# ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*linking lives in the love of Christ*

## 24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, PROPER 27
## NOVEMBER 8, 2026
## WELCOME! 10:00 AM

*YOU are welcome here, regardless of age, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, sex, national origin, marital status, family makeup, socioeconomic status, or political persuasion. St. John's Episcopal Church is a community of people who gather to acknowledge our need for divine and human love, and to respect our common humanity. At St. John's, ALL ARE WELCOME.*

*It is our pleasure to have you join us for worship today. If this is your first visit, or even if you've been attending for a little while, and you'd like to learn more about us, please take a 'Welcome' card from our pews, complete and place the 'Connect' side in the offering plate or hand it to one of our greeters or clergy so that we may follow up with you. Or, feel welcome to contact us using the information on the back of this bulletin.*

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***Our mission***

*LINKING LIVES IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST*



**The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins**
Friedrich Wilhelm Schadow (1788-1862)

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***Our vision***

*WE JOYFULLY GATHER TO PRAY, WORSHIP, LEARN AND SERVE*
*AS WE SEEK TO FOLLOW JESUS, AND INVITE ALL TO JOIN US*
*ON A SACRED JOURNEY OF HOPE AND TRANSFORMATION*

## 10:00 AM — HOLY EUCHARIST

*Following the pattern of* **THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER – RITE II**

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

### THE WORD OF GOD

**Opening Acclamation**

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

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

*All are invited to stand, as able*

**Opening Hymn** - "Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates" #436 in **The Hymnal 1982***




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. LM

**Collect of the Day**

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.**

*All are invited to be seated*

**The Lessons**

**First Lesson -** Amos 5:18-24 *Kevin Maksym*

Reader A reading from Amos.

Thus says the Lord, the God of hosts, the Lord:
Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord!
Why do you want the day of the Lord?
It is darkness, not light;
as if someone fled from a lion,
and was met by a bear;
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,
and was bitten by a snake.
Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an everflowing stream.

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

*All are invited to read responsively by the full verse*

**Psalm 70 – *Deus, in adjutorium***

1 Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; *
O Lord, make haste to help me.
**2 Let those who seek my life be ashamed**
**and altogether dismayed; ***
**let those who take pleasure in my misfortune**
**draw back and be disgraced.**

3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back, *
because they are ashamed.
**4 Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; ***
**let those who love your salvation say for ever,**
**"Great is the Lord!"**
5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; *
come to me speedily, O God.
**6 You are my helper and my deliverer; ***
**O Lord, do not tarry.**

**Second Lesson** - 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 *Charles Bash*

Reader A reading from 1 Thessalonians

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.**

*All are invited to stand, as able, for the Gospel Procession*

**Gospel Acclamation** "Alleluia" #257 in **Gather Comprehensive***

*Cantor will invite the congregation to join in on the refrain.*




Music: Alleluia 7; Jacques Berthier, © 1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Verse: Stay awake and be ready!
For you do not know on what day your Lord will come. *(Matthew 24:42a, 44)*

**Gospel Reading** - Matthew 25:1-13 *Kathy Hawkins*

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

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

**Gospel Acclamation** - "Alleluia"
*See previous page . . .*

*All are invited to be seated*
**The Sermon** *The Rev. Mary Jo Hudson*

*All are invited to stand, as able, and say together*
**The Nicene Creed** p. 358 in **The BCP**

**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.**

**Prayer of the People - Form III (**p. 387 in **The BCP**) *Sara Philo*

Leader Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;
**People** **That we all may be one.**
Leader Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
**People** **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**
Leader We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
**People** **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**
Leader We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
**People** **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**
Leader Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
**People** **That our works may find favor in your sight.**
Leader Remembering especially those on our parish prayer list: Cathy & Juan, Char, Henry, Julie, Vicki, Bob, Chris, Bob & Jan, Paula Mae, Arie, and Mitzi, have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
**People** **That they may be delivered from their distress.**
Leader Give to the departed eternal rest.
**People** **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**
Leader We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
**People** **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**
Leader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.
*[The people are invited to offer their own prayers]*

**Concluding Collect**

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen**.

**Confession of Sin** p. 359 in **The BCP**

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
*Silence*

**Together** **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.**

**Absolution**

Celebrant 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**

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

*All are invited to greet one another in the name of Jesus Christ.*

**Announcements**

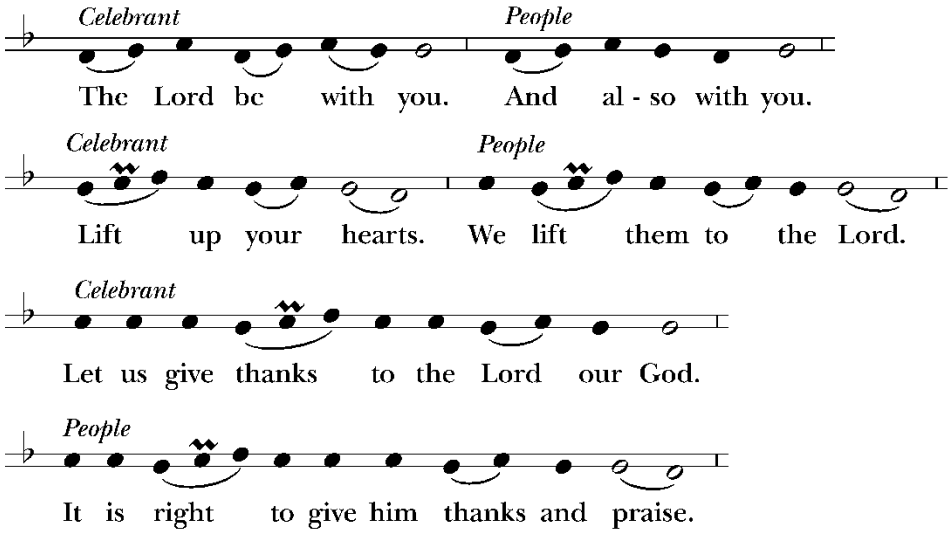
**Prayer for Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Other Milestones**

**Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Offertory Anthem** - "Alleluia! Amen!" *Karen Buckwalter*
*Handbell Choir*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*All are invited to stand as able*
**Eucharistic Prayer A** p. 361 in **The BCP**



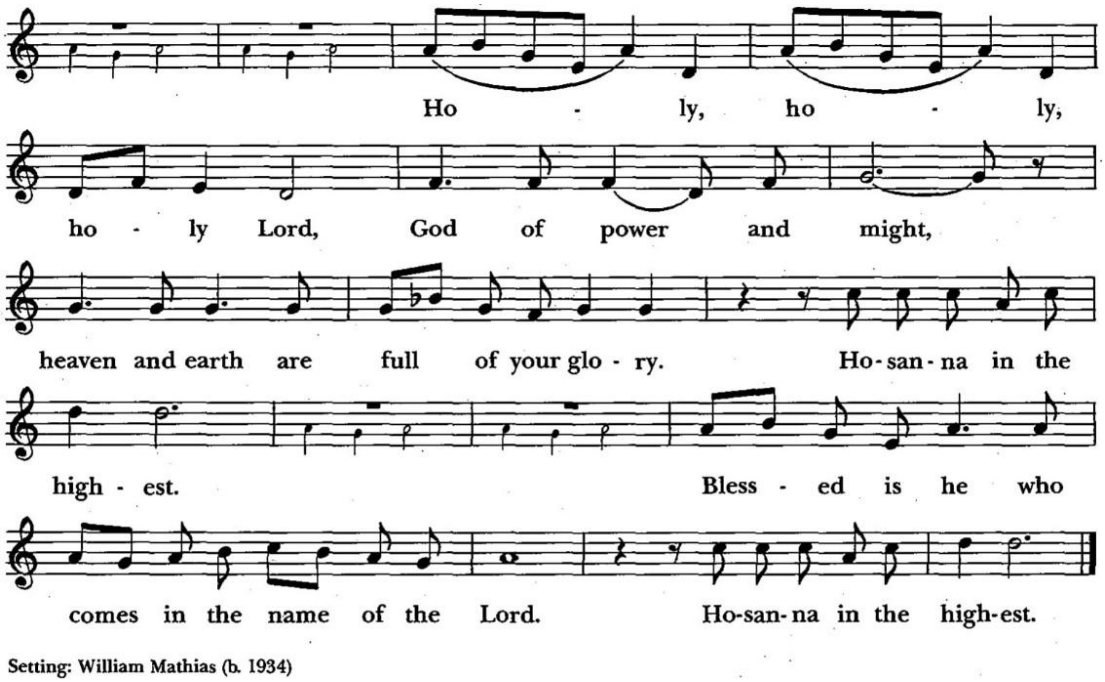

Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

Celebrant 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** #S 128 in **The Hymnal 1982***




Setting: William Mathias (b. 1934)

*All are invited to stand or kneel, as able*

Celebrant 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:

**Together** **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.




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**The Lord's Prayer** p. 364 in **The BCP**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Together**

**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.**

**Fraction Anthem** #S 155 in **The Hymnal 1982***






Setting: Gerald R. Near (b. 1942)

*All are invited to be seated*

**Holy Communion**

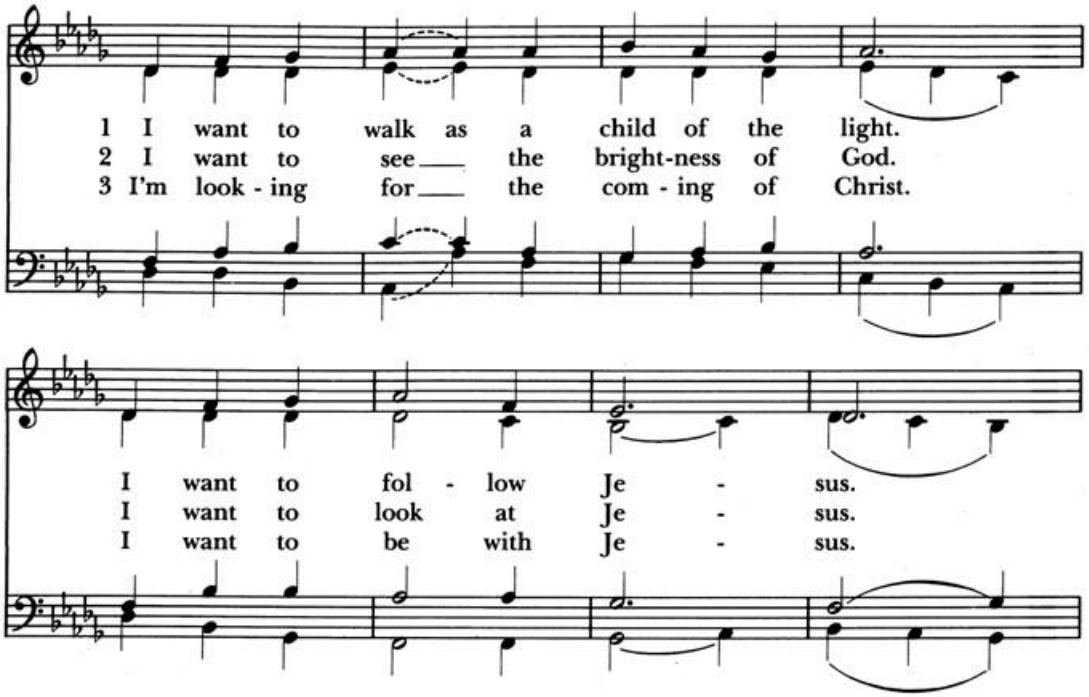
*All are welcome to receive communion. St. John's uses gluten-free bread, and wine. You may eat your bread/wafer and return to your seat, or hand it to a chalice-bearer who will ☒nstinct (dip) the bread and hand it back to you. Individually sealed cups with gluten-free, allergen-friendly hosts, and grape juice are available by request. Please follow the directions of our ushers.*

**A Prayer in lieu of Sacramental Reception** attributed to *The Rev. Charles Curtis*

*Those worshipping with us on our live stream are invited to use the following prayer as our in-person congregation receives Communion.*

> O blessed Jesus, our Savior and Lord, we believe that you are truly present in the Sacrament of your body and Blood. We love you above all things, and we long for you in our souls. Since we cannot now receive you in your sacramental Presence, grant that we may still be fed by your Holy Spirit in our hearts. We welcome you and embrace you, and unite ourselves wholly to you; and grant, most gracious Lord, that we may evermore dwell in you, and you in us. Amen.

**Communion Hymn** - "I want to walk as a child of the light" #490 in **The Hymnal 1982***




*Continued on next page . . .*




Words: Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934)
Music: *Houston*, Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934)

Irr. with Refrain

**Post-Communion Prayer** p. 365 in **The BCP**

Celebrant Let us pray.

**Together** **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**

*The priest blesses the people*

**People** **Amen.**

*All are invited to stand, as able*

**Closing Hymn** - "Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult" #550 in **Lift Every Voice and Sing***




Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895), alt.
Music: *Restoration*, melody from *The Southern Harmony*, 1835; harm. *Hymnal 1982*, after *The Southern Harmony*, 1835 87 87

**Dismissal**

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.
**People** **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

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*The flowers on the Altar are given to the glory of God and*
*in thanksgiving for our St. John's family.*

**HEAD OF THE CHURCH – JESUS CHRIST**

**MINISTERS – ALL OUR MEMBERS**

**Clergy**

The Very Rev. Alissa G. Anderson ..... *Rector*
Kathy Hawkins ..... *Seminary Intern*

**Staff**

Travis Fader .... *Organist & Interim Director of Music*
Linda Germain..... *Children & Youth Director*
Colleen O'Dell ..... *Bookkeeper*
Ellen Woodard..... *Administrative Assistant*
Nick Lowthian..... *Sexton*
Vickie Densmore ..... *Janitor*

## SERVING

Presiding ..... The Rev. Mary Jo Hudson
Preaching..... The Rev. Mary Jo Hudson
Seminary Intern..... Kathy Hawkins
Pianist/Organist ..... Travis Fader
Interim Choir Director..... Nykkoa Lurie
Greeter/Usher..... Mike Spencer, Michelle Spencer
Element Bearers..... HJ Smith, Lee Smith
Lectors..... Kevin Maksym, Charles Bash
Intercessor..... Eric Carlson
Crucifer/Eucharistic Minister..... Fred Schuster
Eucharistic Minister ..... Karen Newhouse
Sunday Altar Guild ..... Margo Nielsen
Wednesday Altar Guild ..... Andrea Burditt
Broadcast Technician ..... Bill Kent
Coffee Hour Host ..... Aaron & Bonnie Haefele
(signup sheet posted on the bulletin board outside Williams Hall)

## OUR VESTRY – OUR ELECTED LEADERS

**Class of 2027**
Eric Heglin, *Clerk*
Fred Schuster, *Co-Warden*

**Class of 2029**
Nykkoa Lurie
Mike Spencer

**Class of 2028**
John Adams
Doug Germain
Ann Wright, *Co-Warden*

To get in touch with any Clergy, Staff Member or Member of the Vestry, call or email the parish office:
(989) 631-2260
office@sjec-midland.org

## Contact Us

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**Office Hours**
Monday thru Thursday ... 9am-3pm
Friday ... 9am-noon

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