

# THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 15, 2020 · 9:00 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST

*Welcome to St. John's Episcopal Church, Lafayette Square.*

## PRELUDE: *How fair and how pleasant art thou*

(from *Vêpres des Fêtes du Comun de la Sainte-Vierge*, Op. 18, No. 5)

Marcel Dupré  
(1886–1971)

## RECTOR'S WELCOME

### HYMN 621

*Light's abode, celestial Salem*

*Please stand as the procession enters.*

1 Light's a - bode, ce - les - tial Sa - lem, vi - sion whence true peace doth spring,  
 2 There for ev - er and for ev - er al - le - lu - ia is out - poured;  
 3 There no cloud nor pass - ing va - por dims the bright - ness of the air;  
 \*4 O how glo - rious and re - splen - dent, fra - gile bo - dy, shalt thou be,  
 5 Now with glad - ness, now with cour - age, bear the bur - den on thee laid,

1 bright - er than the heart can fan - cy, man - sion of the high - est King;  
 2 for un - end - ing, for un - bro - ken is the feast - day of the Lord;  
 3 end - less noon - day, glo - rious noon - day, from the Sun of suns is there;  
 4 when en - dued with heaven - ly beau - ty, full of health, and strong, and free,  
 5 that here - af - ter these thy la - bors may with end - less gifts be paid,

1 O how glo - rious are the prais - es which of thee the pro - phets sing!  
 2 all is pure and all is ho - ly that with - in thy walls is stored.  
 3 there no night brings rest from la - bor, for un - known are toil and care.  
 4 full of vi - gor, full of plea - sure that shall last e - ter - nal - ly!  
 5 and in ev - er - last - ing glo - ry thou with bright - ness be ar - rayed.

The Reverend Robert W. Fisher  
*Rector*

The Reverend Savannah Ponder  
*Associate Rector*

The Reverend William Morris  
*Assisting Priest for Engaging  
Faith and the Workplace*

Kaye Edwards  
*Assistant for  
Church Growth*

Brent Erstad  
*Director of Music*

Samantha Scheff  
*Assistant Organist*

Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt  
 Music: *Rhuddlan*, Welsh melody.  
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## THE WORD OF GOD

*Please continue to stand.*

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

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

**Priest:** 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.

**People:** **Amen.**

## THE READING

*Please be seated.*

*Read by Chris Danello.*

**Judges 4:1-7**

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 123

*Read by Martha Ellison.*

- 1 To you I lift up my eyes,  
to you enthroned in the heavens.
- 2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters,  
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,
- 3 So our eyes look to the Lord our God,  
until he show us his mercy.
- 4 Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy,  
for we have had more than enough of contempt,
- 5 Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich,  
and of the derision of the proud.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia.  
Out of the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord;  
Lord, hear my voice.  
Alleluia.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

**Matthew 25:14-30**

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

**People:** **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

**Gospeller:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## THE SERMON

**The Rev. Robert W. Fisher**

*Please be seated.*

**Preacher and People:**

**God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (FORM IV)

*Led by Anthony Pegues.*

- Leader:** Let us pray for the Church and for the world, responding with the words "Hear our prayer."
- Leader:** Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Lord, in your mercy.
- People:** **Hear our prayer.**
- Leader:** For the communities of St. John's and our companion relationships with the *Anglican Church of Southern Africa\** and *the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem*, and in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, for *Christ Church, Clinton Parish*. For *Michael*, our Presiding Bishop, for our Bishops, *Mariann* and *Chilton*, and for all bishops and other ministers. Lord, in your mercy.
- People:** **Hear our prayer.**
- Leader:** Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. For *Donald*, our President, *Joseph*, President-elect, the leaders of *Congress*, the *Supreme Court*, and for all who serve our country. Lord, in your mercy.
- People:** **Hear our prayer.**
- Leader:** Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord, in your mercy.
- People:** **Hear our prayer.**
- Leader:** Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. For those celebrating a birthday this week, especially *David Abernethy, Janie Abernethy, Merrell Cherouny, David Kirchenbauer, Robert Kirchenbauer, Evan Lyerly, Jason Ornstein, Jennifer San Pietro, Rebecca Rice, Chip Sherrill, Ryan Toney, Frances Tyler, Chip Usher, John Whitmore, Annabel Williams, and Sonya Williams*; for those celebrating an anniversary this week, especially *Sylvia Martin Estes and Doug Estes, Jennifer Agiesta and Paul Hortenstine, RJ and Chip Lyerly, and Sarah and Hugh Yeomans*. Lord, in your mercy.
- People:** **Hear our prayer.**
- Leader:** Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially *Jimmy Lowe* who is in hospice care; and those who are sick and who are shut-ins. For the people of the *Middle East, Latin America, and all affected by the coronavirus*. Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy.
- People:** **Hear our prayer.**

*\* In particular, the Kwasa Centre in the Diocese of the Highveld.*

**Leader:** We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially *Max Hudgins* who died November 11, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy.

**People:** **Hear our prayer.**

**Priest:** Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People:** **Amen.**

## CONFESSION OF SIN

**Priest:** Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Priest and People:**

**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

**Priest:** 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.

**People:** **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

**Priest:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*O Divine Redeemer*

Charles Gounoud  
(1818–1893)

Ah! Turn me not away,  
Receive me tho' unworthy;  
Hear Thou my cry,  
Behold, Lord, my distress!  
Answer me from thy throne  
Haste Thee, Lord to mine aid,  
Thy pity show in my deep anguish!  
Let not the sword of vengeance smite me,  
Though righteous thine anger,  
O Lord! Shield me in danger, O regard me!  
On Thee, Lord, alone will I call.

O Divine Redeemer!  
I pray Thee, grant me pardon,  
and remember not, remember not my sins!  
Forgive me, O Divine Redeemer!  
Night gathers round my soul;  
Fearful, I cry to Thee;  
Come to mine aid, O Lord!  
Haste Thee, Lord, haste to help me!  
Hear my cry! Save me Lord in Thy mercy;  
Come and save me O Lord  
Save, in the day of retribution,  
From Death shiel Thou me, O my God!  
O Divine Redeemer, have mercy!  
Help me, my Savior!

### **A PRAYER FOR STEWARDSHIP**

*Priest and People:*

**Gracious and everlasting God, the giver of all good gifts, you have blessed us and our parish abundantly. Grant us the hope to dream and the courage to live into our possibilities. Make us faithful stewards, both for the provision of our necessities and for the relief of those who are in need. Bless the efforts of our Annual Giving this year to extend the work of spiritual renewal in our church and community of faith. Through Jesus Christ, who gave all of himself, we offer this prayer. Amen.**

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*Please remain standing.*

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Priest:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Priest:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

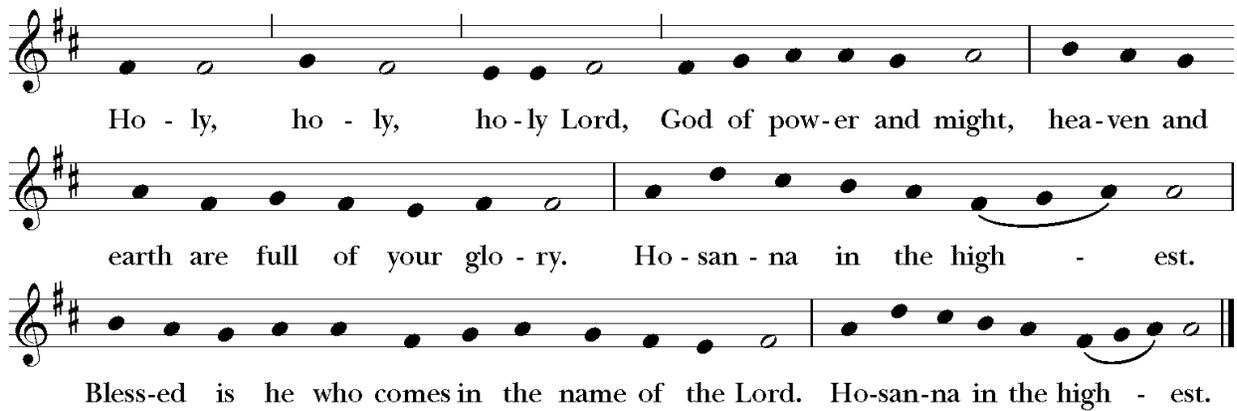
*People:* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*Priest:* 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 by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

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-124)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and  
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Please stand or kneel.*

**Priest:** 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Priest and People:**

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

**Priest:** 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.

**People:** Amen.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Priest:* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*Priest and People:*

**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

*Celebrant:* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People:* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

*Priest:* 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.

All persons, including children, are welcome to receive Holy Communion with us. During this time, our practice will be to offer the bread and the wine following health guidelines. An usher will provide communicants with hand sanitizer before the priest (who has washed his or her hands immediately prior) places a blessed wafer into your hands. Take a few steps, remove your mask, and consume the wafer. Blessed wine in small paper cups on a tray will be offered by a lay server.

After drinking the wine, place the cup in the basket at the end of the line.

Receiving the bread only is a valid way to share in Holy Communion. Parents may decide if their children receive the bread and/or wine. Children may instead signal their desire to be blessed by the priest by crossing their arms over their chest.

## MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION

### Hymn 598

*Lord Christ, when first thou cam'st to earth*



1 Lord Christ, when first thou cam'st to earth, up - on a cross they  
2 O awe - ful Love, which found no room in life where sin de -  
3 New ad - vent of the love of Christ, shall we a - gain re -  
4 O wound - ed hands of Je - sus, build in us thy new cre -



bound thee, and mocked thy sav - ing king - ship then  
nied thee, and, doomed to death, must bring to doom  
fuse thee, till in the night of hate and war  
a - tion; our pride is dust, our vaunt is stilled,



by thorns with which they crowned thee: and still our wrongs  
the powers which cru - ci - fied thee, till not a stone  
we per - ish as we lose thee? From old un - faith  
we wait thy rev - e - la - tion: O love that tri -



may weave thee now new thorns to pierce that  
was left on stone, and all those na - tions'  
our souls re - lease to seek the king - dom  
umphs o - ver loss, we bring our hearts be -

stead - y brow, and robe of sor - row round thee.  
pride, o'er-thrown, went down to dust be - side thee!  
of thy peace, by which a - lone we choose thee.  
fore thy cross, to fi - nish thy sal - va - tion.

Words: Walter Russell Bowie (1882-1969).  
Music: *MitFreuden zart*, melody from "Une pastourelle gentile," 1529.  
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## THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*Please stand.*

**Priest:** Let us pray.

**Priest and People:**

**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

**Priest:** Life is short. And we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So be swift to love. Make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

**People:** Amen.

## THE DISMISSAL

**Priest:** Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE:** *Andante Maestoso in G, Op. 101, No. 5*

C.V. Stanford  
(1852-1924)

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**ASSISTING AT THE 9:00 A.M. SERVICE TODAY:** Carl Ward, *Crucifer*; Lauren Edwards, *Lay Minister*; and Will Duthe, *Usher*.

**THE FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH** are given to the glory of God.





## *Welcome!*

AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, we believe Christ is calling us to be a renewed church in a changing world. Empowered by the Spirit of God, we respond to Jesus' call as we deepen our bond with Christ through worship, become a community where all are accepted, and work together as laity and clergy to do God's work in the world.

ST JOHN'S WAS ORGANIZED IN 1815 to serve as a parish church for Episcopalians residing in the neighborhoods in the west end of the District of Columbia. Its cornerstone was laid on September 14, 1815, and it was consecrated on December 27, 1816. Beginning with James Madison, every person who has held the office of President of the United States has attended a service at the church. Several Presidents have been communicants. Thus, St. John's is often referred to as the "Church of the Presidents." Pew 54 is the President's Pew. The architect of the church was Benjamin Henry Latrobe, who assisted in the rebuilding of the U.S. Capitol and the White House after the War of 1812. Twenty-five of the stained glass windows in St. John's were designed and executed by artisans of the noted Lorin firm of Chartres, France.

BROCHURES DESCRIBING PARISH LIFE, the history of St. John's, and the Episcopal denomination can be found in the church entrance. If you are visiting, please fill out the visitor information card found at the end of each pew to enable us to welcome you personally into the life of our parish.

ST JOHN'S WEBSITE [WWW.STJOHNS-DC.ORG](http://WWW.STJOHNS-DC.ORG) has up-to-date information about the Church including the weekly calendar, the Sunday service schedule, Speaker Series speakers and topics, the music calendar and newsworthy events.

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### *Vestry*

Paul Barkett, *Senior Warden*

Jeff Hantson, *Junior Warden*

Laurie Adams, Andrew Clarke,  
Carolyn Crouch, Lauren Edwards,  
Martha Ellison, Peter Odom, Anthony  
Pegues, Scott Raab, Nora Rigby,  
Jessica Sanchez, Desirée Stolar,  
and Carl Ward.

Casey Evans, *Treasurer*

Sara McGanity, *Assistant Treasurer*

Andrew Tomlinson, *Secretary*

Christopher R. Wall, *Parish Counsel*

### *Head Usher*

James H. Czerwonky

### *Staff*

Kim Carlson

*Director for Operations*

Evangeline Gravina

*Operations Assistant*

Preston Cherouny

*Financial Secretary*

Sharlyne Griffin

*Receptionist*

R. J. Gravina

*Program Coordinator*

Javier Obregon, *Sexton*

GeeGee Bryant and David Gamboa,

*Assistant Sextons*

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### **Parish House**

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*Website* [www.stjohns-dc.org](http://www.stjohns-dc.org)