

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

In the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina



William Blake (British, 1757-1827) *The Parable of the Foolish Virgins* ca. 1799-1800
Watercolor, pen and black ink over graphite. Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Sunday, November 8, 2020

The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost



To Know Christ and to make Christ known...
St. Paul's invites all people to the Christian Way of unity with God and neighbor
through a welcoming environment of worship and ministry

Holy Eucharist

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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

S278

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-
might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,
on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;
5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-
ceive our prayer. 6. For
you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the
Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of
God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A Reading from the Book of Joshua (24:1-3a, 14-25)

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, “Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

“Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”

Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.”

But Joshua said to the people, “You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God.

He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good.” And the people said to Joshua, “No, we will serve the Lord!” Then Joshua said to the people, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him.” And they said, “We are witnesses.” He said, “Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel.” The people said to Joshua, “The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey.” So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks Be to God.

Psalm 78:1-7

- ¹ Hear my teaching, O my people; *
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- ² I will open my mouth in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- ³ That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.
- ⁴ We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, *
and the wonderful works he has done.
- ⁵ He gave his decrees to Jacob and established a law for Israel, *
which he commanded them to teach their children;
- ⁶ That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet unborn; *
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;
- ⁷ So that they might put their trust in God, *
and not forget the deeds of God,
but keep his commandments;

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians (4:13-18)


We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn to Announce the Gospel

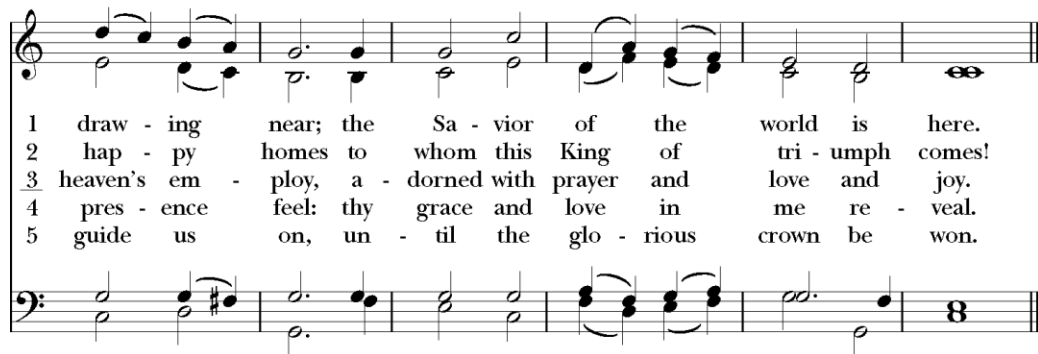
Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates



1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
2 O blest the land, the ci - ty blest, where Christ the
3 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
*4 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to
5 So come, my Sov - ereign; en - ter in! Let new and



1 King of glo - ry waits! The King of kings is
2 ru - ler is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and
3 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
4 thee: here, Lord, a - bide! Let me thy in - ner
5 no - bler life be - gin; thy Ho - ly Spi - rit



1 draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the world is here.
2 hap - py homes to whom this King of tri - umph comes!
3 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
4 pres - ence feel: thy grace and love in me re - veal.
5 guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

Words: Georg Weissel (1590-1635); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)

Music: Truro, melody from Psalmodia Evangelica, Part II, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872), alt.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew (25:1-13)

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the

bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev’d Ray Hanna

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.

The Prayers of the People

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.
Hear our prayers, O Lord our God.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Govern and direct your holy Church; fill it with love and truth; and grant it that
unity which is your will.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Give us boldness to preach the gospel in all the world, and to make disciples of
all the nations.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Enlighten Rob our bishop; Ray our interim rector; Adam our assistant rector;
Richard our priest associate; and all your ministers with knowledge and
understanding, that by their teaching and their lives they may proclaim your
word.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Give your people grace to hear and receive your word, and to bring forth the
fruit of the Spirit.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Strengthen those who stand, comfort and help the faint-hearted; raise up the
fallen; and finally beat down Satan under our feet.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Guide the leaders of the nations into the ways of peace and justice.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Bless those who administer the law, that they may uphold justice, honesty and truth.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Give us the will to use the fruits of the earth to your glory, and for the good of all creation.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Bless and keep all your people.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Help and comfort the lonely, the bereaved and the oppressed.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Keep in safety those who travel, and all who are in danger.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Heal the sick in body and mind, especially Alix, John, David, Anne, Richard, Jere, Tammy, William, Barbara, Jim, Joanne, Robin, and those friends of the parish on our prayer list, and provide for the homeless, the hungry, and the destitute.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Show your pity on prisoners and refugees, and all who are in trouble.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Forgive our enemies, persecutors and slanderers, and turn their hearts.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Hear us as we remember those who have died in the peace of Christ, both those who have confessed the faith and those whose faith is known to you alone, and grant us with them a share in your eternal kingdom.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England, material from which is included in this service, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000.

Prayer for the Election of St. Paul's next Rector

Heavenly Father, source of all knowledge, you know the needs of your church in every place. Look graciously upon the people of St. Paul's and grant our search committee and Vestry the wisdom and discernment to call, with open hearts and minds, a faithful pastor who will feed us, your flock, and equip us for our ministries.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Prayer List

In our parish

ALIX DORR
FR. JOHN CAWTHORNE
DAVID HEATH
ANNE LAUDATI
RICHARD LAUDATI
JERE LEWIS

WILLIAM MURPHY
BARBARA O'ROURKE
TAMMY POLLOCK
JIM SUMMEY
JOANN SUMMEY
RALPH TILDEN
MACK UMPHLETT

People requesting prayer

JESSICA BEAVER
SHARON BERRY
ROBIN KEENE
REV'D MICHAEL SINGER
ARCHIE SKIRVING
TRACY CALHOUN SORRENTI
RYAN STANFIELD
CORLEEN THOMPSON
BENNETT WHITFIELD

Confession of Sin

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Priest stands and 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.*

Education for Ministry Graduation

The Celebrant says:

I invite all the participants of the Education for Ministry program, past and
current, to come forward and assemble across the front.

When all are assembled the Celebrant says

Today we celebrate the graduation of Margaret Haughey who has completed the
Education for Ministry program: studying the Holy Scriptures, church history,

and theology. For students in the *EfM* program, these four years have been spent in a learning community, endeavoring to live according to their beliefs in their daily lives, and purposefully seeking to follow where God is calling them to minister in the world.

Litany of Thanksgiving

EfM students: We give thanks to God for all scriptures.

Graduate: For psalms and letters, for gospels and books.

EfM students: We give thanks to God for reason and ideas.

Graduate: For prophets and writers, for theologians and scholars, for all whose wisdom helps us to grow.

EfM students: We give thanks for the Spirit that guides us.

Graduate: For growth in our ministry, for seeking and finding.

EfM students: We give thanks for each other, and for our mentors, Vickie and Ann.

Graduate: For love and support, for four years of growth, and for bonds of friendship, we give thanks to God.

EfM Mentors: Loving God, we pray that you will nurture our graduates with your daily grace, that they may continue to grow and to serve you each day of their lives. *Amen*

Celebrant: Heavenly Father, I ask your blessing upon Margaret and upon us all, in our worship, our study, and our ministry. *Amen.*

Awarding of Graduation Certificate.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

The Great Thanksgiving

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.

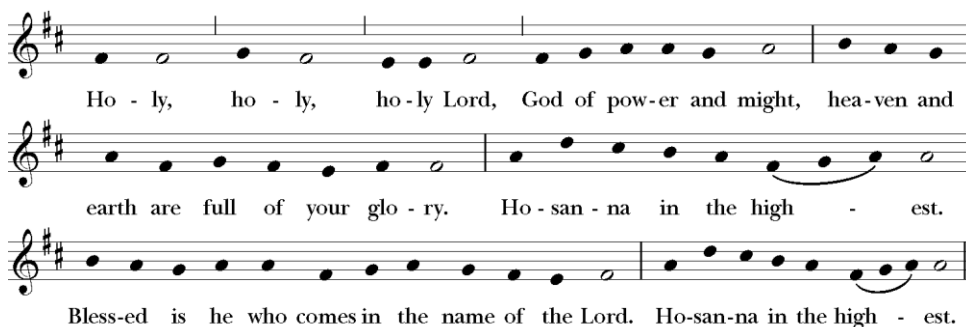
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

S124



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er 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.

Setting from *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950) © 1981, G.I.A Publications, Inc.

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:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

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.*

The Lord's Prayer

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

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,
forever and ever. *Amen.*

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

Setting from *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950) © 1981, G.I.A Publications, Inc.

S154

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.

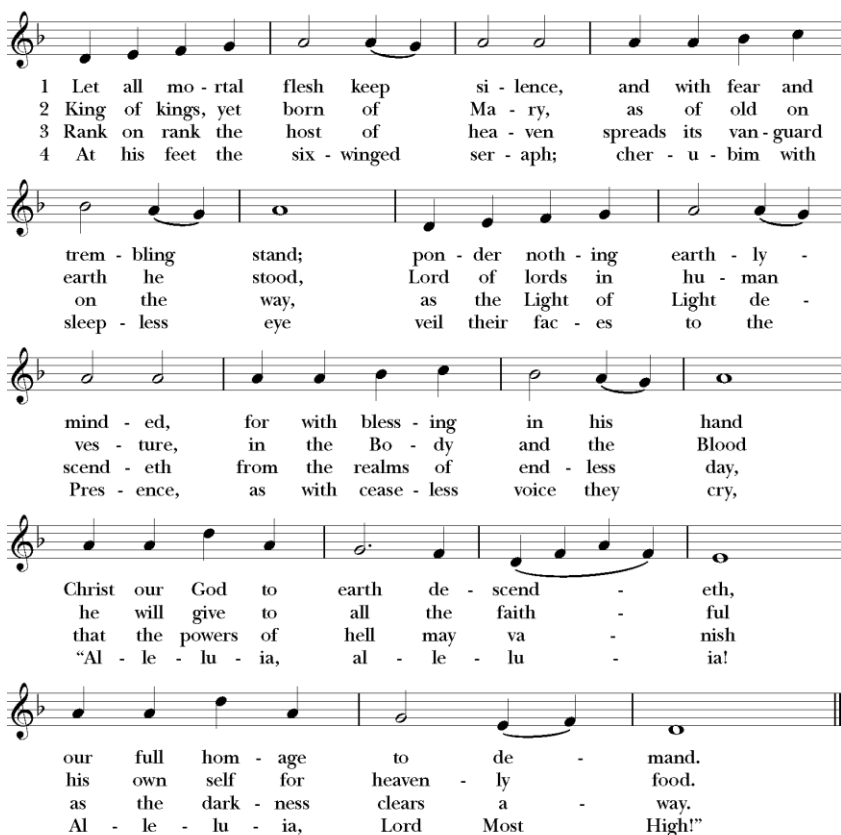
Celebrant

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Prayer For Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come into your glorious kingdom and unending peace. *Amen.*

Communion Hymn *Let all mortal flesh keep silence*



1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and
2 King of kings, yet born of Ma - ry, as of old on
3 Rank on rank the host of hea - ven spreads its van - guard
4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim with

trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly -
earth he stood, Lord of lords in hu - man
on the way, as the Light of Light de -
sleep - less eye veil their fac - es to the

mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
ves - ture, in the Bo - dy and the Blood
scend - eth, from the realms of end - less day,
Pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry,

Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth,
he will give to all the faith - ful
that the powers of hell may va - nish
"Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!"

our full hom - age to de - mand.
his own self for heaven - ly food.
as the dark - ness clears a - way.
Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Words: Liturgy of St. James; para. Gerard Moultrie (1829-1885)

Music: Picardy, French carol, 17th cent.; melody from *Chansons populaires des Provinces de France*, 1860; harm. after *The English Hymnal*, 1906

Sending Forth Of The Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant and People

In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one body, for we all share one bread, one cup.

Post-Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and 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 Priest blesses the people, saying

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen.

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Voluntary

Allegro from Suite Gothique

Leon Boellmann

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St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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The Rev'd Raymond Hanna, Interim Rector
The Rev'd Adam Pierce, Assistant Rector
The Rev'd Richard Banks, Priest Associate
Ronnie D. Wise, Director of Music and Organist
Richard Rhoads, Assistant Director of Music and Organist
Diane Matz-Kane, Finance Assistant

St. Paul's Vestry 2020

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Ruth Gates
Angela Green
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