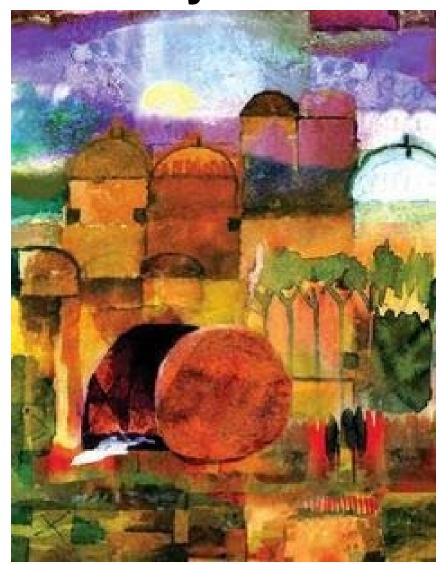
# Church of the Messiah Gwynedd



Holy Eucharist
Eastertide
April 21, 2024
9:30 am

THE EUCHARIST, also called the Mass, Holy Communion, or the Lord's Supper, is by Christ's command the central act of Christian worship.

In this service the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ is proclaimed in Word and Sacrament. It unites us with the offering of Christ's sacrifice, his death and resurrection, and we are fed and nourished by Jesus himself, who is truly present in this Blessed Sacrament.

"The Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me. 'In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. 'For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Jesus said: "I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

S. John 6:48-51

#### Prelude - Madrigal Divine (based on Psalm 23) R. Nathaniel Dett

## **Opening Hymn – Hymnal #205** Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!



Words: Cyril A. Alington (1872-1955), alt. St. 5, Norman Mealy (1923-1987). Copyright © 1958, renewal 1986, by Hope Publishing company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. St.5, Copyright © 1971 by Walton Music Corporation. Used by permission. Music: *Gelobt sei Gott*, Melchior Vulpius (1560?-1616).

The people standing, the Priest says

Priest Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

#### The Priest says

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.** 

#### Gloria in excelsis (S-280)

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**The Collect** 

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Let us pray.

The Priest says the Collect.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people; Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* 

#### The Lessons

#### A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (4:5-12)

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

The Word of the Lord. *People* **Thanks be to God.** 

A psalm follows the first reading.

#### Psalm 23

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; \* I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures \* and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul \* and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; \* for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; \* you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \* and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

A second reading follows the psalm.

#### A reading from the first letter of John (3:16-24)

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love

abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

## **Gradual Hymn – Hymnal #664 –** My shepherd will supply my need (v. 1-2 sung before Gospel, 3 post Gospel)



Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748); para. of Psalm 23. Music: Resignation, American folk melody, acc. David Hurd (b. 1950).

#### The Gospel

All stand and face the Gospel. The Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 10:11-18

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

After the Gospel, the Priest says

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

The Sermon - The Rev. David Beresford

#### The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures: he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### **Prayers of the People (Form VI)**

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world; For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation; For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble; For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God; For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, Daniel our Bishop, David our Rector and for all bishops and other ministers; For all who serve God in his Church.

For the Search Committee as they continue to be faithful in seeking your will. Bless them with mutual trust, respect, and foresight as they lead us in the next phase of Church of the Messiah's legacy.

For the members of our Search Committee.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, and for all who are sick in body, mind or spirit, especially Joe; Eamonn; Becky Melberger; Scott Bender; Stanley Cornwall; Jim Berstler; Ken and Valerie Baker; Michele and Justin Wright; Bobby; Don; Steven; Thomas Champley; Joey Myers; Phillip Myers, Sr.; Debbie Schmid; Geri Brinton; Kenny; Peter; Joe; Susan Weiss and Bruce Baumann. Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King; And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, especially Brooke Hallman, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Priest and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### The Priest says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.** 

#### The Peace

Priest Alleluia. Christ has been raised from the dead. The peace of the risen Christ be always with you

People And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All share a greeting of peace with these words

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

Offertory Anthem – Blessed Assurance Fanny J. Crosby & Phoebe P. Knapp
Dave Kriebel, soloist

### **The Holy Communion**

#### The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer B)

The People remain standing until after the Lord's Prayer:

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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 and Benedictus**



We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of 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 Savior 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 before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

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, O 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 may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of 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 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,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

#### The Breaking of the Bread

The Priest breaks the consecrated Bread

Priest Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

#### **Agnus Dei**



The Priest invites the People to Holy Communion. All who are baptized may receive. Please wait for the Usher to invite you to stand.

Priest The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Some gluten-free hosts are also consecrated. Please let the Priest know when you come to receive if you require one. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of Communion, fold your arms over your chest.

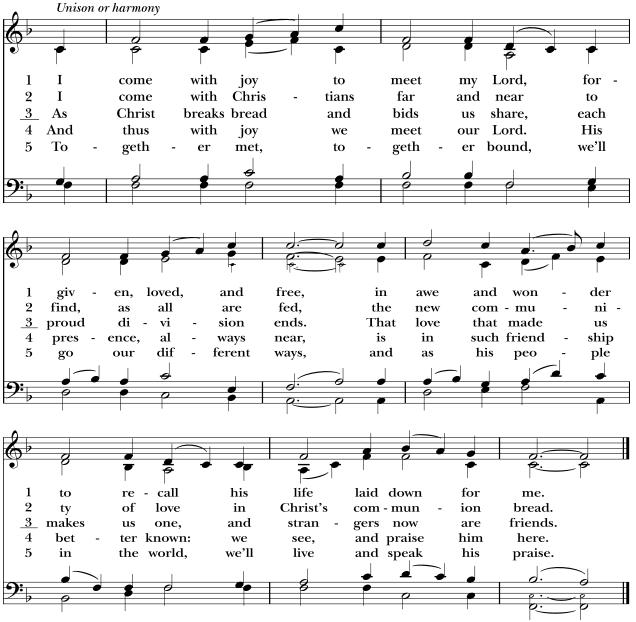
The Body of Christ. **Amen.**The Blood of Christ. **Amen.** 

#### Communion Hymn - Hymnal #343 - Shepherd of souls



Words: James Montgomery (1771-1845), alt. Music: *St. Agnes*, melody John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876); harm. Richard Proulx (b. 1937), after John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876). Copyright © 1985, G.I.A. Publications.

Hymnal # 304 - I come with joy to meet my Lord



Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt. Copyright © 1971 by Hope Publishing Company Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983).

#### **Post Communion Prayer**

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Let us pray.

The Priest blesses the People.

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Savior Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.** 

#### Closing Hymn - Hymnal #334 - Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing



Words: Howard Charles Adie Gaunt (1902-1983), alt. By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *Alles ist an Gottes Segen*, melody att. Johann Balthasar König (1691-1758), alt.; harm. Johann Löhner (1645-1705), after chorale ver. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

#### **Dismissal**

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia. People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

#### Postlude - Toccata in F Johann Pachelbel

#### **Announcements**

#### Thank you

To all those who helped with the cemetery cleanup on Saturday morning!

#### **Funeral**

For the late Brooke Hallman, at Church of the Messiah on Wednesday, April 24 at 11:00 am.

#### Word into Life

Father David has selected sermons delivered during the past six months for further discussion during Eastertide. The next sermon to be reviewed and discussed is titled "Jesus' Authority". Copies are available at the back of church. Each session will conclude with Compline. Wednesday, April 24, 2024, Guild Room, 7:00 pm.

#### **Celtic Eucharist**

Feast of the Ascension, Thursday, May 9 at 7:00 pm.

#### **Prayer Shawl Anniversary**

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is celebrating its 15th anniversary this week with the blessing of its 1207th shawl. Our small, dedicated group's membership has fluctuated over the years as we've mourned the passing of several members, but a core of 8 women continue our ministry, knitting all the shawls which have been given with prayers of comfort, support, healing and love. They've been given to those who are ill, those who grieve, and those who celebrate - baptisms, graduations, and weddings. If you or a loved one would like to receive a shawl, please contact Nancy Alpert-Sisson (215-285-0331) or Edie Amey (215-512-8015), or the church office.

#### **Annual Meeting**

Church of the Messiah holds its annual meeting in the church hall after the 9:30 am Sung Eucharist on Sunday, May 5 at 11:00 am. Bagels and Donuts and Coffee will be provided!

#### Search Committee Update

As we progress with the interview process, we ask the Messiah Community to lift up our church, the members of the committee, and the candidates, so that we are open to God's lead.

Pray for our search committee:

Almighty God, you know the needs of your Church in every place.

Guide the Search Committee as they continue to be faithful in seeking your will.

Bless them with mutual trust, respect, and foresight as they lead us in the next phase of the Church of Messiah's legacy.

#### Messiah Meals

Messiah Meals prepares nutritious meals for Caring for Friends. The goal of this organization is to provide food and friendship to seniors, adults and kids in the 5 county Philadelphia area. In 2021, they distributed 12 million pounds of food each month which equated to 3 thousand servings of foods per week! We will be cooking in the kitchen on April 30th at 5:00PM. If you prefer to be a home chef, kits of 10 meals each (with instructions) are available in the Narthex. This is a great project to do with kids or grandkids to teach the value of community service. Please place meals in the church freezer by 4/30.

#### **Outreach Request**

Family Promise is based in Ambler. Their mission is to address homelessness and hunger. Last year, they provided a safe place to sleep and healthy food to 2,384 people. And.....100% of families who completed their program found permanent homes! They are in need of products for Spring cleaning. They have requested dishwasher detergent tablets, laundry detergent tablets, glass cleaner, multipurpose cleaner, tall kitchen garbage bags, dish soap and hand soaps with pump dispensers. If you could grab some of these items during your next shopping trip, it would be greatly appreciated. A collection box is in the Narthex.

## ECCP CHURCH COMMUNITY OF PA. APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup> SPEAKER, LUNCHEON NATE HOFFER, CEO, GOOD SAMARITAN SERVICES

Nate Hoffer, the leader of Good Samaritan Services for many years, will speak with members and friends of the Episcopal Church Community of Pennsylvania (ECCP) at St. Thomas Whitemarsh, 7020 Camp Hill Road, Fort Washington on Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 11 a. m.

He will discuss how Good Sam responds with compassion to the challenges of poverty-related needs in its two-county service area by serving those experiencing street homeliness, those who are at risk of losing their own housing, and all levels of housing insecurity in between.

At a bring your own lunch following the formal discussion, you will be able to discuss with Nate the compassionate case management which members of Good Sam's team provide to each participant as he or she progresses toward stability . . . and after he or she achieves stability. (ECCP will supply refreshments at lunch.)

If you would like additional information, please E-Mail Mike Riley at <a href="mailto:mriley415@gmail.com">mriley415@gmail.com</a>. ECCP, a more than 125-year old charitable organization, shares awareness of matters of religious and civic concern through periodic in-person and online programs, and provides financial assistance to seminarians from the Diocese of Pennsylvania.

<u>ALTAR FLOWER SPACES AVAILABLE</u>: There are lots of openings for Altar Flowers for Winter. Please contact the office if you would like to honor a loved one with altar flowers. The suggested donation is \$75.

#### The Prayer Book

A book with a white cover and cross can be found at the back of the church. In the book please write the names of those who are sick in body, mind or spirit or in any kind of need. Their names will be included the following week in the prayers of the people.

Those whose names are entered will be prayed for on Sundays and by members of our prayer chain. Along with their names, please also write the current date. After four weeks - or before if requested - their name will be removed from the prayer list. To continue to include them on the

prayer list, after four weeks their name must be entered again in the book.

#### PHOTOS FOR SOCIAL MEDIA

We frequently take photographs in and around the church that may appear on our social media account, website and print materials. If you do not wish to be in photographs, please contact the church office, and we will be sure to respect your wishes!

#### SUPPORT MANNA ON MAIN STREET

As you do your weekly shopping, please pick up some non-perishable food items, toiletries and cleaning supplies. These donations can be left on the back pew of the church or left outside the Rector's office door. These will then be delivered to Manna to stock their shelves for distribution to meet clients' needs.

<u>WEEKLY PARISH EMAIL MESSAGES AND NOTIFICATIONS</u> Each week, the church office sends an email to all parishioners with important notifications and information about parish events and other happenings. If you are not currently receiving these messages,

please contact the Church Office (215-699-9204; office@messiahgwynedd.org) so we can add you to the database.

If You Do Not Have Internet Access: Please contact the Church Office (215-699-9204; office@messiahgwynedd.org) so we can add you to the mailing list of those parishioners who receive hard copies of the messages and sermon by mail.

#### IN CASE OF A PASTORAL EMERGENCY

Please contact The Rev. David Beresford: 302-468-9062

#### BIRTHDAYS IN THE WEEK AHEAD

- Tina Madison
- Joanne Fitzgerald
- Craig Watson

#### SERVING MESSIAH THIS MORNING

Ushers Dave Prezuhy; Cindy Wilkinson Lector and Intercessor Lynn Mangan; Dave Prezuhy

Chalice Bearer Brenda Weir

Altar Guild Cathy Damico; Pam Schunke; Marsha Althouse

Altar Flowers Nancy Alpert-Sisson
Crucifer Maddy Putterman
Chimer Martha Hewson

Church School Jennifer Marsh; Elizabeth Dale

#### THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH: April 22 – April 28

Monday Church Office Hours 9:30 am- 2:30 pm
Tuesday Church Office Hours 9:30 am- 2:30 pm
Wednesday Church Office Hours 9:30 am- 2:30 pm

Word into Life – Guild Room 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Thursday Church Office Hours 9:30 am- 2:30 pm
Friday Church Office Hours 9:30 am- 2:30 pm

Next Sunday Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:30 am Sung Eucharist

#### **CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH STAFF**

The Rev. David Beresford, Interim Rector Sarah Patram, Parish Administrator and Bookkeeper Hannah Albrecht, Organist & Choir Director

#### **CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH VESTRY**

Barbara Stevenson, Warden Sam Frenkel, Financial Warden Brenda Weir, Clerk

Class of 2024: Lynn Mangan, Marissa Beaver

Class of 2025: Sue Hess, Dale Murphy, Warren Tudgay, Cathy Wallace

Class of 2026: Marsha Althouse, Barbara Osborne, John Sprouse, Linda Unangst