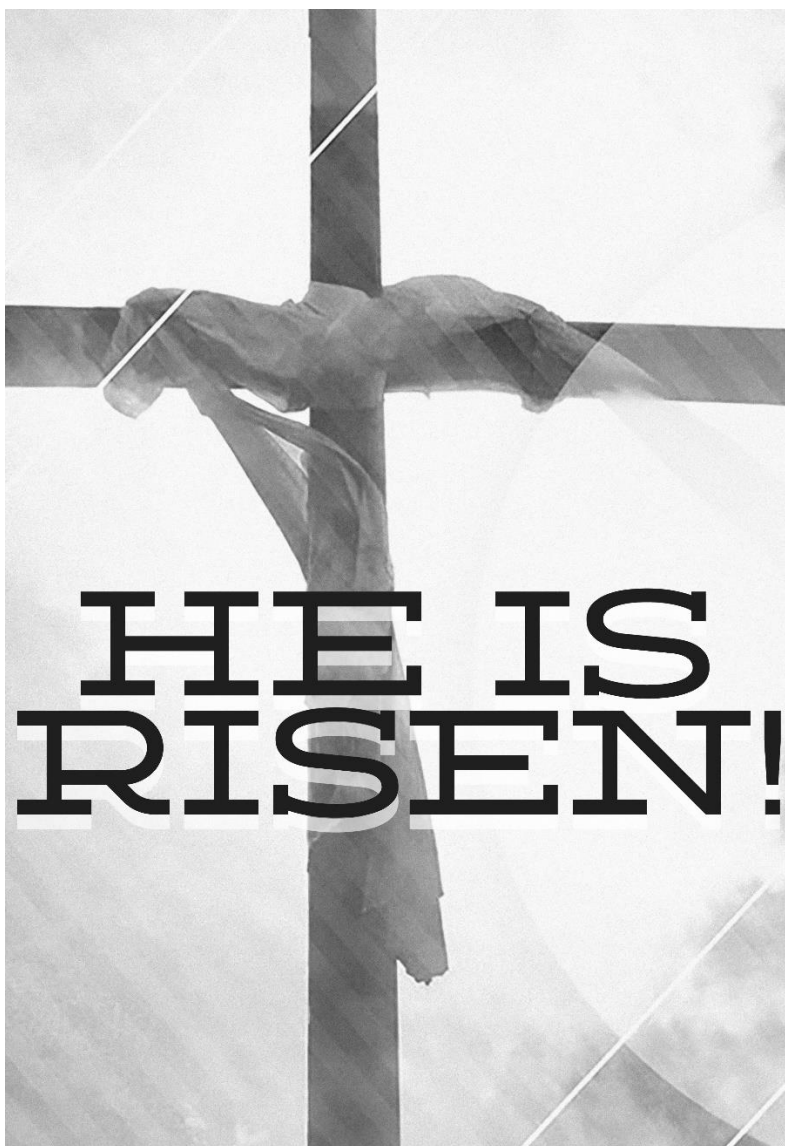


*St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
75 Cold Spring Road  
Westford, Massachusetts, 01886*



**April 5, 2026**

**Easter Day**

Rev. William Bergmann, Rev. Melissa Buono - *Officiants*

Lee Yezek, *Minister of Music*

*Usher/ Reader: Jean and Tom Ellis*

*Chalice: Mary*

## SUNDAY OF RESURRECTION: EASTER DAY

ENTRANCE HYMN *The strife is o'er, the battle done (Victory)* (H 208)

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

GLORIA S 277 *Glory to God (Hurd)* (BCP p. 356)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 357)

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**O God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.***

### The Lessons

FIRST READING: Acts 10:34-43

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

<sup>34</sup>Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and the other Gentiles]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

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

*Silence may follow.*

**PSALM: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24**

*Remain seated.*

- <sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; \*  
his mercy endures for ever.
- <sup>2</sup>Let Israel now proclaim, \*  
“His mercy endures for ever.”
- <sup>14</sup>The LORD is my strength and my song, \*  
and he has become my salvation.
- <sup>15</sup>There is a sound of exultation and victory \*  
in the tents of the righteous:
- <sup>16</sup>“The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! \*  
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!  
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!”
- <sup>17</sup>I shall not die, but live, \*  
and declare the works of the LORD.
- <sup>18</sup>The LORD has punished me sorely, \*  
but he did not hand me over to death.
- <sup>19</sup>Open for me the gates of righteousness; \*  
I will enter them;  
I will offer thanks to the LORD.
- <sup>20</sup>“This is the gate of the LORD; \*  
he who is righteous may enter.”
- <sup>21</sup>I will give thanks to you, for you answered me \*  
and have become my salvation.
- <sup>22</sup>The same stone which the builders rejected \*  
has become the chief cornerstone.
- <sup>23</sup>This is the LORD’s doing, \*  
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- <sup>24</sup>On this day the LORD has acted; \*  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

**SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-4**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Colossus.

<sup>1</sup>[Since] you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.<sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth,<sup>3</sup>for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

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

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN *He is risen, he is risen (Unser Herrscher)* (H 180)**

*All stand.*

**GOSPEL: John 20:1-18**

*All stand.*

*Celebrant*           The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
*People*               **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

<sup>1</sup>Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. <sup>2</sup>So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” <sup>3</sup>Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. <sup>4</sup>The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup>He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. <sup>6</sup>Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, <sup>7</sup>and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. <sup>8</sup>Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; <sup>9</sup>for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. <sup>10</sup>Then the disciples returned to their homes.

<sup>11</sup>But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; <sup>12</sup>and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. <sup>13</sup>They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” <sup>14</sup>When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup>Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). <sup>17</sup>Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” <sup>18</sup>Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

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

**THE SERMON - FR. WILLIAM BERGMANN**

**THE CREED (BCP p. 358)**

*All stand.*

**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 (BCP p. 359)**

*All remain standing.*

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;  
***That we all may be one.***

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
***That your Name may be glorified by all people.***

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
***That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.***

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest;

*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

## **PRAYERS FOR THOSE ON THE ST. MARK'S PRAYER LIST**

*Let us pray for our own needs and others.*

**Anna Oliverson, Susan and Kate, Kate and family, Ben, Orvil, JimDerek, Evie and family Beth, Brendan and Corine, and Kate, Elizabeth, Jane, Lisa, Pamela, Brooke, David Andrew, Charlotte and Bob, Ross, Lindy, Ted and Kathy, Doug and the Pecora family, Andrew Ward, John Gallacher, Janet Andrews, Marmi Sheehan, Marcia and Ralph, Shelly Wadsworth, Cathy C., Marion Perault, Sue Sweeney, Ben Meaden, Sherrie Carroll, Bob Berg, Judy and Marlene, Michael, and Marty Cassidy.**

**We pray for those who have recently died**

**Sandra, Fran Fletcher, Cora Rose, Albert Caproni, Francis Harnham, Biruta Salte.**

**Thanksgiving for healing**

**Jody**

**PRAYER FOR THE PARISH *(said by all)***

**Almingly and everliving God, ruler of all things inheaven  
And earth , hear our prayers for this Parish family. Strengthen  
the faithful,arouse the careless, and restore the penitent.  
Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring  
Us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church;  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE PEACE (BCP p. 360)

*All stand.*

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

*People*            **And also with you.**

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### The Holy Communion

#### OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*The Celebrant says*

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

*Psalm 50:14*

#### OFFERTORY ANTHEM (BCP p. 361)

#### THE DOXOLOGY V. 3 *From all that dwell below the skies (Old 100th) (H 380)*

#### The Great Thanksgiving

*The People remain standing.*

*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.**

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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: S-128**

### *Celebrant and People*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

### *The People stand or kneel.*

### *The Celebrant continues*

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,

### *Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

### *The Celebrant continues*

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 (BCP p. 363)**

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

*People and Celebrant*

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

**The Breaking of the Bread**

**FRACTION ANTHEM: ALLELUIA S - 155**

**INVITATION (BCP p. 364)**

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

**DISTRIBUTION (BCP p. 365)**

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

**COMMUNION HYMN *Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain (Noël nouvelet*  
(H 204)**

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 365)**

*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.**

**BLESSING (BCP p. 366)**

*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.*

**POST-COMMUNION HYMN *Jesus Christ is risen today (Easter Hymn) (H 207)***

**DISMISSAL (BCP p. 366)**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

*People*        **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

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**Announcements**

## **April 5th to April 12th**

### *Sunday, April 5th*

10 a.m.: EASTER Sunday, Holy Eucharist, Rev. William Bergmann & Rev. Melissa Buono

11 a.m.: Easter coffee hour. Contact Chrissy Hemingway or Judie Hilton about helping or bringing a dish.

### *Wednesday, April 8th*

5 p.m.: Theology at the Tavern. “How we learn to be brave.”

### *Thursday, April 9th*

9 a.m.: Joint Bible study at Johnson’s restaurant in Groton

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.: Church Office open

7:30 p.m.: Choir Rehearsal

### *Sunday, April 12th*

10 a.m.: Second Sunday of Easter, Holy Eucharist, Rev. William Bergmann

## **Easter Sunday - Christ is Risen**

Christ is risen, and everything has changed. Out of death, God has brought life; out of sorrow, joy that cannot be taken away. We are invited into this new life, to die daily to all that binds us, and to live with Christ in the freedom and joy of his resurrection.

## **“Carpets and Concrete” Appeal!**

After a careful review by the Property team and approval by the Vestry, we are embarking on two exciting and needed projects this spring and summer. First, we will replace the worn, buckling carpet in the sanctuary with new, stain-resistant, attractive carpeting. During this project, we will complete the already funded lighting upgrade. The second project will remove and replace the degraded and uneven sidewalk/walkways in front of the church from the office entrance to William’s Hall, along with landscaping to improve the church's “curb appeal”. The approximately \$40K funding for these projects will come from our existing Building Fund investments and contributions from parishioners. Every contribution—big or small—brings us closer to our goal of raising half the costs from this appeal. We’re aiming to wrap up fundraising by **May 1**. Let’s create a church home that inspires, uplifts, and serves our community for years to come!

Please indicate on your check or wire transfer that your contribution is intended for the **2026 Building Campaign**.

### **Interested in Serving for Coffee Hour on Easter?**

Chrissy Hemingway will be hosting our Easter Sunday Coffee Hour. If you can help with coordinating, setting up or cleaning, or if you'd like to bring baked goods or a treat to share, please reach out to Chrissy (Chrissyhemingway@comcast.net, 978 460-3065). Your support is much appreciated!

### **THEOLOGY AT THE TAVERN - How we learn to be brave**

The next Theology at the Tavern will be Wednesday April 8th at 5:00 pm at the Bull Run Restaurant. This month, we will discuss the introduction to Bishop Budde's book.

A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER. *How We Learn to Be Brave* is an inspirational guide to the key junctures in life that, if navigated with faith and discernment, pave the way for us to become our most courageous selves. The author is the famed Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, D.C The book costs \$13 on [Amazon](#).

After the Tavern session, on the following Wednesdays through June 3rd, at 7:00 pm, Meredith will lead a discussion of the book on ZOOM, reading one chapter every week. Contact Meredith to get the ZOOM link at trinitychapelshirley@gmail.com.

### **Outreach Box: Supporting our Local Food Banks**

With changes to Federal support programs, inflation, and tariffs, the access to food has become a daily struggle for families across the area. For the next few months we will be collecting money for the Westford Food Pantry and Loaves and Fishes.

### **Make your voice heard. Weekly ICE Protests on Wednesdays**

The grassroots organization Bearing Witness @ ICE (multiple links on Google) is continuing protests in front of the ICE detention center in Burlington (immediately behind the Mall) every Wednesday, 11 AM-1 PM. Attendance is now typically 500 and growing. Several St. Mark's parishioners attend every week. If you're interested in carpooling, please contact **Eric Kintner**. Another worthwhile resource for resisting ICE in many different ways is LUCE:

<https://www.lucemass.org>

### **Help Support Our Neighbors Facing Food Insecurity**

Many in our community are struggling with food insecurity due to the high cost of groceries and recent reductions in SNAP (food assistance) benefits. St. Mark's Church invites parishioners to help support our local food pantries during this challenging time.

Please consider bringing non-perishable food items—such as canned goods, pasta, rice, or peanut butter—and placing them in the collection basket located in the narthex.

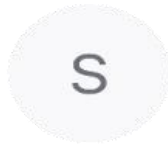
Your generosity helps ensure that no one in our community goes hungry. Thank you for your continued compassion and support.

## Ongoing News

**Office Hours** - Irina and/or Rev. Bergmann will be in the office on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. To schedule an office appointment, please email [secretary@st-mark.org](mailto:secretary@st-mark.org) or **Rev. Bergmann** at [wcbrgm2n@gmail.com](mailto:wcbrgm2n@gmail.com) or call (978) 692-7849 and leave a voice message. Thank you.

**St. Mark's Bible Study** meets every other week on Thursdays at a local restaurant to discuss the lectionary readings for the week. New members are welcome! If you'd like to join, e-mail Herb Elliott at [herb.elliott@cheza.com](mailto:herb.elliott@cheza.com), and he will add you to the email distribution and send you the readings.

**Pastoral Care:** Would you like to receive communion? Need prayers for healing? Need support or assistance? Would you like to speak with a priest? Please email **Rev. Will Bergmann** at [wcbrgm2n@gmail.com](mailto:wcbrgm2n@gmail.com) and Herb Elliott, our Pastoral Care team leader at [herb.elliott@cheza.com](mailto:herb.elliott@cheza.com). Alternatively, you can call 978-501-8479. You can also use the "Request Pastoral Visit" button on St. Mark's website.



St Mark's Episcopal Church  
@stmark75



**PRIEST - IN – CHARGE**

The Rev. Dr. Will Bergmann, [wcbrgm2n@gmail.com](mailto:wcbrgm2n@gmail.com), 978-501-3393

**SENIOR WARDEN**

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**MINISTER OF MUSIC**

Lee Yezek: [lyezek@gmail.com](mailto:lyezek@gmail.com)

**VESTRY MEMBERS**

Michael O'Hare (Jr. Warden), Scott Hilton (Treasurer), Ellen Tremblay (Clerk), Paul Ackroyd (At-Large), Jenny Meanwell, Chrissy Hemingway (Rental program), Melissa Dewing, Brennan Burks, Brenda Martin (Pre - School Representative), Mahiro Jilesen.

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