

# ST. JOHN'S

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EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany  
Holy Eucharist: Rite II

February 1, 2026  
10 a.m.

**Welcome to St. John's**



## **THE ORDER OF WORSHIP**

*The Congregation joins in the portions printed in **bold italics**.*

## HYMN 574,

“Before Thy Throne, O God, We Kneel”

Tune: ST PETERSBURGH

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

*Book of Common Prayer (BCP) p. 355****And blessed be his 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, S280

Robert Powell

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

***And also with you.***

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## THE LESSONS

*All sit*

## Micah 6:1-8

**H**ear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that

you may know the saving acts of the Lord.”

“With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with tens of thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

**Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \*  
who may abide upon your holy hill?**

**Whoever leads a blameless life and does  
what is right, \*  
who speaks the truth from his heart.**

**There is no guile upon his tongue; he does no  
evil to his friend; \*  
he does not heap contempt upon his  
neighbor.**

**In his sight the wicked is rejected, \*  
but he honors those who fear the Lord.**

**He has sworn to do no wrong \*  
and does not take back his word.**

**He does not give his money in hope of gain, \*  
nor does he take a bribe against the  
innocent.**

**Whoever does these things \*  
shall never be overthrown.**

### 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

**T**he message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and

God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

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

**Matthew 5:1-12**

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

*Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

**W**hen Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see

God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**Hymn 440, verses 2-3**

**THE SERMON**

**The Nicene Creed**

*All stand, as able*

*BCP, p. 358*

*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

*All kneel, as able*

Form VI, BCP, p. 392

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 Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean, Presiding Bishop; Justin, our Bishop; Bishops Retired; Timothy, and Vanessa, our Priests, and for all bishops and other ministers;  
*For all who serve God in his Church.*

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for Christ Church, Ft. Meade, and St. Andrew's Church, Fort Pierce.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the

bishops and clergy of The Church of England.

Hear us, Lord;  
*For your mercy is great.*

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

Heavenly Father, watch over and protect our nation's military members and their families, especially, *Caleb, Chase, Geoffrey, Jack, Johnny, Kyle, Matthew B., Matthew M., Milton, Murray, Ricky, Sarah, and Siena.* *Silence.*

We pray for our brothers and sisters who cannot be here with us today especially *Frank.* And for those on our weekly prayer list. *Silence*

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

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. *Silence*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
*Who put their trust in you.*

God of peace and justice, we pray for all those who live under armed conflict in the Holy Land, Ukraine, Sudan, Iran and other places around the world. We pray for those with power over war or peace and those commanded to fight; for wisdom, compassion and restraint to guide their decisions. We pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. In the name of Jesus, the

Prince of Peace. *Amen.*

*The celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*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 Holy 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 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.*

## **The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*And also with you.*

## **Announcements**

All sit

## **Birthday and Anniversary Prayer**

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

*(Eucharistic Prayer B)*

*BCP, p. 367*

### **At the Offertory,**

#### **Anthem**

“Blessed Are the Pure in Heart”

Walford Davies

### **Presentation Hymn 380,**

Doxology

Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH

(We will sing stanza #3 only)

All things come of Thee, O Lord.

*And of Thine own have we given Thee.*

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 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.

*Here the Celebrant adds a Proper Preface.*

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, S-129**

Setting: Robert Powell

*Please kneel, as able*

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 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**

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
***Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia!***

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.

*The Holy Eucharist is Christ's eternal banquet, to which all adults and children are invited. If you are a baptized Christian of any tradition (and regardless of your current status in any other church) we welcome you to receive communion with this community of God's people. At the time of*

*communion, the ushers will indicate when your row should come forward. Please come to the altar rail; you may stand or kneel. The bread will be placed in your outstretched hands; the appropriate response is “Amen.” When the chalice of wine comes, hold out your bread for the minister to dip it in the wine for you, or decline it by crossing your arms over your chest. If for any reason you prefer not to receive the bread and wine, or if you have not been Baptized, you may come forward and cross your arms over your chest for a blessing.*

### **At the Distribution,**

**Voluntary**

*Make Me A Channel of Your Peace*

Sebastian Temple  
Arr. Jane Holstein

**Anthem,**

“Eat this Bread”

Tune: Taizé

**The Post-Communion Prayer**

*All kneel, as able*

*BCP, p.366*

*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**

**Hymn 473,**

“Lift High the Cross”

Tune: CRUCIFER

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!  
*Thanks be to God!*

**Voluntary**

*The Old Rugged Cross*

George Bennard



### **THIS MORNING'S MUSIC**

This morning's opening hymn, “Before Thy Throne, O God, We Kneel” echoes the Old Testament reading in Micah, exhorting us to examine our consciences and walk humbly with our God and one another. The hymn's text was written by William Boyd Carpenter (1841-1918), a clergyman in the Church of England who rose through the ranks to become the Bishop of Ripon and the court chaplain of Queen Victoria. The composer of the hymn's tune, Dmitri S. Bortiniansky (1751-1825), led an equally illustrious life, serving as a harpsichordist and conductor in the court of Catherine the Great. He is often compared to Palestrina due to his command of a vast array of musical styles, and he is often claimed by both Ukraine and Russia as a national composer due to his

Ukrainian Cossack heritage and Russian imperial career.

From now on, we will be singing a verse (or several verses) of a hymn before and after the Gospel reading rather than repeating the same “Alleluia” every week. Today, the hymn is “Blessed Jesus, At Thy Word”. The first verse affirms the value of coming together to listen to the Word, as we do in each worship service, and the later verses accentuate the vast gulf between human intellect and divine wisdom, just as Paul does in today’s Epistle reading in 1st Corinthians. The original German words were written by Lutheran military chaplain and theologian Tobias Clausnitzer (1619-1684) and translated by the indefatigable Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), who is responsible for bringing almost the entirety of the German chorale tradition into English.

The offertory anthem and communion voluntary are based on today’s Gospel reading in Matthew. “Blessed Are the Pure in Heart” is an evocative choral piece that elaborates on the Beatitudes, expressing God’s tenderness for his children. It was written by English organist and composer Wilford Davies (1869-1941), who served as the music adviser to the BBC and the official Master of the King’s Music. “Make Me A Channel of Your Peace” is a paraphrase of the prayer of St. Francis, which reminds us that being blessed by God comes with a calling to be a peacemaker. (For those who are curious, the words can be found in the hymnal on p. 593). The music was written by contemporary folk mass composer Sebastian Temple (1928-1997) and arranged for choir and piano by Jane Holstein.

The closing hymn and voluntary are centered around the symbol of the cross, which is also prominent in 1st Corinthians. “Lift High the Cross” (originally composed by George Kitchin for a festival service at Westminster Cathedral) emphasizes Christ’s exaltation, while “The Old Rugged Cross” (originally composed by Methodist evangelist George Kennard), emphasizes the humility of the Christian life.



**VISITORS AND GUESTS:** Welcome to St. John's! We hope you will stay after the service for an opportunity to chat. Snacks and beverages are provided in our Parish Hall. If you have questions about baptisms, weddings, membership, or to be included on our newsletter and mailing lists please email the Church Office at [office@stjohnsmlb.org](mailto:office@stjohnsmlb.org).

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS AND SANCTUARY CANDLE** may be given in memory of a loved one, or to commemorate some occasion. Contact the church office at [office@stjohnsmlb.org](mailto:office@stjohnsmlb.org) or 321-254-3365.

**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:** Tyler Heusenveld.

**ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK:** Jim & Amy Lacy.

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## LENT AT ST. JOHN'S

### Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Sponsored by the Boy Scouts

February 17, Time TBD

### Ash Wednesday Worship

with the imposition of Ashes

February 18, Noon (without music) &  
7 p.m. (with music)

### Lenten Lunch Series "Dying Well"

Wednesdays, Beginning February 25  
12 Noon, led by Fr. Timothy Rutherford  
Soup & Sandwich Lunch

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**VOLUNTEERS TO MAKE SOUP** on the following dates: February 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25. If you are able to assist please contact Jackie Bond or sign-up in the parish hall.

**BIBLE STUDY:** "Read the Bible in a Year", every Wednesday, at 10:00 a.m. in the Rector's office. Drop-ins are welcome!

**ADULT & YOUTH CHRISTIAN FORMATION:** 9:00 a.m. Adults in the Parish Hall, Youth in the Chapel.

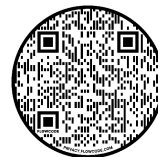
**TGIF:** Join the Men's Bible study, Fridays, 8 a.m. at La Loma Coney Island, 1180 Aurora Rd,

Melbourne, 32935. 321-254-8559.

**THE FOOD PANTRY:** is still in need of your help. Place your non-perishable food in the basket at the back of the church.

**A PRAYER REQUEST BOX** is available from the St. John's Order of the Daughters of the King, beside the Daughters' banner in the Sanctuary. Alternatively, you may contact Sarah Kendall, (702) 203-6093, [537sarah@gmail.com](mailto:537sarah@gmail.com), or any Daughter. The Daughters have taken a vow to pray for others and take this vow seriously. All prayer requests are strictly confidential, and as Daughters, honor that confidentiality. Prayers will be passed on to Fr. Timothy if requested.

**DONATE TO ST. JOHN'S ONLINE!** You can now make a safe and convenient donation to St. John's via PayPal. Scan the QR code at right or visit [stjohnsmlb.org](http://stjohnsmlb.org) and click on Donate Now!



**STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2026:** Pledge cards are still available in the church, or by contacting the church office. You can also pledge online at "stjohnsmlb.org" and clicking on "stewardship."

**ST. JOHN'S Focus** for the month of February is Vietnam and All Vets. They are a not-for-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the state of Florida. VAVB assists veterans who have temporarily lost the ability to manage their lives successfully. Located on Fee Avenue, Melbourne VAVB has taken specific action to offer homeless vets with a temporary shelter, and provide for their immediate needs permitting them to search for work, and once employed; to save enough money to acquire living quarters and transportation. The facility consists of ten apartments housed in two buildings which can accommodate up to nineteen residents. The current cost for maintaining the facility is approximately \$90,000.00 per year. In partnership with the state, the county, city government, and Veterans organizations and other

supporters they continue to operate this worthwhile program. More information on the organization may be found at their website, [vietnamdallveteransofbrevard.com](http://vietnamdallveteransofbrevard.com).

Mirissa Napolitano is the speaker today.



You are invited to join a community of women who believe in the power of prayer, service to others, and the sharing of the gospel to expand the Kingdom of God. You can find out more about the DOK by contacting Sallie Razor at 859-585-5836, [srazor@bellsouth.net](mailto:srazor@bellsouth.net); or Pam Davis, at 321-480-9283, [SunHatPam@hotmail.com](mailto:SunHatPam@hotmail.com).

**READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:** Isaiah 58:1-12, 1 Corinthians 2:1-16, Matthew 5:13-20, Psalm 112:1-10. To find all the lessons visit the webpage: [lectionarypage.net](http://lectionarypage.net) and click on the date.

**SUNDAY MINISTRIES SCHEDULE:**

	<b>February 1</b>	<b>February 8</b>	<b>February 15</b>	<b>February 18 Ash Wednesday 12 Noon &amp; 7 P.M.</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	A. Weeks A. Lacy	A. Weeks B. Rincones	A. Weeks J. Miller	TBD
<b>Ushers</b>	J. Bond L. Miller	A. & J. Lacy	B. Chernault R. Huffman	B. Chernault at 7 J. McLaughlin at 7
<b>Reader Chalice Bearer</b>	J. McLaughlin TBD	J. Bond	M. Salmon	K. Oas at 7
<b>Acolytes</b>	Asher & Beowulf	Asher & Beowulf	Asher & Beowulf	
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Kathy Oas	L. Bennett	M. Salmon	K. Oas at 7
<b>Counter</b>	K. Wilson	K. Wilson	K. Wilson	N/A
<b>A/V</b>	B. Kendall V. Mitz	B. Kendall V. Mitz	B. Kendall V. Mitz	TBD

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

- Sun (2/1) Christian Formation, 9:00 a.m. Adults, Parish Hall; Youth, Chapel.  
Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10 a.m., also Livestreamed.  
Daughters of the King, after the service.
- Mon (2/2) Seaside Stitchers, 9: a.m., Parish Hall.  
AA, 5:30 p.m., Parish Hall.
- Tues (2/3) Boy Scouts, 5:30 p.m., Parish Hall.
- Wed (2/4) Bible in a Year Study Group, 10 a.m., Rector's office.  
Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m. Choir Loft.
- Thurs (2/5) Staff Meeting, 9 a.m., Rector's office.  
Ladies AA, 6:30 p.m., Parish Hall.
- Fri (2/6) TGIF, Men's Bible Study, 8 a.m. La Loma Coney Island Restaurant, 1180 Aurora.
- Sun (2/8) Christian Formation, 9:00 a.m., Adults, Parish Hall; Youth, Chapel.  
Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10:00 a.m., also Livestreamed

*All Zoom and Livestream links are available by visiting [stjohnsmlb.org](http://stjohnsmlb.org) > Calendar, then clicking on the event. Or you may email [office@stjohnsmlb.org](mailto:office@stjohnsmlb.org) and we will send you the link.*

## ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*. . . is a worshipping community, obedient to scripture,  
growing as servants of Christ, and sharing His love in word and deed.*

610 Young Street ✕ Melbourne, FL 32935 ✕ 321-254-3365 ✕ [www.stjohnsmlb.org](http://www.stjohnsmlb.org)  
Parish Office email: [office@stjohnsmlb.org](mailto:office@stjohnsmlb.org)



**The Rev. Timothy Rutherford**, Rector  
Pastoral Care: 803-565-6750 (Call or Text)  
[rector@stjohnsmlb.org](mailto:rector@stjohnsmlb.org)

**Sylvia Tammen**, Music Minister  
[sylvia.tammen1@gmail.com](mailto:sylvia.tammen1@gmail.com)

**Jackie Bond**, Office Assistant  
[office@stjohnsmlb.org](mailto:office@stjohnsmlb.org)

**Carole Taylor**, Bookkeeper  
[ctaylor9797@yahoo.com](mailto:ctaylor9797@yahoo.com)

**The Vestry of St. John's Church**  
TBD, Secretary

*Serving thru 1/2027*  
Peter Fischel,  
Ben Kendall, Sr. Warden  
Keith Salmon, Treasurer

*Serving thru 1/2028*  
Paul Mitz, Jr. Warden

*Serving thru 1/2029*  
Jason Grace, Gary Harrell