



Grace  
Episcopal Church

The Second Sunday of Easter

April 27, 2025

10:30 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE** *O Sons and Daughters Let Us Sing*

Healey Willan

*At the tolling of the tower bell, the congregation is asked to stand.*

**THE ACCLAMATION**

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

**OPENING HYMN:** *The Day of Resurrection!*

210

**COLLECT FOR PURITY**

*Celebrant*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Song of Praise

1. He is ris - en, he is ris - en! Tell it out with joy - ful voice:  
2. Come, ye sad and fear - ful heart - ed, with glad smile and ra - diant brow!  
4. He is ris - en, he is ris - en! He hath o - pened hea - ven's gate:  
he hath burst his three days' pris - on; let the whole wide world re - joice:  
Death's long sha - dows have de - part - ed; Je - sus' woes are o - ver now,  
we are free from sin's dark pris - on, ris - en to a ho - lier state;  
death is con - quered, we are free, Christ has won the vic - to - ry.  
and the pas - sion that he bore— sin and pain can vex no more.  
and a bright - er Eas - ter beam on our long - ing eyes shall stream.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

### *Celebrant*

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

### THE FIRST LESSON: Acts 5:27-32

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him." stay for several days.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 118:14-29** (*Spoken in unison*)

- 14 The LORD is my strength and my song, \*  
and he has become my salvation.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory \*  
in the tents of the righteous:
- 16 "The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! \*  
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!  
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"
- 17 I shall not die, but live, \*  
and declare the works of the LORD.
- 18 The LORD has punished me sorely, \*  
but he did not hand me over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; \*  
I will enter them;  
I will offer thanks to the LORD.
- 20 "This is the gate of the LORD; \*  
he who is righteous may enter."
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me \*  
and have become my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected \*  
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the LORD's doing, \*  
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24 On this day the LORD has acted; \*  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
- 25 Hosannah, LORD, hosannah! \*  
LORD, send us now success.
- 26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; \*  
we bless you from the house of the LORD.

27 God is the LORD; he has shined upon us; \*

form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.

28 "You are my God, and I will thank you; \*

you are my God, and I will exalt you."

29 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; \*

his mercy endures for ever.

## **The New Testament: Revelation 1:4-8**

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

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

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL HYMN:** *We Walk by Faith*

209

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

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

## **THE GOSPEL: John 20:19-31**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

## THE HOMILY

The Reverend John Rice

## THE NICENE CREED *(standing)*

BCP 358

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: An Easter Form

*Leader*        The Prayers of the People for The Great 50 Days of Easter is a form written for this special season. During the prayers, the congregation's response to: "Risen Lord" is: "Hear our Prayer."

Rejoicing in the mighty acts of God who has delivered his people from sin and death through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, let us lift our voices and pray,

*Lector*        Risen Lord,  
*People*        **Hear our Prayer.**

*Lector*        Let us give thanks to God for the multitude of blessings God showers upon us:  
For our lives and for those whom we love,  
For the beauty of this home God has created for us,  
For our families and our friendships,  
Let us give thanks to the God of Life.

*Lector* Risen Lord,  
*People* **Hear our Prayer.**

*Lector* Let us pray for our clergy and our bishops: we pray for Sean (our presiding Bishop); José (our Bishop); the clergy, vestry, staff, ministries, and people of this parish; in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean, and in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, Church of the Advocate and St. Philip's, Brevard.

*Lector* Risen Lord,  
*People* **Hear our Prayer.**

*Lector* Let us pray for the newly baptized, especially Ginny, Gary, Nic, Angus, and Andrew, that the joy of Easter may ever grow within them, and that the Spirit may guide them in lives of active faith.

*Lector* Risen Lord,  
*People* **Hear our Prayer.**

*Lector* Let us pray for the nations and peoples of the world, that the powers that oppress and destroy may decline, and that justice, peace, and prosperity be lifted up.

*Lector* Risen Lord,  
*People* **Hear our Prayer.**

*Lector* Let us pray for those who are sick, those who suffer, and those who struggle, especially Tim Collins; Suana Gentry; Ashley Israel; Anne Jarema; Geoff Kirsch; Bob Kistler; Bill Mooney; Wayne & Laura Parton; Guy Sayles; Al Seale; Becky & Bill Smith; Laura, Tsz-yan (G-Yen) and Roger Snyder, and Tom Wolff. Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or Spirit, that the hope born of Easter give them peace, acceptance and renewal, and that through their struggles they may come into closer communion with the God who redeems and restores.

*Lector* Risen Lord  
*People* **Hear our Prayer.**

*Lector* We commend to your mercy all who have died, and especially Pope Francis, Sally Wheeler, Cherie Brown, and Anna Fowler; and for the following, on the anniversaries of their deaths: Helen Field, Jack Melson, Jean Whitmire, Jamie McCredie, Lewis Paine, Jr., Wanda Perry, Bobbie Eblen, Douglas Allen Campbell, Sr., and Annie Rugh Covington.... We pray that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lector Risen Lord  
People Hear our Prayer.

*The celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

## THE CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 360

## THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

*The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY HYMN: *This Joyful Eastertide*

192

## DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise God above you heavenly host, Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

BCP 361

## SANCTUS:

James P. Cassarino

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r 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.

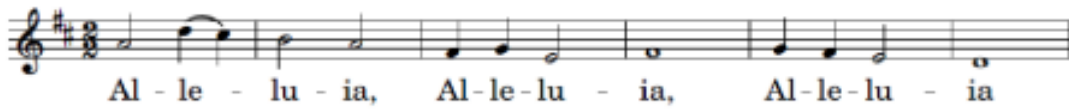
**THE LORD'S PRAYER** *(Traditional)*

**BCP 364**

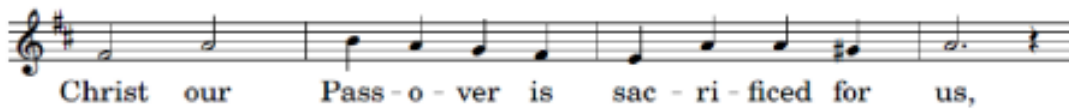
**THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

**FRACTION ANTHEM**

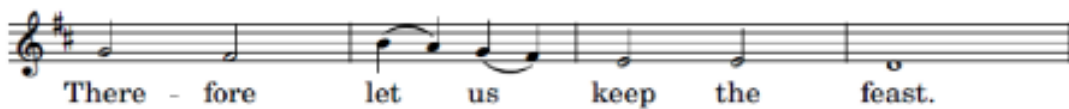
Cassarino



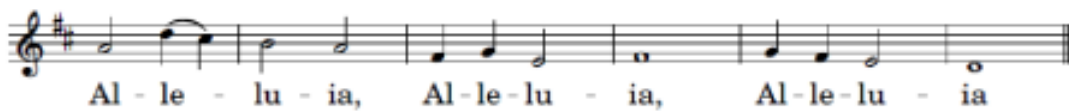
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia



Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us,



There - fore let us keep the feast.



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

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**COMMUNION HYMN:** *O Sons and Daughters Let Us Sing*

**206**


**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**BCP 365**

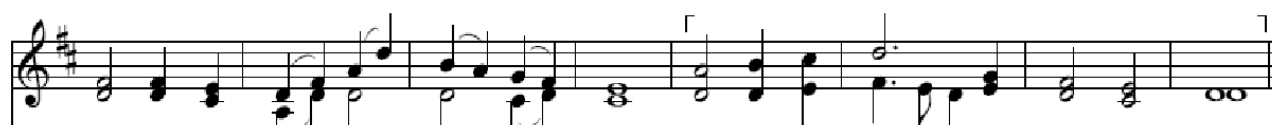
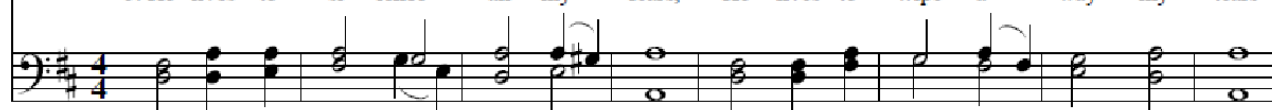
**THE BLESSING**



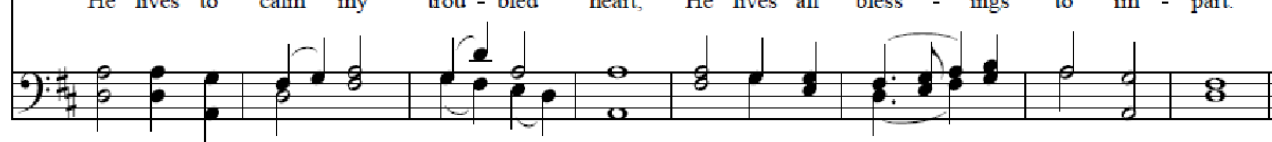
## CLOSING HYMN: *I Know That My Redeemer Lives*



1. I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com - fort this sweet sen - tence gives!  
2. He lives to bless me with His love, He lives to plead for me a - bove.  
3. He lives tri - um - phant from the grave, He lives e - ter - nal - ly to save,  
4. He lives to grant me rich sup - ply, He lives to guide me with His eye,  
5. He lives to si - lence all my fears, He lives to wipe a - way my tears



He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my ev - - er liv - ing Head.  
He lives my hun - gry soul to feed, He lives to help in time of need.  
He lives all glo - rious in the sky, He lives ex - alt - - ed there on high.  
He lives to com - fort me when faint, He lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.  
He lives to calm my trou - bled heart, He lives all bless - ings to im - part.



## DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE: *Postlude on "The Day of Resurrection"*

Jason Payne



The Aumbry Candle is given to the Glory of God by Cathy Adkins  
in memory of her sister, Linda Adkins Swaim,  
and by Albert Seale  
in memory of his parents, Edward & Alice Seale.

The flowers are given to the Glory of God  
by Teesha Holladay & Joe Rhatigan in loving memory of Liza and Edie Burke.

## LAY MINISTERS

Acolyte: Sally Withers Lectors: Cliff Albertson, Kristen Dusenbury  
Intercessor: Elaine Potter Chalicerist: Elaine Potter  
Ushers: Vicki & Paul Vest  
Greeters: Kim Hayes  
Vestry Member of the Day: Elaine Potter

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

We offer the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for our children *Sundays between 9:00 and 10:15 a.m.*, and at an additional *Monday afternoon class offered from 3:30-4:30 p.m.* Children may attend either one or both at any time. Contact Shannon Townsend for a tour, or further information at [gstownsend@att.net](mailto:gstownsend@att.net) or 828-713-5081.

### ECW Derby Day Potluck Luncheon

All ladies of the church are encouraged to attend our annual Derby Day Luncheon on **Saturday, May 3, from noon until 2:00 p.m.** Bring a dish to share as we gather in the parish hall. Our primary focus will be food, fun and fellowship although we may discuss logistics of our upcoming rummage sale to be held on Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. Looking forward to seeing everyone in your Derby Day hats but please join us even if you are hatless!

### ECW Partial Scholarships for Camp Henry

Is your child interested in attending Camp Henry this summer? ECW would like to help by offering partial scholarships of \$235 for children of Grace attending a camp session. Scholarships are offered on a first come, first served basis until funds allocated are depleted. For details about Camp Henry, please visit [www.lakelogan.org](http://www.lakelogan.org) and scroll down to "Camp Henry" where session descriptions, registration, dates, and rates are provided. Please contact Cheryl Aull at [ckaull@charter.net](mailto:ckaull@charter.net) for more details about the scholarship!

### Donation Information for the ECW Rummage Sale coming this Fall

ECW will be holding a rummage sale on **Saturday, November 8, from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.** We are grateful for your donations which make our sale possible. Since we no longer have access to the storage house, we can only accept donations in the parish hall during the week prior to the sale. Times for donating items will be provided closer to the sale. **Are you doing some spring cleaning?** Don't forget to hold items you think could be sold at our sale! A list of items we can use can be found in the newsletter, and will be published here in the coming weeks.

## **Tai Chi for Health**

The 8-week summer series of Tai Chi for Health meets on Wednesdays from June 25 to August 13 in the Parish Hall. Beginner classes are from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Intermediate classes are from 2:15 to 3:00 p.m., and Advanced classes are from 3:15 to 4:00 p.m. **This summer, Grace parishioners who wear their Grace-issued Name Tags when attending their first class receive a 50% discount on their first series of classes.** For more information, or to register for classes online, please check the website for WNC Tai Chi for Health: [wnctaichiarthritis.com](http://wnctaichiarthritis.com).

## **Tech Director Needed**

The Tech Director handles weekly service livestreams, including: operation of remote camera, maintaining knowledge of all hardware and software associated with livestreams, regular updating of introduction slides with church announcements, completion of regular "hygiene" on all devices used to stream or record. This person also communicates with and advises Rector and Office Manager on Tech needs and collaborates with parishioners to make videos and slideshows for various church activities and services. If you or someone you know is interested in this paid position, call the office, 828-254-2086, for details.

## **Request for Office Volunteers**

*Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:30-4:00 p.m.* Please continue to support this ministry of Grace hospitality by signing up and encouraging your friends to do the same. Contact Kim Hayes at [kimhys53@gmail.com](mailto:kimhys53@gmail.com) for more details.

## **Coffee Hour Help Needed**

Sunday morning coffee hour is an important ministry to the life of our Grace Church. Yes, it is about coffee and tea and tasty snacks, but more importantly, it is a time of fellowship and welcoming our visitors. It is also a first step towards Grace Church becoming a church home for our newcomers. Please consider sharing your gifts with us as a Coffee Hour Host. For more information, contact Beth Hill at [ehill3600@gmail.com](mailto:ehill3600@gmail.com) or 828-550-4352.

## **The Pastoral Care Team at Grace**

Reach out to us with any pastoral care needs you, or your family, may have, by emailing the team at [FrJohn@graceavl.com](mailto:FrJohn@graceavl.com). You can also email, text or call Fr. John Rice at 828-371-7281.

## **Grace Members: Have You Checked Out Our Directory?**

An online directory is available to all our members. If you want to learn how to become a member of Grace, please contact Rev. John Rice at [FrJohn@graceavl.com](mailto:FrJohn@graceavl.com).

# WEEKLY GATHERINGS

**Monday Morning Bible Study:** *Mondays at 10:30 a.m.*

We study the scriptures for the upcoming Sunday service. Please join us virtually by clicking on the button at [graceavl.com](http://graceavl.com).

**Taizé:** *Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.*

Weekly Taizé services are held in the sanctuary. Healing prayer is offered throughout the service for oneself or on behalf of someone else. For more information on Taizé at Grace visit: [graceavl.com/taize-grace](http://graceavl.com/taize-grace).

**Women Walking the Way:** *Thursdays at 8:20 a.m.*

Meet at the Bird Sanctuary parking lot by Beaver Lake. For more information, contact Ann Lewis at [annaflewis7@gmail.com](mailto:annaflewis7@gmail.com) or call her at 815-441-2282.

## GRACE'S PRAYER LIST

*For Parishioners:* **Tim Collins; Suana Gentry; Ashley Israel; Anne Jarema; Geoff Kirsch; Bob Kistler; Bill Mooney; Wayne & Laura Parton; Guy Sayles; Al Seale; Becky & Bill Smith; Laura, Tsz-yan (G-Yen) and Roger Snyder; Tom Wolff.**

*For Homebound Parishioners and Those in Healthcare Facilities:* **Ed Denison; Nancy Sink; Rita Spragg.**

*For Others: (Names will remain on the list for six weeks unless we hear otherwise.)*

**Geraldine Allen** (aunt of Carole McClellan); **Allen** (brother of Cheryl Aull); **Bob Brennan** (relative of Anne Jarema); **Christa Bridgman** (friend of Ginny Moser); **Gabriel & Lara Brongel & family** (grandson and daughter of Jackie Schauer); **Marcie Coleman** (friend of Lynda McCredie); **Winnie Gaffney** (cousin of Lorie Tola); **Cherry Howe** (friend of Rusty Herman); **Tom Hunnicutt** (friend of Rusty Herman); **Nancy Hutchins** (friend of Eleanor Jameson); **Kathleen** (friend of Ginny Moser); **Bunky Manship** (friend of Rusty Herman); **Chuck McDonald** (brother of Susan Robinson); **Barbara McRee** (mother of Fr. Tim McRee); **Daniel McRee** (son of Fr. Timothy McRee) and **David** (partner of Daniel McRee); **Megan** (friend of George & Pat Davis); **Peggy, Mac, & Chris** (friends of Lucy & Larry Bowen); **Barney Noble** (son of Joyce & Walt Noble); **Kathleen Peacock** (friend of Pat & George Davis); **Meredith Peppers** (cousin of Carole McClellan); **Kip & Val Pritchard** (friends of Cliff); **Peter John Rouse, Sr.** (grandfather of Mike Vines); **Anne Spruance; Wiley Thornton** (cousin of Carol McClellan); **Tomlinson Family; Wayne Wheeler & Family** (friends of Bea & Jeff Russell).

*For the recently deceased:* **Pope Francis, Sally Wheeler, Cherie Brown, Anna Fowler.**

*For those on the anniversary of their deaths:* **Kathleen Carson, Clark Miller, Janice Ribet, Don Bleasdale, Margaret Parker, Paula Woodhouse, Disa Krestensen, Michael Ramlet, Rosema Brewer, Stanley Saulnier, Julia Harris, George Gowen, Joy Markey, Ed Duncan.**

*For those celebrating birthdays:* **Sharon Rains, Julie Cooley, Alison Schaefer, Jack Weston Britts, Scott Walters, The Reverend Gary Coffey, James Gray, Jeremy McGowan.**

*For those celebrating anniversaries:* **Pam & Barry Maney.**

*For Those in Service to Our Country:* **Tommy Brown** (grandson of Ed & Marla Woeckener); **Matt & Martha Cardenas** (daughter and son in law of Hannah Buckner); **Matthew George** (son of Zoe Davis); **Jason Marino** (son of Lynda McCredie); **Brady Paschall** (granddaughter of Gael Paschall); **Sarah Jane Wilkey** (daughter of Diane & Tony Wilkey).

*For Those in the Episcopal Church:* **Sean** (our presiding Bishop); **José** (our Bishop); **the clergy, vestry, staff, ministries, and people of this parish;** in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, **The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean**, and in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, **Church of the Advocate and St. Philip's, Brevard.**

*For our Nation and the Wider World:* For the President and his Cabinet; for Congress; and for our country; for victims of violence around the world; for local agencies and those who work for relief of the poor; for stewardship of the environment; for resolution of crises throughout our world.

### **Grace Episcopal Church**

871 Merrimon Avenue, Asheville, NC 28804

828-254-1086

Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

office@graceavl.com

The Right Reverend José McLoughlin, *Bishop*  
The Reverend Timothy McRee, The Reverend John Rice, *Clergy*  
James Cassarino, *Director of Music*  
Cathy Adkins, *Organist*  
Anne Spruance, *Office Administrator*  
Katie Douglas, *Finance Manager*  
Angel Stoudt, *Sexton*  
Katherine Johnson, *Wedding Coordinator*