



ASH WEDNESDAY

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return

FEBRUARY 18 | 6 PM SERVICE

WELCOME



Welcome to St. John the Divine. We want to get to know you! Take your first step by completing a welcome card and placing it in the offering plate or scan this QR code to introduce yourself online.

Everything you need to join us in worship is found in this booklet. Hearing assistance is available. Please see an usher, who will be happy to help you!

FOR FAMILIES

Worshippers of all ages are encouraged to fully take part in all aspects of the service. Children's packets may be found in the narthex (lobby), children's Bibles are in the pews, and nursery care for children birth – age 2 is available next door in the administration building. Also available is a Church Family Room just off the narthex with comfortable furniture, toys, and a screen to view the service.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The church altar greenery is given to the glory of God. To donate altar flowers in memory, thanksgiving, or honor of someone, visit sjd.org/flower-dedications or contact Hayden Coie at 713.354.2241 or hcoie@sjd.org.

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE TWO

6:00 pm — February 18, 2026

Ash Wednesday

THE WORD OF GOD

SOLEMN PROCESSION *Congregation stands.*

THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 264

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: His mercy endures for ever.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE LESSONS *Congregation sits.*

The First Lesson

Isaiah 58:1-12

¹ “Cry aloud; do not hold back;
lift up your voice like a trumpet;
declare to my people their transgression,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

² Yet they seek me daily
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that did righteousness
and did not forsake the judgment of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments;
they delight to draw near to God.

³ ‘Why have we fasted, and you see it not?

Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?’
Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure,
and oppress all your workers.

⁴ Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to hit with a wicked fist.

Fasting like yours this day
will not make your voice to be heard on high.

⁵ Is such the fast that I choose,
a day for a person to humble himself?
Is it to bow down his head like a reed,
and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him?

Will you call this a fast,
and a day acceptable to the Lord?

⁶ “Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of wickedness,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover him,
and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

⁸ Then shall your light break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up speedily;
your righteousness shall go before you;
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

⁹ Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’
If you take away the yoke from your midst,
the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness,

¹⁰ if you pour yourself out for the hungry
and satisfy the desire of the afflicted,
then shall your light rise in the darkness
and your gloom be as the noonday.

¹¹ And the Lord will guide you continually
and satisfy your desire in scorched places
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters do not fail.

¹² And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to dwell in.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 103:8-14

Plainsong, Tone II

Refrain (congregation sings refrain)



The LORD knows where - of we are made; he re - mem-bers that we are but dust.

⁸ The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and of great kindness.

⁹ He will not always accuse us,
nor will he keep his anger for ever. *Refrain*

¹⁰ He has not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him. *Refrain*

¹² As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our sins from us.

¹³ As a father cares for his children,
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

¹⁴ For he himself knows whereof we are made;
he remembers that we are but dust. *Refrain*

^{20b}We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made himself to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

¹Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ²For he says,

“In a favorable time I listened to you,
and in a day of salvation I have helped you.”

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. ³We put no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; ⁷by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Hymn 701 Congregation stands.



1 Je - sus, all my glad - ness, my re - pose in sad - ness,
2 Hence with earth - ly trea - sure: thou art all my plea - sure,
3 Flee, dark clouds that low - er, for my joy be - stow - er,



Je - sus, heaven to me; ah, my heart long pain - eth, ah, my spi - rit
Je - sus, my de - sire! Hence, for pomps I care not, e'en as though they
Je - sus, en - ters in! Joy from tri - bu - la - tion, hope from des - o -



strain - eth, long - eth af - ter thee! Thine I am, O ho - ly Lamb;
were not rank and for - tune's hire. Want and gloom, cross, death and tomb;
la - tion, they who love God win. Be it blame or scorn or shame,



on - ly where thou art is plea - sure, thee a - lone I trea - sure.
nought that I may suf - fer ev - er shall from Je - sus sev - er.
thou art with me in earth's sad - ness, Je - sus, all my glad - ness.

Words: Johann Franck (1618-1677); Music: *Jesu, meine Freude*, Johann Cruger (1598-1662).

The Gospel

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

¹ Jesus said, "Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

²"Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ³ But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵"And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁶ “And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷ But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹ “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

THE SERMON

The Rev. Louise Samuelson

THE INVITATION TO A HOLY LENT *Congregation stands.*

BCP 264

Celebrant: Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord’s passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s holy Word. And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.

Silence is kept for a time, all kneeling.

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth: Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, that we may remember that it is only by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Psalm 51 (*sung in Latin by the choir*)

setting by Gregorio Allegri 1582-1652

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight.
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak
and upright in your judgment.
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth,
a sinner from my mother's womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me,
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure;
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness,
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again,
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
- 14 I shall teach your ways to the wicked,
and sinners shall return to you.
- 15 Deliver me from death, O God,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness, O God of my salvation.
- 16 Open my lips, O Lord,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
- 17 Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice,
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.
- 18 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

The Celebrant and People together, all kneeling

All: Most holy and merciful Father: We confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

Celebrant: We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

People: Have mercy on us, Lord.

Celebrant: We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

People: Have mercy on us, Lord.

Celebrant: We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

People: We confess to you, Lord.

Celebrant: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,

People: We confess to you, Lord.

Celebrant: Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

People: We confess to you, Lord.

Celebrant: Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

People: We confess to you, Lord.

Celebrant: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

People: We confess to you, Lord.

Celebrant: Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

People: Accept our repentance, Lord.

Celebrant: For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

People: Accept our repentance, Lord.

Celebrant: For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

People: Accept our repentance, Lord.

Celebrant: Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;

People: Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.

Celebrant: Accomplish in us the work of your salvation.

People: That we may show forth your glory in the world.

Celebrant: By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,

People: Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Celebrant: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desires not the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live, has given power and commandment to his ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He pardons and absolves all those who truly repent, and with sincere hearts believe his holy Gospel. Therefore we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do on this day, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy, so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE PEACE *Congregation stands.*

BCP 360

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY *Congregation sits.*

Anthem

Louis Vierne 1870-1937

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis,
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis,
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: dona nobis pacem.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Text: Mass Ordinary

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

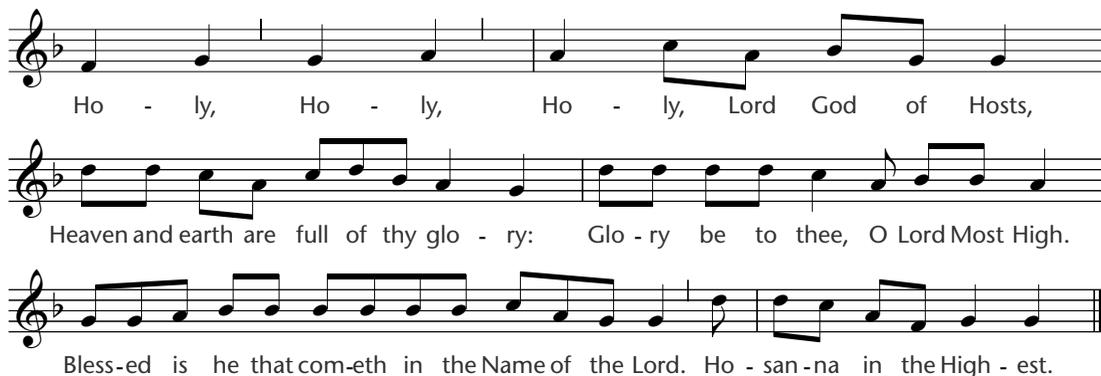
Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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:

SANCTUS S-113

John Merbecke



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of thy glo - ry: Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Bless-ed is he that com-eth in the Name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the High - est.

Setting by John Merbecke (1510?-1585?), adapt. *Hymnal 1940*.

Congregation kneels.

Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *Amen.*

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

People and Celebrant

*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

Agnus Dei

Gerre Hancock 1934-2012



Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on__ us.



Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy__ on us.



Je - sus re - deem - er of the world, give us your peace.

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Celebrant: 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.

- ✘ *All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion.*
- ✘ *If you are not baptized, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*
- ✘ *If you are not baptized and want to be, please contact one of the clergy.*
- ✘ *Please be guided by the ushers to the communion rail.*
- ✘ *You may drink from the common chalice or intinct from the intinction cup.*
- ✘ *Gluten-free wafers are available upon request at the altar rail.*

Anthem

Henry Purcell 1659-1695

Remember not, Lord, our offences, nor the offences of our forefathers;

Neither take thou vengeance of our sins, but spare us, good Lord, spare thy people,
Whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and be not angry with us for ever.

Spare us, good Lord.

Text: Book of Common Prayer, 1549

Hymn 318



1 Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face; here would I
2 Here would I feed up - on the Bread of God; here drink with
3 I have no help but thine; nor do I need an - oth - er
4 Mine is the sin, but thine the right - eous - ness; mine is the



touch and han - dle things un - seen; here grasp with firm - er
thee the roy - al Wine of heaven; here would I lay a -
arm save thine to lean up - on; it is e - nough, my
guilt, but thine the cleans - ing Blood. Here is my robe, my



hand e - ter - nal grace, and all my wea - ri - ness up - on thee lean.
side each earth - ly load, here taste a - fresh the calm of sin for - given.
Lord, e - nough in - deed; my strength is in thy might, thy might a - lone.
ref - uge, and my peace; thy Blood, thy right - eous - ness, O Lord, my God.

Words: Horatius Bonar (1808-1889); Music: Nyack, Warren Swenson (b. 1937).

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *Congregation kneels.*

BCP 365

Celebrant: Let us pray.

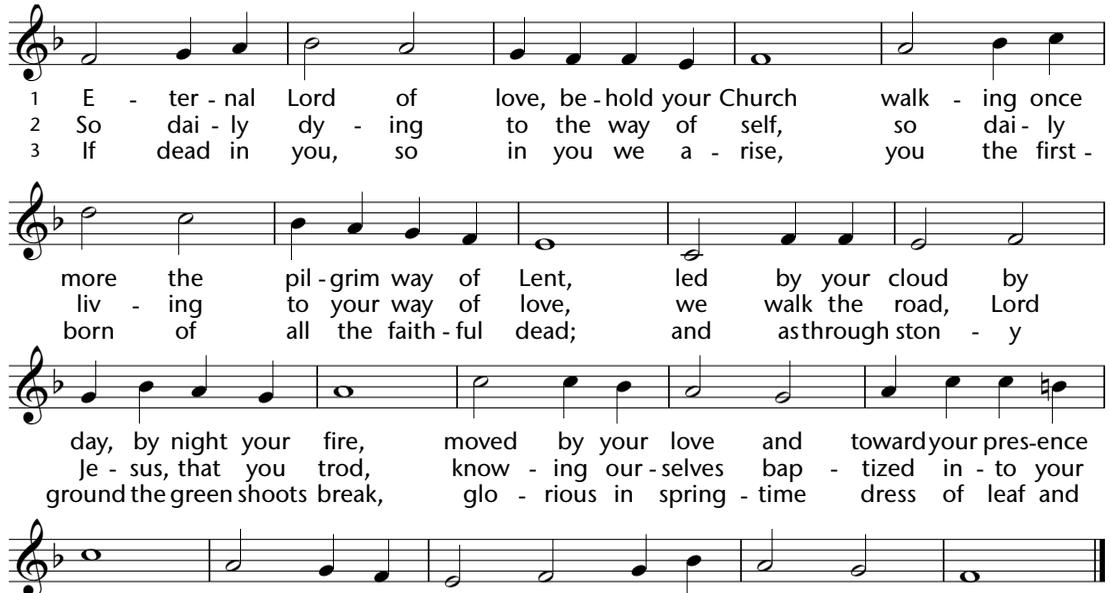
*People: Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

THE PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Book of Occasional Services 13

Celebrant: Grant, most merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

HYMN 149 *Congregation stands.*



1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your Church walk - ing once
2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self, so dai - ly
3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise, you the first -
more the pil - grim way of Lent, led by your cloud by
liv - ing to your way of love, we walk the road, Lord
born of all the faith - ful dead; and as through ston - y
day, by night your fire, moved by your love and toward your pres - ence
Je - sus, that you trod, know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your
ground the green shoots break, glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and
bent: far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.
death: so we are dead and live with you in God.
flower, so in the Fa - ther's glo - ry shall we wake.

Words: Thomas H. Cain (1931-2003); Music: *Old 124th*, from *Pseaumes octante trois de David*, 1551.

THE DISMISSAL

Thanks be to God.

“Alleluia” is omitted during the season of Lent, as a kind of verbal fast, creating a sense of anticipation and greater joy when the word returns at the Easter Vigil.

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CLERGY

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The Rev. Louise Samuelson, *Associate Rector*
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THE CHURCH OF
ST JOHN THE DIVINE
CHANGING LIVES FOR GOD IN CHRIST