



THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 17, 2023 • 10:00 AM

*Welcome to St. John's, Shaughnessy!
Wherever you are on your spiritual
journey, and whether you are joining us in
the church building or via the livestream,
we are glad you are here!*

*If you are new here and would like to learn
more, please introduce yourself to the clergy
after the service. If you would like to be
added to our mailing list so that we may
keep you informed of upcoming events,
please contact the church office.*

*Infants and children (and their
accompanying noises) enliven our services.
Colouring, crafts, and quiet toys are
available in the children's area, just to the
left of the front pews.*

*We acknowledge with respect that we
worship on the traditional, ancestral, and
unceded territory of the Coast Salish
Peoples, and we pray that we may live more
deeply into the calls to action from Canada's
Truth and Reconciliation Commission.*

*A brief organ voluntary offered a few minutes before the hour bids us all keep silence for prayer
and preparation.*

*The people's responses are in **bold**.*

PRELUDE *Kommst du nun, Jesu, vom Himmel herunter, BWV 650* J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
("Come thou, Jesu, from heaven to earth")

GREETING

THE ENTRANCE RITE

HYMN

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sav - iour's rule em - brace.

Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.

Greet one who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.

Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

And also with you.

There is one body and one Spirit,
There is one hope in God's call to us;

One Lord, one faith, one baptism,
One God and Father of all.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

God of power and mercy,
you call us once again to celebrate
the coming of your Son.
Remove those things which hinder love of you,
that when he comes,
he may find us waiting in awe and wonder
for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 6:1-4, 8-11

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion - to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

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

Thanks be to God.

My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold, from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him: throughout all generations. He hath shewed strength with his arm: he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat: and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel: as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

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 SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

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

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE

JERUSALEM

Introduction



1 O day of peace that dim - ly shines through all our
2 Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the



hopes and prayers and dreams, guide us to jus - tice, truth, and
fierce de - vour the small; as beasts and cat - tle calm - ly



love, de - liv - ered from our self - ish schemes. May swords of
graze, a lit - tle child shall lead them all. Then en - e -



hate fall from our hands, our hearts from en - vy find re -
mies shall learn to love, all crea - tures find their true ac -

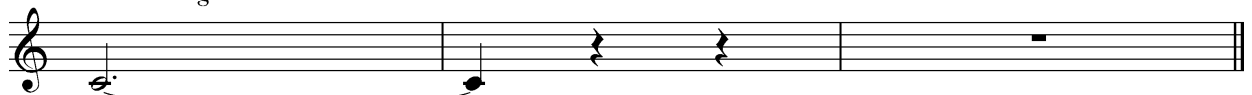


lease, till by God's grace our war - ring world shall see Christ's
cord; the hope of peace shall be ful - filled, for all the



prom - ised reign of peace.
earth shall know the (Lord.)

Final Ending



Lord. _____

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Sung by all, three times*

J. Berthier/Taizé

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:6-8, 19-28

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’” as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, “Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?” John answered them, “I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.” This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. James Hwang

Please stand as you are able.

THE PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES

The candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Sponsors I present *N.* to receive the sacrament of baptism.

Celebrant Will you be responsible for seeing that the children you present are nurtured in the faith and life of the Christian community?

Parents and Sponsors I will, with God’s help.

Celebrant Will you by your prayers and witness help these children to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Sponsors I will, with God’s help.

Celebrant Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Parents and Sponsors I renounce them.

Celebrant Do you renounce the evil powers of this world, which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Parents and Sponsors I renounce them.

Celebrant Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Parents and Sponsors I renounce them.

Celebrant Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Saviour?

Parents and Sponsors I do.

Celebrant Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Parents and Sponsors I do.

Celebrant Do you promise to obey him as your Lord?

Parents and Sponsors I do.

Celebrant Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in her life in Christ?

People **We will.**

THE PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

Celebrant Let us now pray for these persons,
who are to receive the sacrament of new birth.

The Intercessor leads the petitions

Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Send them into the world in witness to your love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Bring them to the fulness of your peace and glory.

Lord, hear our prayer.

The Celebrant concludes,

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM

THE THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through water you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit.

Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who are here cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Saviour. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in God the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

I will, with God's help.

Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth?

I will, with God's help.

THE BAPTISM

The Celebrant pours water on the candidate, saying

N., I baptize you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Celebrant then uses chrism to make the sign of the cross on the forehead of the newly baptized, saying

N., I sign you with the cross, and mark you as Christ's own for ever.

The Celebrant prays over the newly baptized, saying

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

THE GIVING OF THE LIGHT

The Celebrant gives the newly baptized a lighted candle, saying

Receive the light of Christ,
to show that you have passed from darkness to light.

**Let your light so shine before others
that they may see your good works
and glorify your Father in heaven.**

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We receive you into the household of God.
Confess the faith of Christ crucified,
proclaim his resurrection,
and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The people greet one another with signs of God's peace.

THE OFFERTORY

As the altar is prepared for Holy Communion, the congregation is invited to make an offering as an expression of gratitude for God's generosity. A QR code is provided for those who prefer to donate online. During the collection, a hymn is sung.



OFFERTORY HYMN

ASCENSION



1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a —
 2 O ——— Zi - on, that bring - est good tid - ings, get thee
 3 but the word of our God — en - du - reth, the —



call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a
 up to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late
 arm of the Lord is strong; he stands in the midst — of



high - way, a high - way for our God! The —
 peo - ple the com - ing of their King. Like the
 na - tions, and he will right the wrong. He shall



val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the
 flowers of the field they — per - ish, like
 feed his — flock like a shep - herd, the



lof - ty hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed
 grass our works de - cay, the power and pomp of
 lambs he'll gent - ly hold; to pas - tures of peace he'll



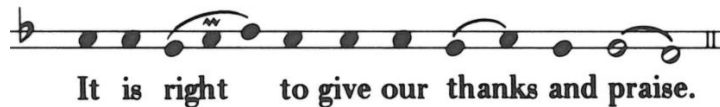
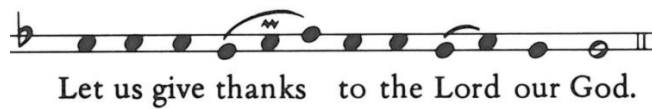
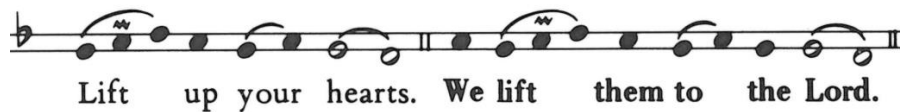
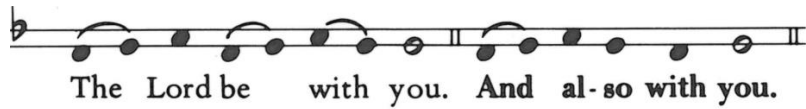
pla - ces where the Lord our — God — may go!
 na - tions shall — pass like a dream — a - way;
 lead them, and — bring them — safe to his fold.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of hope, renew in us the joy of your salvation and make us a living sacrifice to you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

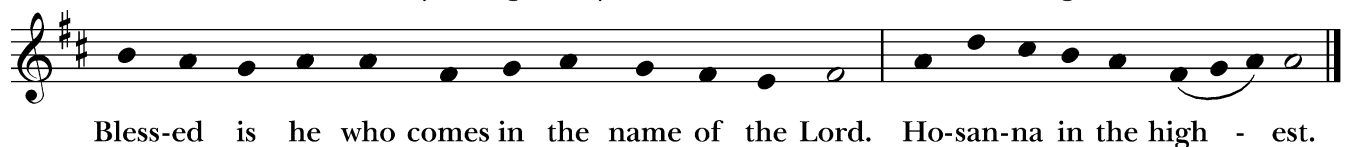
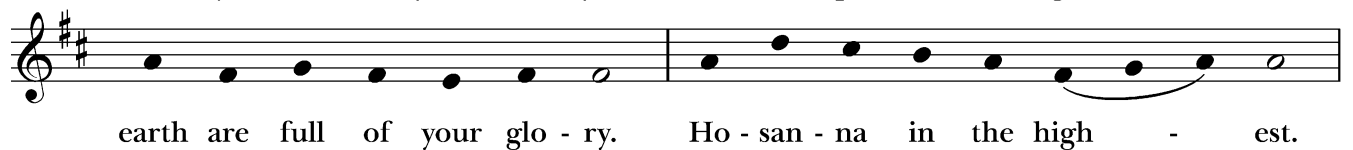
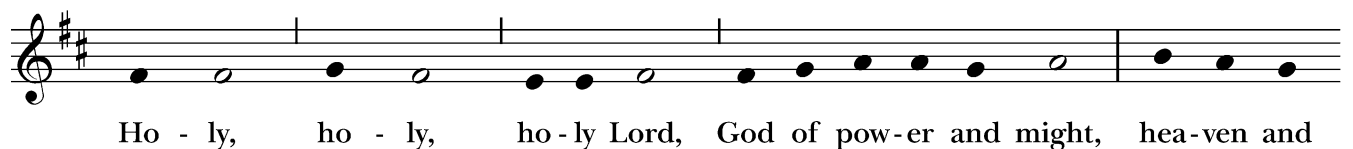
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh, and opened to us the way of salvation. Now we watch for the day when he will come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, that we, without shame or fear, may rejoice to behold his appearing. 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.

THE SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS *New Plainsong*

David Hurd (b. 1950)



The Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, 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, Father, according to his command,

**we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Saviour 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,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.

God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.
Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

New Plainsong

David Hurd

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
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

THE INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

We invite all baptized Christians to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of the bread and wine, you may indicate that desire by crossing your arms over your chest. If you are unable to come forward, please ask a sidesperson to have Communion brought to you.

AT THE COMMUNION: ANTHEM

How lovely are the messengers

F. Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

How lovely are the messengers that preach us the gospel of peace.
To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words,
throughout all the lands their glad tidings.

Please stand as you are able.

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Merciful God, may this eucharist free us from our sins, fill us with unending joy, and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is Lord now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE DOXOLOGY

Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

Please be seated.

THE NOTICES

Please stand as you are able.

THE BLESSING

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN AT THE CLOSING

VENI EMMANUEL



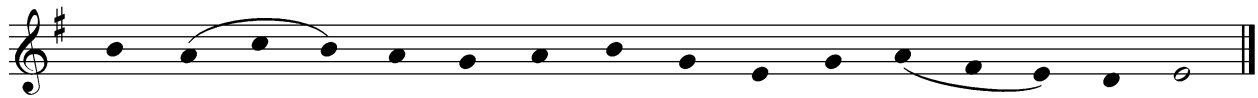
1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from
 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us
 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the
 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
 3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to
 5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
 6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
 7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions
 8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
 3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
 4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
 6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
 7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.
 8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY *Sortie sur O Come Divine Messiah*

C. Franck (1822-1890)

ST. JOHN'S, SHAUGHNESSY STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

Please contact the parish office if you would like to be added to our mailing list, so that we may let you know about upcoming events.

Clergy and Staff

The Reverend Terry Shields Dirbas, *Rector* terry.dirbas@sjs.net
The Reverend James Hwang, *Curate* jhwang@sjs.net
The Reverend Dr. Marilyn Hames, *Honorary Assisting Priest*
The Reverend Karin Fulcher, *Honorary Deacon*
The Reverend Pitman Potter, *Honorary Deacon*
Dr. Graeme Langager, *Choral Director* graeme.langager@sjs.net
Michael Dirk, *Principal Organist and Artist-in-Residence* organist@sjs.net
Deanna Ferguson, *Parish Administrator* church.office@sjs.net

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Joan Stewart, *People's Warden* joan.stewart@sjsparish.net
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