

St. James Music Ministry
Annual Report 2023

In 2023, the music ministry at St. James continued to enrich worship services each week with choral anthems and various musical offerings. The choir enjoyed singing each Sunday of the choir season (January - June and September - December 2023) and warmly welcomed guests throughout the year. Some highlights include: Choir members Tim and Sharyn McCabe singing an original song in February, on Maundy Thursday and again in May; Donna Parrot offered her solo singing talents in March and in April; The choir sang two new anthems for Easter Sunday with many guest singers in the loft; Choir member Christy Collins offered her talents on the piano in June and December; On Christmas Eve, the choir performed a work by composer Mark Hayes - *Candles and Carols: A Service of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love* with narrations provided by Lynda White and candle lighting by Alexis Goetz. Bob Clayton's son from Houston also contributed his voice for the Christmas Eve services and it was a wonderful way to end the year.

We are fortunate to have a choir that not only enjoys being together but also dedicates their time and talents week after week. Despite being small in number, we are mighty in spirit and passionate about lifting our voices in worship to God. Organist Robin Rogers continues to bless us and the congregation with his unwavering dedication and immense talent.

New music was purchased for Easter and Christmas, with the majority of the music budget being spent on the *Candles and Carols* music books and learning media. We continue to utilize our growing music library for the anthem selections each week.

We look forward to 2024 and are excited to seek new ways in which the music ministry can further elevate the worship experience at St. James.

Mary Lauren Keeny
Director of Music