond   |
| Altar Guild               | Maura Howley                     |
| Porter                    | Myk Snider                       |
| Organist                  | Martin Pazdioch                  |
| Technical Production Team | Brian Kuczynski                  |

## 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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