

A SERVICE OF  
LESSONS & CAROLS  
on the Third Sunday of Advent



December 15, 2024  
*four o'clock in the afternoon*

## ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS

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

PRELUDE      *Chorale Prelude on Sleepers Wake*      Max Reger (1873-1916)

WELCOME

MATIN RESPONSORY      *Aspiciens a longe*      Palestrina (c. 1525–1594)

I look from afar:  
and lo, I see the power of God coming,  
and a cloud covering the whole earth.  
Go ye out to meet him and say:  
Tell us, art thou he that should come  
to reign over thy people Israel?

High and low, rich and poor, one with another  
Go ye out to meet him and say:  
Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel,  
thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep.  
Tell us, art thou he that should come?

Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come  
to reign over thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost.

I look from afar:  
and lo, I see the power of God coming,  
and a cloud covering the whole earth.  
Go ye out to meet him and say:  
Tell us, art thou he that should come  
to reign over thy people Israel?



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!

## BIDDING PRAYER

Beloved in Christ, in this season of Advent, let it be our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, to see the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by his holy Child; and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this city.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless; the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

**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 Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

## ANTIPHON

*O Wisdom, which camest out of the mouth of the most High, and reachest from one end to the another mightily, and sweetly ordering all things: Come and teach us the way of prudence.*

## THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate."

The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

Here endeth the lesson.

CAROL      *Prepare the Way, O Zion*

Margareta Jalkeus

Prepare the way, O Zion! Ye awful deeps, rise high; Sink low, ye towering mountains, The Lord is drawing nigh; The righteous King of glory, Foretold in sacred story. O blest is He that came In God the Father's name.

O Zion, He approaches, Your Lord and king for aye! Strew palms where He advances, Spread garments in His way. God's promise faileth never, Hosanna sound forever! O blest is He that came In God the Father's name.

## ANTIPHON

*O Adonai, and Leader of the house of Israel, who appearedst in a Bush to Moses in a flame of fire, and gavest him the law in Sinai: Come and deliver us, with an outstretched arm.*

## THE SECOND LESSON

Exodus 3:1-6

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, 'I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.' When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' Then he said, 'Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' He said further, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Here endeth the lesson.

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to  
 2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of  
 3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er; born a  
 4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it, rule in

set thy peo - ple free; from our fears and  
 all the earth thou art; dear de - sire of  
 child and yet a King; born to reign in  
 all our hearts a - lone; by thine all - suf -

sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
 ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
 us for - ev - er: now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.  
 fi - cient mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.



ANTIPHON

*O Root of Jesse, which standest for an ensign of the people, at whom kings shall shut their mouth, to whom the Gentiles shall seek: Come and deliver us, and tarry not.*

THE THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.  
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.  
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear;  
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.  
The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.  
The cow and the bear shall graze,  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.  
They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain;  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord  
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Here endeth the lesson.



Lo, how a rose e'er blooming From tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming, As men of old have sung. It came, a floweret bright, Amid the cold of winter, When half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, The rose I have in mind; With Mary we behold it, The virgin mother kind. To show God's love aright, She bore to men a Saviour, When half spent was the night.

The shepherds heard the story Proclaimed by angels bright, How Christ, the Lord of glory Was born on earth this night. To Bethlehem they sped And in the manger found Him, As angel heralds said.

This flower, whose fragrance tender With sweetness fills the air, Dispels with glorious splendor The darkness everywhere; True man, yet very God, From sin and death He saves us, And lightens every load.

O Saviour, child of Mary, Who felt our human woe, O Saviour, King of glory, Who dost our weakness know; Bring us at length we pray, To the bright courts of Heaven, And to the endless day!

## ANTIPHON

*O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, that openest and no man shutteth, that shuttest and no man openeth: Come and bring the prisoner out of the prison house and him that sitteth in darkness and the shadow of death.*

## THE FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 22:21-23

I will commit your authority to his hand, and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah. I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David; he shall open, and no one shall shut; he shall shut, and no one shall open.

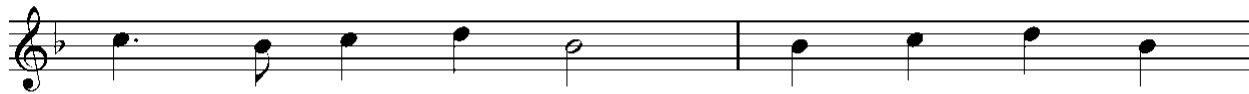
Here endeth the lesson.

## HYMN

## NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND



1 Sa - vior of the na - tions, come! Vir - gin's  
 2 Won - drous birth! Oh, won - drous child of the  
 3 Thus on earth the Word ap - pears, grac - ing  
 4 Come, O Fa - ther's sav - ing Son, who o'er



Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, both  
 Vir - gin un - de - filed! Might - y God and  
 his cre - a - ted spheres; hence to death and  
 sin the vic - tory won. Bound - less shall your



heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.  
 Ma - ry's son, ea - ger now his race to run!  
 hell de - scends, then the heaven - ly throne a - scends.  
 king - dom be; grant that we its glo - ries see.

## ANTIPHON

*O Dayspring, Brightness of Light everlasting, and Sun of righteousness: Come and enlighten him that sitteth in darkness, and the shadow of death.*

## THE FIFTH LESSON

Isaiah 52:7-9

How beautiful upon the mountains  
 are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,  
 who brings good news,  
 who announces salvation,  
 who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'  
 Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,  
 together they sing for joy;  
 for in plain sight they see  
 the return of the Lord to Zion.  
 Break forth together into singing,  
 you ruins of Jerusalem;  
 for the Lord has comforted his people,  
 he has redeemed Jerusalem.

Here endeth the lesson.

CAROL *How Lovely are the Messengers*

Felix Mendelssohn

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.

ANTIPHON

*O King of the nations and their Desire, the cornerstone who makest both one: Come  
and save mankind who thou formedst of clay.*

THE SIXTH LESSON

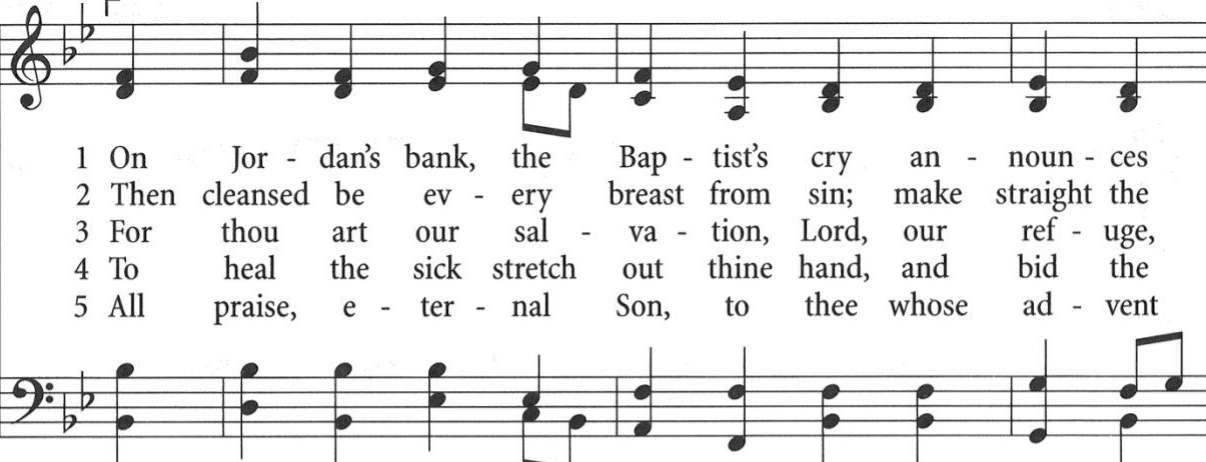
Acts 13:14-26

And on the sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. After the reading of the law and the prophets, the officials of the synagogue sent them a message, saying, "Brothers, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, give it." So Paul stood up and with a gesture began to speak:

"You Israelites, and others who fear God, listen. The God of this people Israel chose our ancestors and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. For about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. After he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance for about four hundred and fifty years. After that he gave them judges until the time of the prophet Samuel. Then they asked for a king; and God gave them Saul son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, who reigned for forty years. When he had removed him, he made David their king. In his testimony about him he said, 'I have found David, son of Jesse, to be a man after my heart, who will carry out all my wishes.' Of this man's posterity God has brought to Israel a Saviour, Jesus, as he promised; before his coming John had already proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. And as John was finishing his work, he said, 'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but one is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of the sandals on his feet.'

"My brothers, you descendants of Abraham's family, and others who fear God, to us the message of this salvation has been sent."

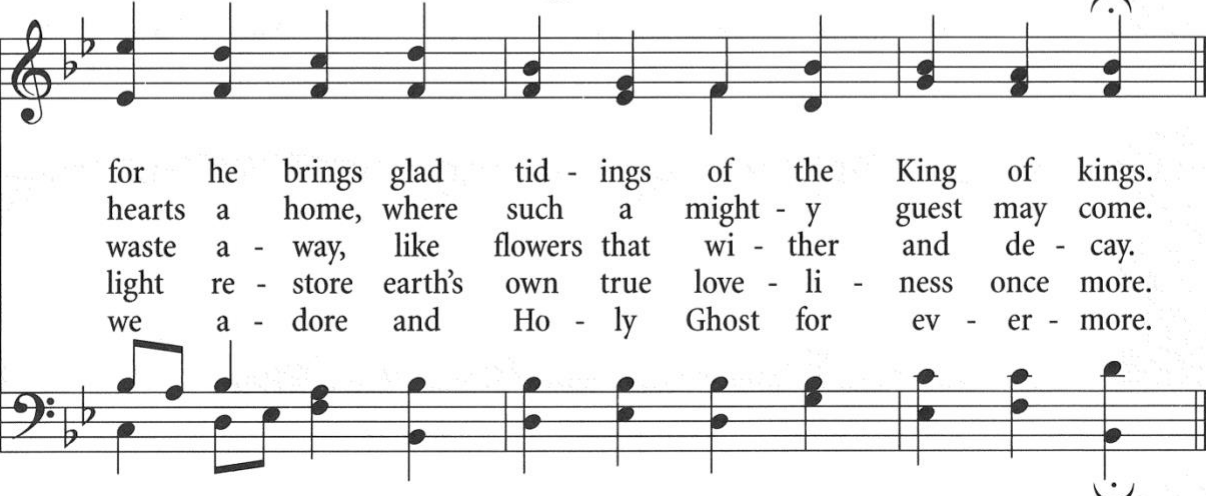
Here endeth the lesson.



1 On Jor - dan's bank, the Bap - tist's cry an - noun - ces  
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make straight the  
 3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our ref - uge,  
 4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and bid the  
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and hear - ken,  
 way for God with - in. Pre - pare we in our  
 and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we  
 fal - len sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy  
 doth thy peo - ple free, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.  
 hearts a home, where such a might - y guest may come.  
 waste a - way, like flowers that wi - ther and de - cay.  
 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.  
 we a - dore and Ho - ly Ghost for ev - er - more.

ANTIPHON

*O Emanuel our King and Lawgiver, the hope of the nations and their Saviour: Come and save us O Lord our God.*

THE SEVENTH LESSON

Matthew 1:18-23

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him 'Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.'"

Here endeth the lesson.

CAROL *There is no Rose*

Philip Stopford

There is no rose of such virtue as is the rose that bare Jesu,  
Alleluia.

For in this rose contained was Heaven and earth in little space.

Resmiranda.

By that rose we may well see There be one God in Persons Three:

Pares forma.

Then leave we all this worldly mirth And follow this joyous birth:

Transeamus.

## ANTIPHON

*O Virgin of virgins, how shall this be? For neither before thee was any like thee, nor shall there be after. Daughters of Jerusalem, why marvel ye at me? The thing which ye behold is a divine mystery.*

## THE EIGHTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God."

Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Here endeth the lesson.

The Angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame; “All hail,” said he, “thou lowly maiden Mary, most highly favoured lady,” Gloria!

“For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be, all generations laud and honour thee, thy Son shall be Immanuel, by seers foretold; most highly favoured lady,” Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head, “To me be as it pleaseth God,” she said, “my soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name”: Most highly favoured lady, Gloria!

Of her, Immanuel, the Christ, was born in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn, and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say, “Most highly favoured lady,” Gloria!

*Please stand as you are able.*

VESPER RESPONSORY

Palestrina

Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed; Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you. Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord. Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

COLLECT

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



## BLESSING

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of his spirit. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## HYMN

## HELMSLEY

1 Lo, he comes with clouds de - scend - ing, once for  
2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in  
3 Now re - demp - tion, long ex - pect - ed, see in  
4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee, high on

fa - voured sin - ners slain; thou - sand thou - sand  
dread - ful maj - es - ty; all who set at  
sol - emn pomp ap - pear; all his saints, on  
thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - viour, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his  
 nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the  
 earth re - ject - ed, thrill the trum - pet sound to  
 power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah,  
 tree, deep - ly griev - ing, deep - ly griev - ing,  
 hear: hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah,  
 own: O come quick - ly! O come quick - ly!

hal - le - lu - jah! God ap - pears on earth to reign.  
 deep - ly griev - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.  
 hal - le - lu - jah! See the day of God ap - pear!  
 O come quick - ly! Hal - le - lu - jah! Come, Lord, come!

POSTLUDE *Prayer to Our Lady (Gothic Suite)*

Leon Boellman (1862-1897)





## 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 Dr. Terry Shields Dirbas, *Rector* [terry.dirbas@sjs.net](mailto:terry.dirbas@sjs.net)  
The Reverend Dr. Marilyn Hames, *Honorary Assisting Priest*  
The Reverend Karin Fulcher, *Deacon (Retired)*  
The Reverend Dr. Pitman B. Potter, *Deacon (Retired)*  
Dr. Graeme Langager, *Choral Director* [graeme.langager@sjs.net](mailto:graeme.langager@sjs.net)  
Michael Dirk, *Principal Organist and Artist-in-Residence* [organist@sjs.net](mailto:organist@sjs.net)  
Deanna Ferguson, *Parish Administrator* [church.office@sjs.net](mailto:church.office@sjs.net)

### Trustees

The Rev. Dr. Terry Shields Dirbas, *Rector*  
Ken Pepin, *Rector's Warden* [ken.pepin@sjsparish.net](mailto:ken.pepin@sjsparish.net)  
Joan Stewart, *People's Warden* [joan.stewart@sjsparish.net](mailto:joan.stewart@sjsparish.net)  
Mike Dezell [mike.dezell@sjsparish.net](mailto:mike.dezell@sjsparish.net)  
Dr. Ruth Freedman [ruth.freedman@sjsparish.net](mailto:ruth.freedman@sjsparish.net)



1490 Nanton Ave. Vancouver, BC, V6H 2E2  
(604) 731-4966  
[www.sjs.net](http://www.sjs.net)