

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. – 1 Peter 4:10

October 8, 2020 Dear Friends,

Last year at this time, who could have predicted what this year, 2020, would bring? We have experienced disruptions to our worship, our ministries, and our community life together. We have adjusted to changes, sometimes from week to week. Some of us have had significant losses and anxieties. And all of us live with continuing uncertainty about what the rest of the year and the next year will bring.

Yet, in the midst of that uncertainty, you have been faithful in supporting your church. That has allowed us to stay connected as a community of faith. We have continued to gather in new ways, we have continued to care for one another and for the wider community. And I am truly thankful for all that each one of you is doing in your homes and families, workplaces, schools, neighborhoods, as well as here in our church. As we plan together for 2021, I am confident that your commitment will continue.

This week, we begin our annual giving campaign. This year's theme, "Faith-Filled Generosity," will help us explore the way that our generosity is inspired by our faith, how we are formed and led into deeper relationship with God and with each other as we share our gifts with the world. You will receive resources each week and hear from fellow parishioners to help you reflect on how you might discover and use the gifts you have been given. And how you may hear the Gospel call to seek and serve Christ in all people, and respond with generosity.

Enclosed, you will find a brochure that explains the importance of committing to annual giving along with illustrations of our vibrant life together. In November, you will receive a letter from the Senior Warden along with a 2021 pledge card. I invite you to receive this with grace and prayer as you consider how you will share with God and God's Church from what you have received. We will gather these pledge cards for dedication during worship on November 22.

In the spirit of generosity and love,

The Very Rev. Dr. Gloria Hopewell, Rector