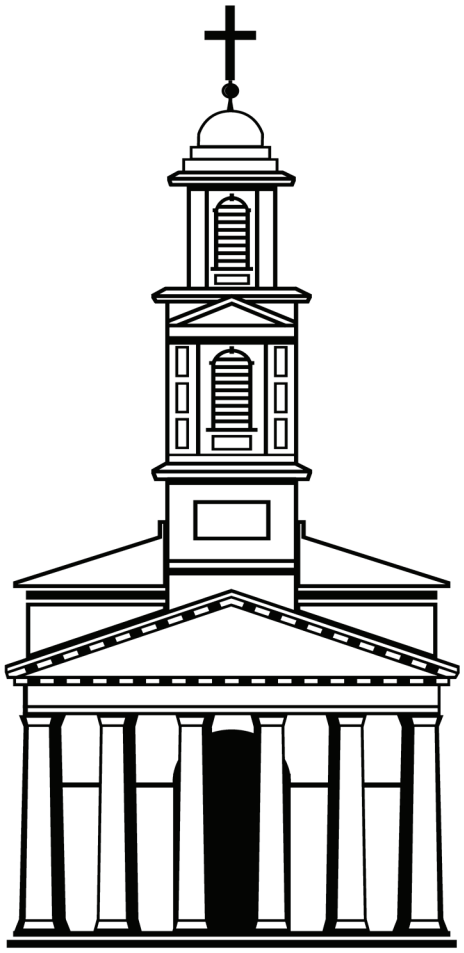
THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 8, 2026 ✦ Holy Eucharist at 9 and 11 a.m.



SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH

LAFAYETTE SQUARE • WASHINGTON, DC

St. John's is a church for people of all races, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations, and viewpoints grounded in love. Whoever you are, we welcome you.

Welcome to St. John's Church, Lafayette Square.
All are invited to participate in the service as able. Congregational responses appear in **bold.**
Nursery care is available from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the second floor of the Parish House.
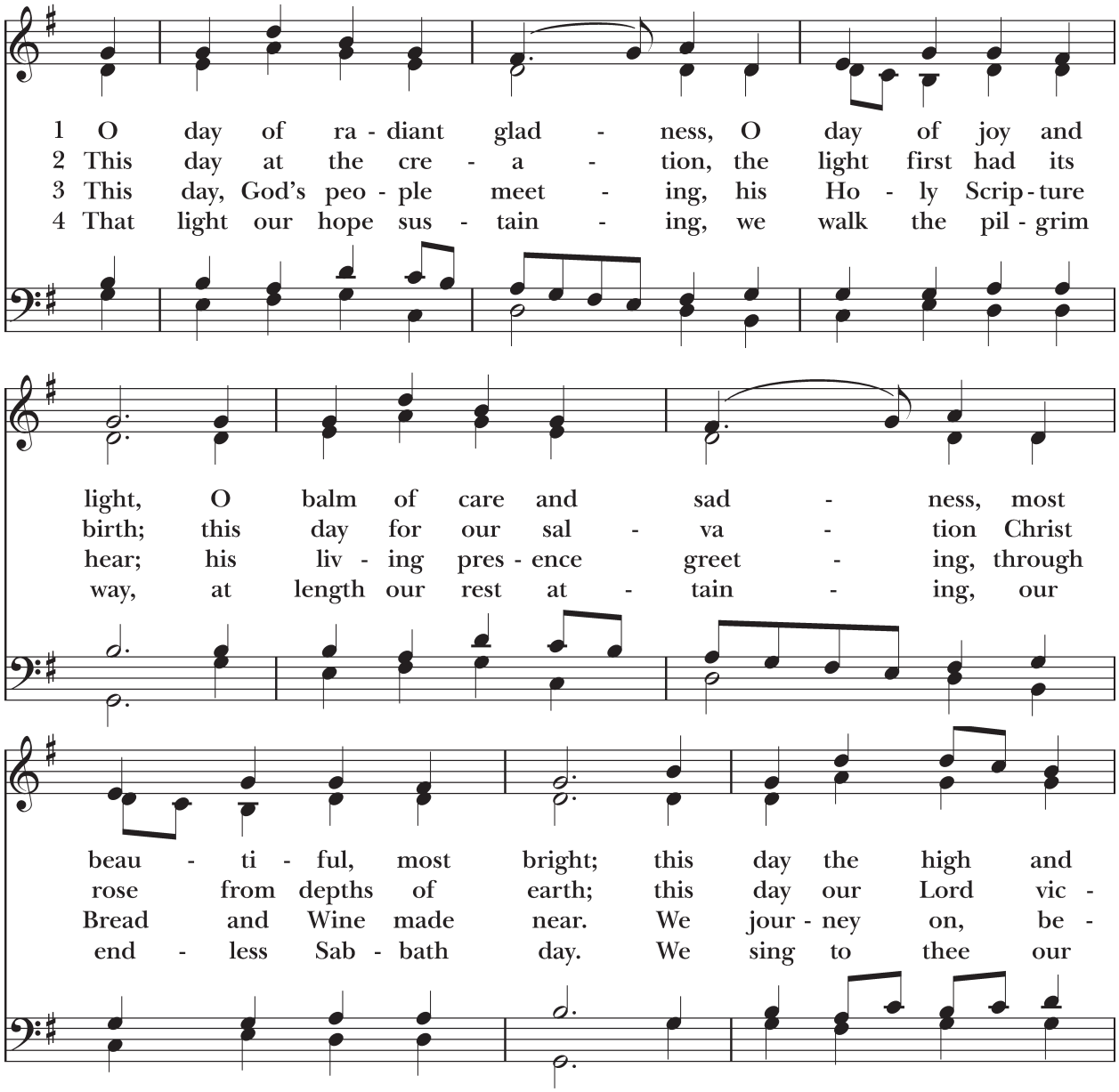
Prayer cards are provided at the entrance of the church. You are invited to write your prayers and place them in the collection plate. Your prayers will be blessed and will be prayed for by a priest during the week.

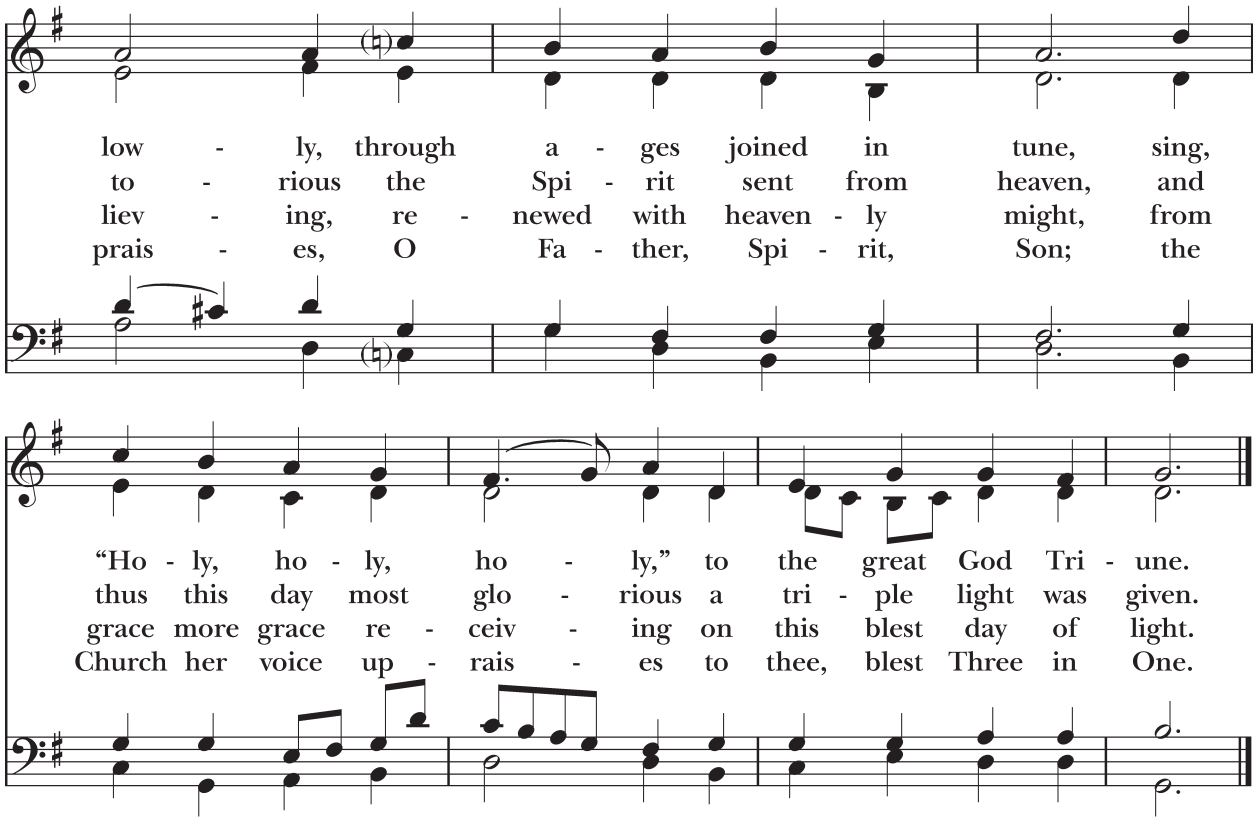
Please refrain from taking photos and videos during services.

VOLUNTARY Aria Flor Peeters (1903–1986)

HYMN 48 O day of radiant gladness

Sung by all. Please stand as you are able as the procession enters.





Words: Sts. 1-2, Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1835), alt.; st. 3, Charles P. Price (1920-1999); st. 4, ver. *Hymnal 1982*. St. 3, Copyright © 1982, Charles P Price. St. 4, Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein*, German folk song; harm. George Ratcliffe Woodward (1848-1934).

THE WORD OF GOD
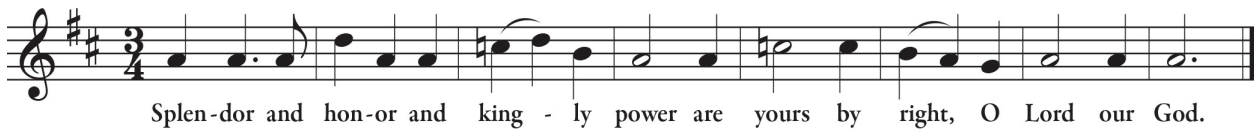
Please remain standing as you are able.

Priest Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE A song to the Lamb (*Dignus es*) Benjamin Pierce Straley (b. 1986)

The refrain is introduced by the choir, then repeated by all.



For you created every thing that is,
and by your will they were created and have their being; *Refrain*

And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain, for with your blood you have redeemed for God,
from every family, language, people, and nation, a kingdom of priests to serve our God. *Refrain*

And so, to him who sits upon the throne, and to Christ the Lamb,
be worship and praise, dominion and splendor, for ever and for evermore. *Refrain*

—Revelation 4:11; 5:9-10, 13

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Priest The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Priest 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.**

A COLLECT FOR VETERANS DAY

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all those who have served or are serving in our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Wisdom 6:12-16

Please be seated. *9 a.m. Read by Mark Dennis.* *11 a.m. Read by Laurie Adams.*

Wisdom is radiant and unfading,
and she is easily discerned by those who love her,
and is found by those who seek her.
She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.
One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty,
for she will be found sitting at the gate.
To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding,
and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care,
because she goes about seeking those worthy of her,
and she graciously appears to them in their paths,
and meets them in every thought.

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

PSALM 70

9 a.m. Led by Ucheora Onwuamaegbu, said responsively by half verse.
11 a.m. Chanted by the choir; setting by George S. Talbot (1875–1918)

Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; *
O Lord, make haste to help me.

Let those who seek my life be ashamed
and altogether dismayed; *

let those who take pleasure in my misfortune
draw back and be disgraced.

Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back, *
because they are ashamed.

Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; *
let those who love your salvation say for ever,
"Great is the LORD!"

But as for me, I am poor and needy; *
come to me speedily, O God.
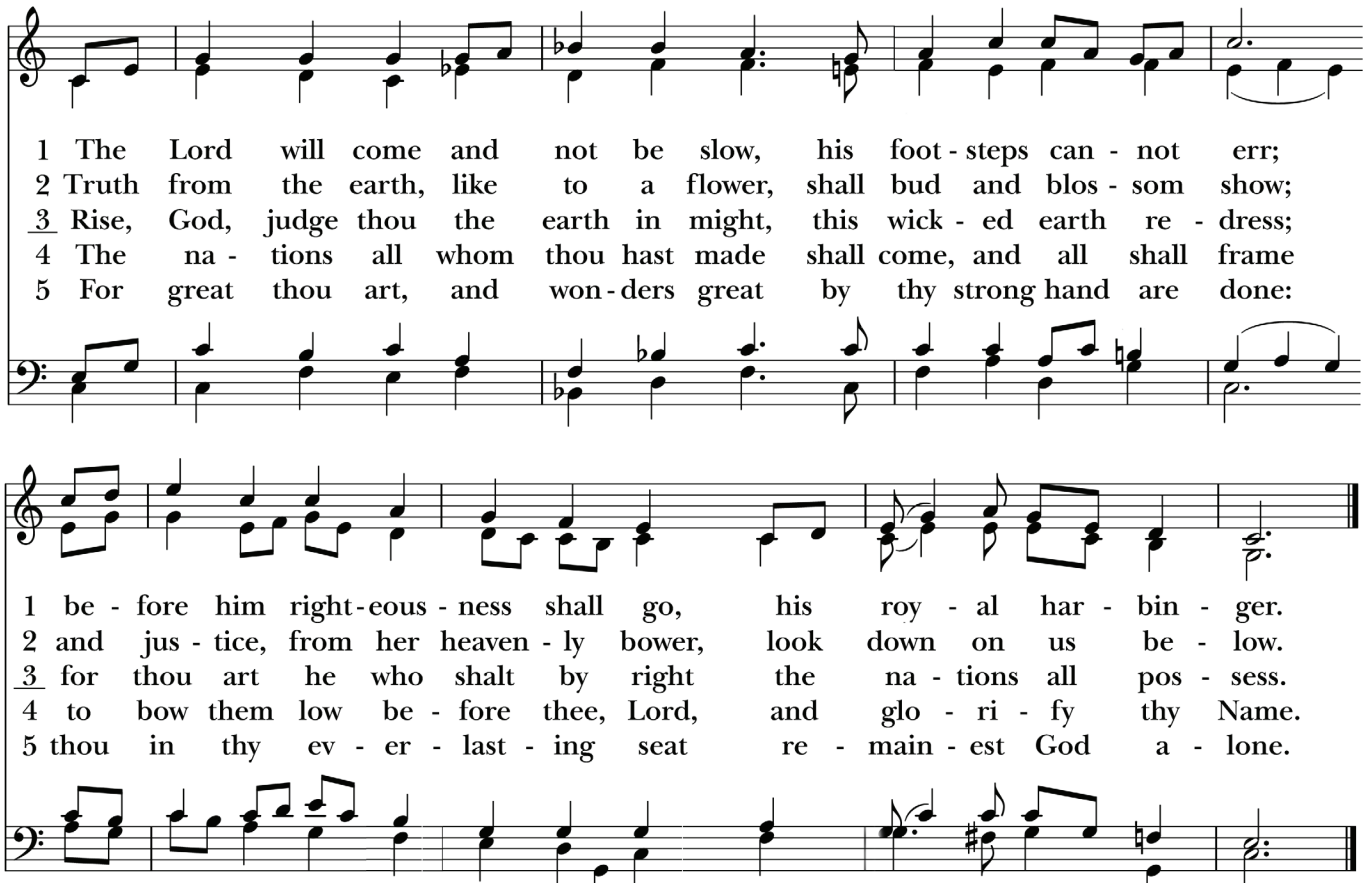
You are my helper and my deliverer; *
O LORD, do not tarry.

Children's Chapel in the Parish House: All who wish may gather in front of the pulpit at the start of the hymn, departing together and returning at the Peace. Parents are encouraged to accompany children younger than three.

GRADUAL HYMN 462

The Lord will come and not be slow

Sung by all, standing as you are able.



Words: John Milton (1608–1674), alt. Music: *McKee*, Afro-American spiritual; adapt. and harm. Harry T. Burleigh (1866–1949)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 25:1-13

Please remain standing as you are able.

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

Jesus said, "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."

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher

THE NICENE CREED

Please stand as you are able.

Let us affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

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

9 a.m. Led by Frank Klotz.

Please remain standing as you are able. *11 a.m. Led by Holly Sukenik.*

Intercessor Let us pray for the Church and for the world: 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.**

Intercessor For the communities of St. John's and our companion relationships with the Anglican Church of Southern Africa* and the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, for all military veterans and their families; and for those who are to be confirmed at the diocesan service on November 14. For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Mariann, our Bishop; Eugene, our Assistant Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations; for Donald, our President, and for the leaders of Congress, the Supreme Court, and all who are in authority, that they will uphold the virtues of justice and peace in our civic life; and that all may honor one another and serve the common good. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor 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.**

Intercessor Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, especially . . . Grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially . . . Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor We commend to your mercy all who have died, . . . , 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. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

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

All **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.**

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. **Amen.**

* In particular, Kwasa College in the Diocese of the Highveld.

THE PEACE

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

(11 a.m. only) All newcomers are invited to come forward for a welcome and blessing. ***Please bring this leaflet with you.***

Rector Dear Friends in Christ, together let us welcome our new members into this community. May we support them by prayer and example and help them to grow in the knowledge and love of God.

Priest I present these persons to be welcomed as members of St. John's Church.

Rector Do you desire to deepen your commitment to Jesus in heart, mind, and strength?

Newcomers I do.

Rector Will you worship with us regularly, share the Good News of Christ's kingdom, and grow with us in God's love?

Newcomers I will, with God's help.

Rector Will you as a congregation do all in your power to uphold these persons?

People **We will.**

Rector In the name of this congregation, I welcome you to St. John's and pledge you our prayers, encouragement, and support. May the Holy Spirit bless, guide, and strengthen you.

Let us pray.

People **Almighty God, look with favor upon these persons. Give them faith, courage, and perseverance; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world, and of service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

You may make an offering by placing your donation in the plate, or use this QR code to pay electronically.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

My soul, there is a country — Hubert H. Parry (1848–1918)
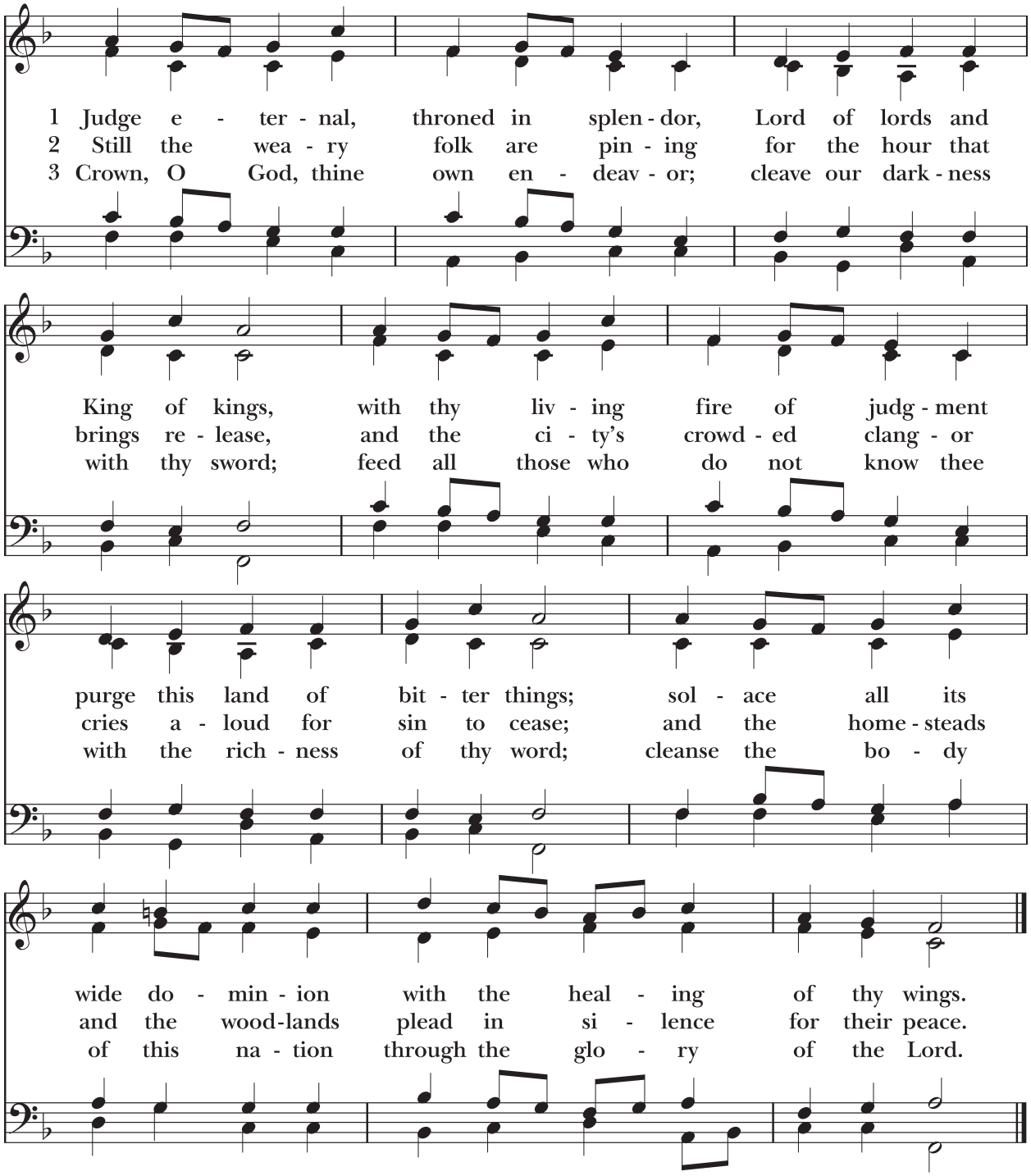
Sung by the choir.

My soul, there is a country far beyond the stars, where stands a wingèd sentry all skilful in the wars: There, above noise and danger, sweet Peace sits crown'd with smiles, and One born in a manger commands the beauteous files. He is thy gracious Friend, and—O my soul, awake!—did in pure love descend to die here for thy sake. If thou canst get but thither, there grows the flower of Peace, the Rose that cannot wither, thy fortress, and thy ease. Leave then thy foolish ranges; for none can thee secure but One who never changes—thy God, thy life, thy cure.

—Henry Vaughan (1621–1695)

HYMN 596 Judge eternal, throned in splendor

Sung by all, standing as you are able.



Words: Henry Scott Holland (1847-1918), alt. Music: *Komm, o komm, du Geist des Lebens*, melody from *Neu-vermehrtes und zu Ubung Christl. Gotteligkeit eingerichtetes Meiningisches Gesangbuch*, 1693.

A PRAYER FOR STEWARDSHIP *Said by all.*

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 as you are able.

Priest The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

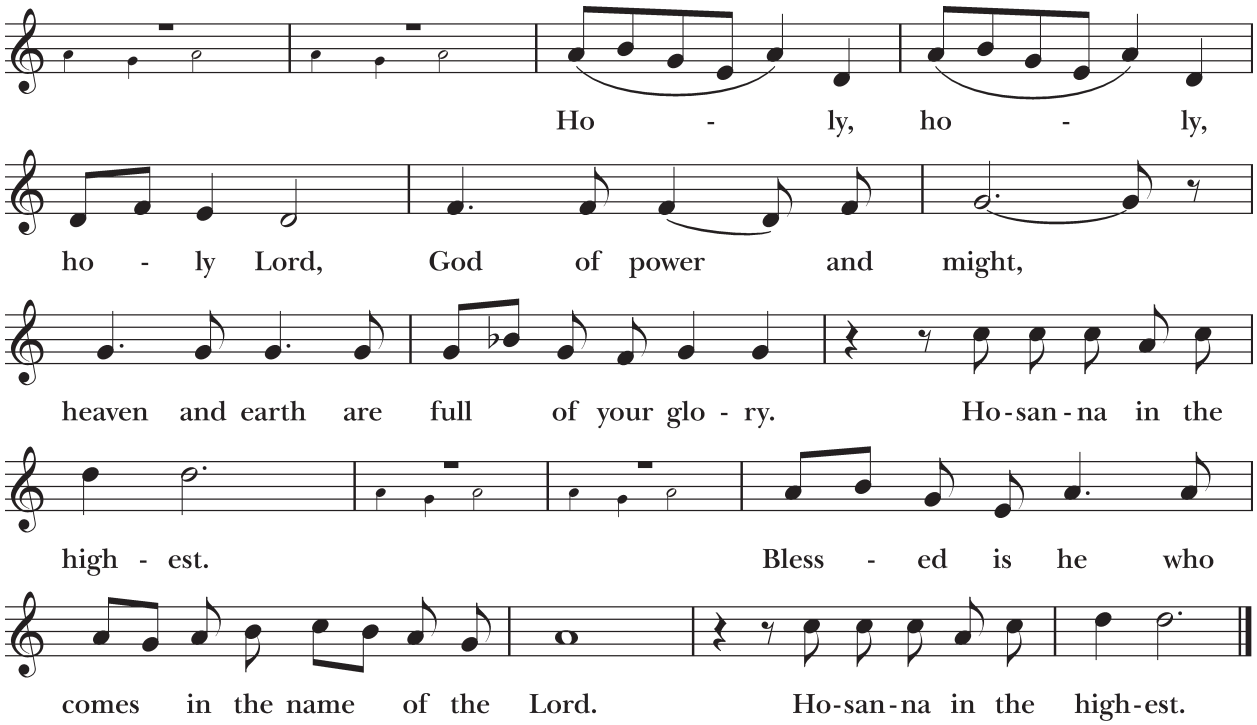
Priest Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

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-128) *Sung by all.*

William Mathias (1934–1992)



Please stand or kneel as you are able. The priest continues

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:

People **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. **AMEN.**
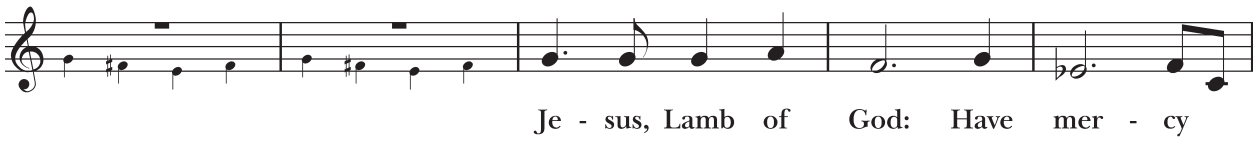
THE LORD'S PRAYER
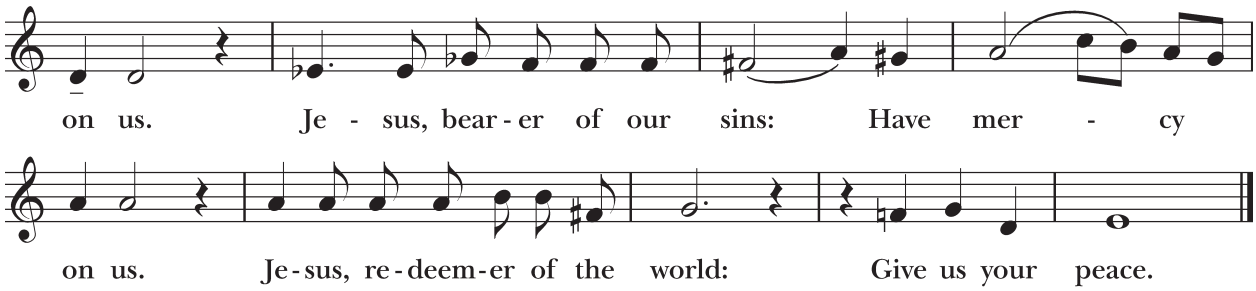
Priest And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All **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

FRACTION ANTHEM (S-165) *Sung by all.* William Mathias





INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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. Wait for an usher to call your pew to come forward. You will first be handed a wafer by a priest (gluten-free wafers are available by request) and then offered wine by a lay server. You may either sip the wine or dip your wafer into the wine. Receiving the bread alone is a valid way to share in the Eucharist. Parents may decide if their children receive the bread and/or wine. All may instead signal their desire to be blessed by the priest by crossing their arms over their chest.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Sung by the choir.

At 9 a.m. Haste thee, O God Adrian Batten (1591–1637)

Haste thee, O God, to deliver me, make haste to help me.
Let them be ashamed and confounded that seek after my soul.
Let them for their reward be soon brought to shame that cry over me "There, there."
But let all those that seek thee be joyful and glad in thee,
and let all such as delight in thy salvation say always, "The Lord be praised." Amen.

—Psalm 70:1-4

At 11 a.m. There is an old belief Hubert H. Parry
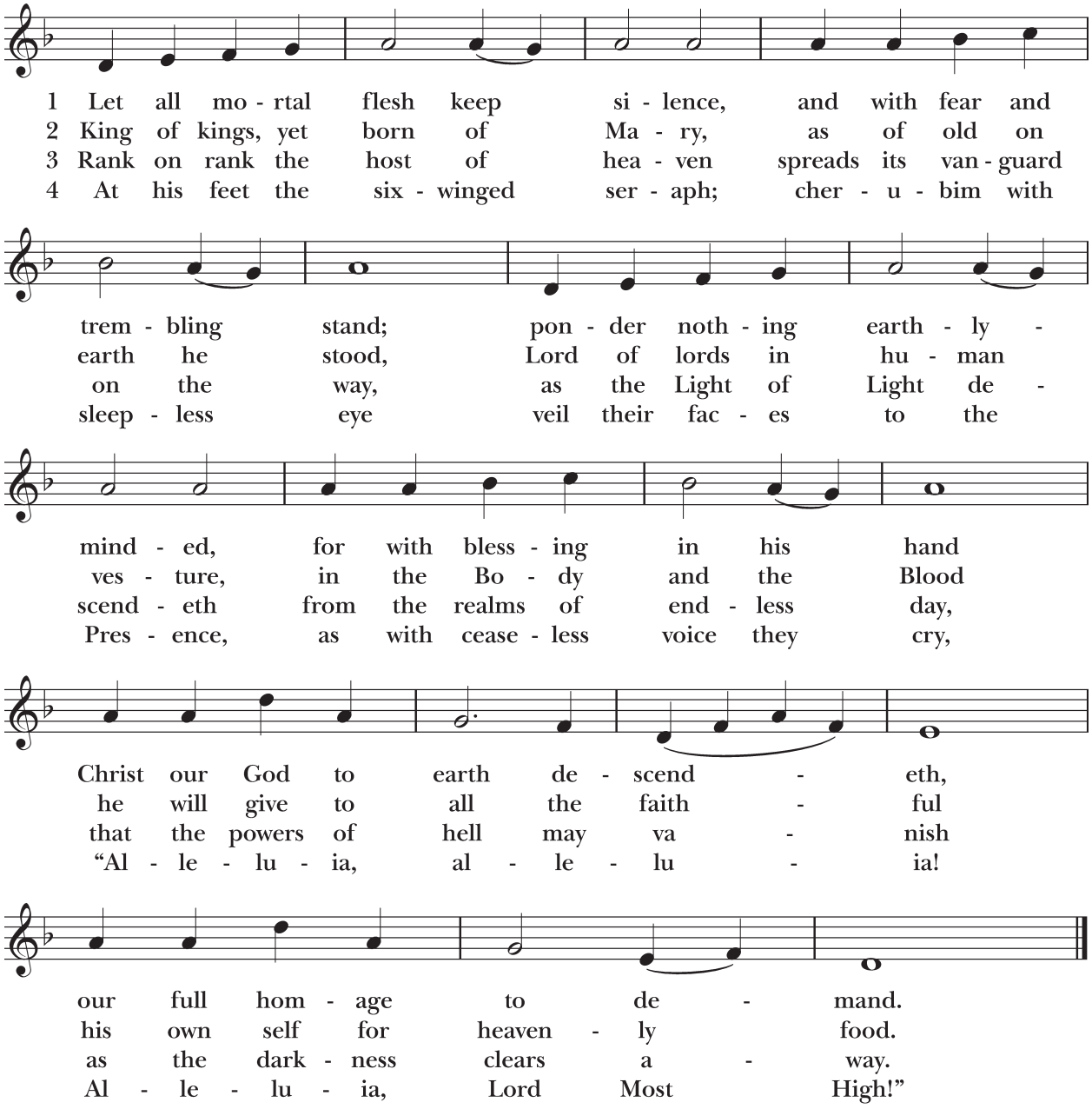
There is an old belief that on some solemn shore,
beyond the sphere of grief, dear friends shall meet once more.

Beyond the sphere of Time and Sin and Fate's control,
serene in changeless prime of body and of soul.

That creed I fain would keep, that hope I'll ne'er forgo,
eternal be the sleep, if not to waken so.

—John Gibson Lockhart (1794–1854)

HYMN 324 *Sung by all, seated.* Let all mortal flesh keep silence



Words: Liturgy of St. James; para. Gerard Moultrie (1829-1885). Music: *Picardy*, French carol, 17th cent.; melody from *Chansons populaires des Provinces de France*, 1860; harm. after *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

Priest Let us pray.

All **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.**

When scheduled, the Priest offers a communion kit to any Lay Eucharistic Minister doing a home visit, saying

On behalf of God and St. John's Church, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those whom you will visit may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. **Amen.**

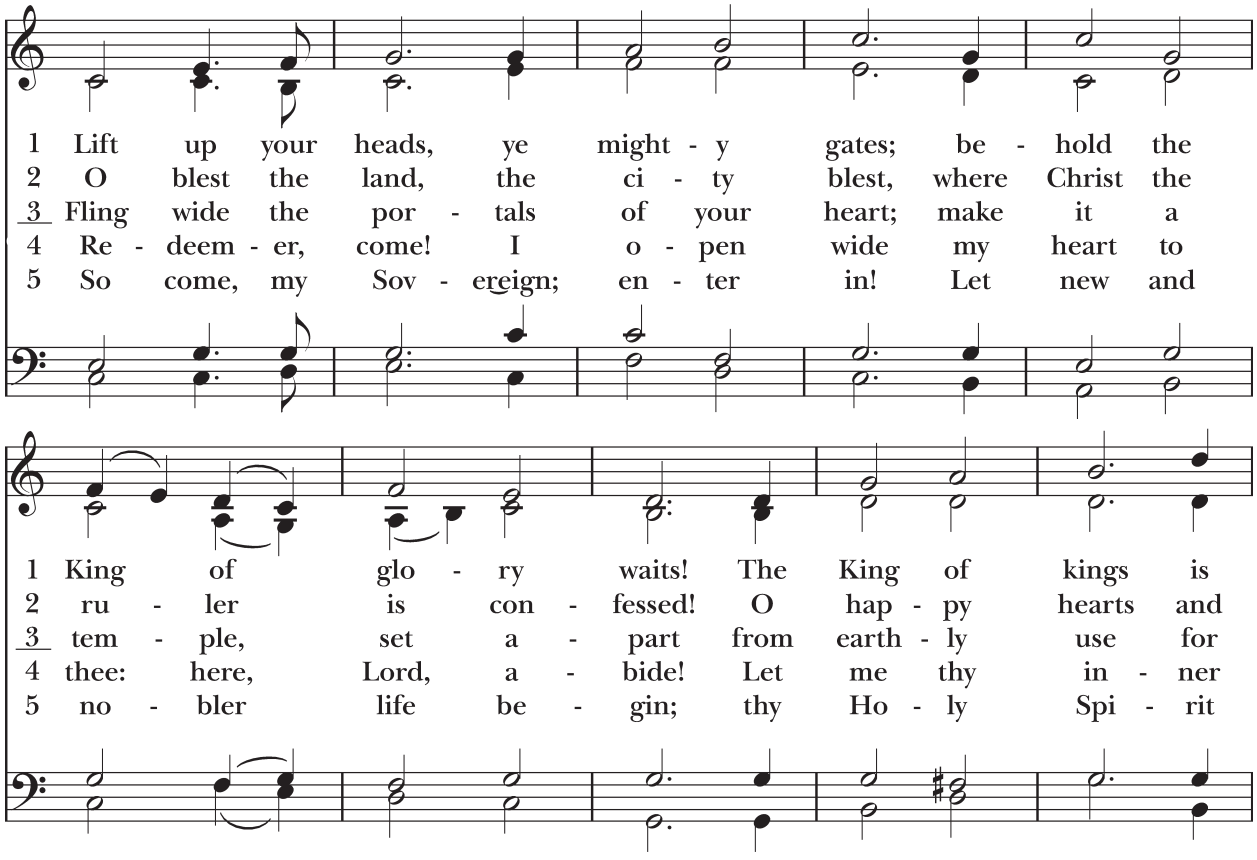
THE BLESSING

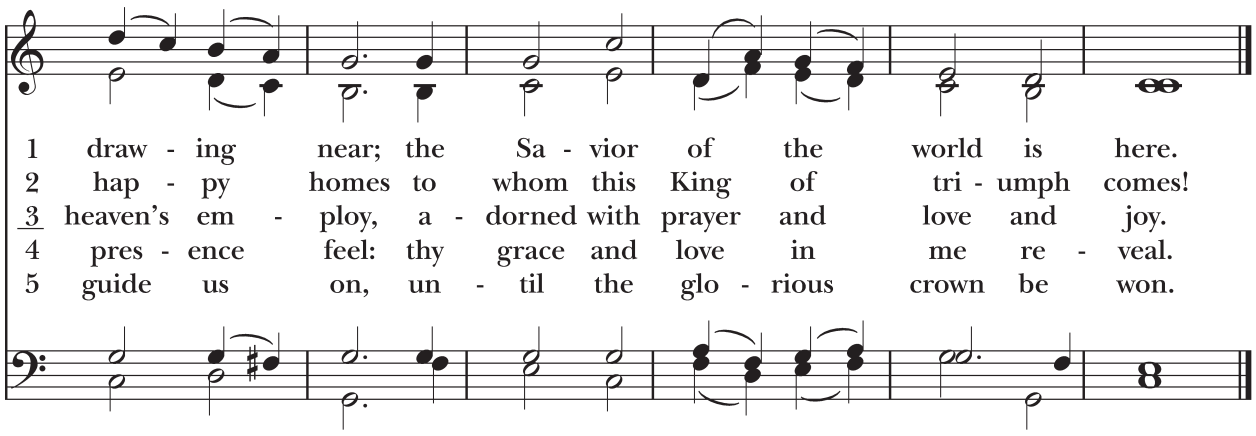
Priest Life is short. And we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So be swift to love. Make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN 436

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates

Sung by all, standing as you are able.





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.

THE DISMISSAL

Priest Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY Prelude on *Darwall's 148th* Percy Whitlock (1903–1946)

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD.

ASSISTING AT THE 9 A.M. SERVICE

Kenny Kraft, *Crucifer* | Ucheora Onwuamaegbu and Byron Poindexter, *Chalice Bearers*
Alfred Thesmar, *Assistant Head Usher* | Martha Ellison and Fruzsina Harsanyi, *Ushers*
Georgia Johnson and Susan Welch, *Greeters*
Sara Schreiber and Adelle Simmons, *Flower Guild*

ASSISTING AT THE 11 A.M. SERVICE

Rachel Pepper, *Crucifer* | Derek Owunwanne and Lily Venzke, *Acolytes*
Kevin Cordova-Brookey and Joanne Hutton, *Chalice Bearers*
Matt Bode, *Assistant Head Usher*
Brian Cordova-Brookey, John Herzog, James Longley, and RJ Lyerly, *Ushers*
Ella Han and Michele Mullins, *Greeters*
Sara Schreiber and Adelle Simmons, *Flower Guild*
Jeremy Sheeler, *Livestream Technicians*

Please help us be good stewards of the environment.
If you do not wish to take this bulletin home after the service,
you may leave it at the end of the pew as you depart or place it in a blue recycling bin.

ARE YOU NEW TO ST. JOHN'S?

Please let us know who you are and how we can best serve you by filling out a ***"Welcome" card*** *and leaving it in the offering plate or giving it to an usher or greeter.* ***Free valet parking*** *is available from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Sundays; look for the valet sign at the corner of 16th and H streets, NW. Find us on* ***Instagram*** *at @stjohnschurchlafayettesquare or visit* ***stjohns-dc.org*** *for more about our offerings and how to get in touch.*

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Announcements for the Week of November 8

TODAY AT ST. JOHN'S

Communities in Schools Thanksgiving baskets (see next column)
Children's Chapel offered during the sermon at 9 and 11 a.m.
Preaching this morning: The Rev. Rob Fisher

8 a.m.	Eucharist with Sermon Parish Choir (Parish House Fourth Floor)
8:30 a.m.	Nursery—available until 12:30 p.m. (Parish House Second Floor)
9 a.m.	Choral Eucharist with Sermon
10 a.m.	Coffee Hour (Plaza, weather permitting, or Parish House First Floor) Speaker Series (Togo West Parlor; see page 6) Sunday School (Parish House Second Floor) Youth Group (Parish House Second Floor) Adult Bible Study (Parish House Third Floor) St. John's Choir (Parish House Fourth Floor)
11 a.m.	Choral Eucharist with Sermon
Noon	Coffee Hour and New Member Reception (Parish House First Floor; all are welcome!)

FLOWER DELIVERIES

Help us brighten the day of parishioners by taking them flowers, located in the side chapel most Sundays of the year. A card is attached to each vase with contact information.

Today, flower deliveries are needed to: O Street, NW; and Tallwood Terrace, Falls Church, Virginia.

*Visit **stjohns-dc.org/connect/newsletters** to subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter (The Word) and other parish email lists.*



HELP FAMILIES IN NEED THIS THANKSGIVING

Our outreach partner Communities in Schools (CIS) is putting together baskets for 100 of their neediest families. We are hoping that St. Johns parishioners will help in several ways:

Donate non-perishable foods: stuffing mix, gravy packets, instant mashed potatoes, canned corn, green beans, macaroni and cheese, canned (evaporated) or shelf-stable milk, cornbread mix, cake mix, and frosting. Please give what you can. If you bring your donations in a reusable grocery bag, so much the better.

Donate grocery store gift cards in $25 increments: Safeway cards are especially useful, due to store locations, but any cards will help by allowing families to buy turkeys.

Members of the CIS committee will be present before and after services today and next Sunday, November 15, to receive donations.

CIS also asks for help with assembling and delivering the baskets to schools. Assembly will take place at the CIS office (501 School Street, SW), with deliveries to be made on Monday, November 23. Contact us via the Connect: Ministry Directory tab of St. John's website with questions or for more information on participating. Many thanks for providing Thanksgiving bounty for families in need!

FALL NEW MEMBER SUNDAY
Today at 11 a.m. | Reception at noon | All are invited!

We recognize new members of our community during the 11 a.m. worship service today and at a reception in Togo West Parlor at noon, to which all are invited. If you began attending St. John's recently or have returned after some time away, please join us! You'll receive a flower as our way of saying welcome. Longtime members are encouraged to greet those holding a flower and help folks feel at home. Come show your support for our growing community and get to know someone new!

SERVICE SCHEDULE | *November 9–15*

Monday—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist
Tuesday—No noonday service
Wednesday—No noonday service—Veterans Day
Thursday—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist
Friday—12:10 p.m.—Noonday Prayer

Sunday—The Rev. Eric Bailey, Preacher
8 a.m. Eucharist with Sermon
9 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon
11 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon

Children's Chapel offered during the sermon at 9 and 11 a.m.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Monday, November 9

6:15 p.m. Lawyers' AA (Togo West Parlor)
6:30 p.m. Being With (Parish House Third Floor)

Tuesday, November 10

1 p.m. Parish Office closes

Wednesday, November 11—Closed for Veterans Day

Saturday, November 14

10 a.m. Diocesan Confirmations (Offsite; see below)

DIOCESAN CONFIRMATION SERVICE
Saturday, November 14, at 10 a.m. (Offsite)

Confirmation is a sacramental rite in which candidates express a mature commitment to Christ before God, the bishop, and the gathered community. All are welcome to support our several candidates from St. John's, as well as others from around the diocese, on Saturday, November 14, at 10 a.m., at Washington National Cathedral.

STAINED GLASS WINDOW TOUR: PART 2
Sunday, November 15, at noon | Meet at the Lincoln Pew

Following up on his tour of the first-floor windows in the church, parish historian Richard Grimmett will lead a 50-minute tour of the gallery windows on Sunday, November 15, shortly after the 11 a.m. service.



2026 ANGEL TREE GIFT DRIVE
Beginning Sunday, November 15

The season of giving is almost here! St. John's is once again partnering with the Bishop Walker School, Advocates for Justice and Education, Communities in Schools of the Nation's Capital, and the DC Dream Center to bring Christmas cheer to children and families in need.

Each participating child has shared a wish list of toys, books, or clothing that they hope to find underneath the Christmas tree this year. With your generosity, we can help those wishes come true!

TWO EASY WAYS TO PURCHASE GIFTS:

- **Pick an Angel:** Visit the Parish House tree, select a tag, shop for the listed gifts, and return them unwrapped by Sunday, December 6.
- **Shop Online:** Purchase books for Bishop Walker School from the wish list at bit.ly/sjc-angel-tree-2026. Items will ship directly to the church.

THREE IMPORTANT DATES:

- **Gift Delivery Deadline**: Sunday, December 6
- **Gift Wrapping**: Saturday, December 12 (see page 4)
- **Gift Distribution**: Beginning Monday, December 14; so please return your gift purchases on time.

Whether you purchase a gift, donate a book, or join us for the wrapping party, your participation helps spread the joy and spirit of Christmas to children and families throughout our community.

Thank you for helping share the love and joy of Christmas! Questions? Please contact Kevin Cordova-Brookey via the online Ministry Directory at stjohns-dc.org.

COMING UP

GRACE'S TABLE
Third Saturdays, from 10:30 a.m to 12:30 p.m.
Upcoming dates: November 21 and December 19

Grace's Table is an outreach partnership between St. John's and Grace Episcopal Church in Georgetown. Every third Saturday of the month, a group from St. John's prepares and serves a meal at Grace to folks who are unhoused or at risk of losing their housing. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know other St. John's parishioners and to spread God's loving kindness in our community. Contact leader Elizabeth Field using the Connect: Ministry Directory tab of our website with questions or to volunteer.

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT
Saturday, November 21, 5–7:30 p.m.

Kids ages 6 months through 5th grade are invited to play, watch a movie, and eat pizza while parents and caregivers enjoy an evening out. RSVP by Monday, November 16, to bit.ly/sjc-pno-rsvp. Questions? Please contact Lauren Goodyear via the About: Leadership tab of our website.

WOMEN OF ALL AGES ARE INVITED FOR A WALK AROUND ROCK CREEK CEMETERY
Sunday, November 22, at 2 p.m.

Join the Sisters at St. John's for a visit to this local gem. First established in 1719 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Northwest D.C., Rock Creek Cemetery features a natural rolling landscape and winding pathways beneath groves of trees. The grave of the District official who lined the city's streets with trees, Alexander Robey Shepherd, rises beneath specimens planted during his lifetime. Artful tombstones and breathtaking sculptures are abundant, most notable the evocative memorial to Henry and Marian Adams designed by Augustus Saint-Gaudens; it alone is worth the visit. Contact Emily Lucio via the online Ministry Directory for information and registration ($30 per person).

CELEBRATING CHRIST THE KING
Sunday, November 22, at 11 a.m.

On the final Sunday of the church year, the combined choirs of St. John's will offer Grayston Ives' *Missa Aedis Christi*, commissioned by Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, where our choirs will sing during their pilgrimage to England next summer. A former member of the King's Singers and longtime Director of Music at Magdalen College, Oxford, Ives is celebrated for his sacred choral music. Although the mass remains unpublished, the composer has graciously granted special permission for its use at St. John's. This festive setting provides a fitting conclusion to the liturgical year as we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King.

CHORAL EVENSONG FOR THANKSGIVING
Wednesday, November 25, at 5:30 p.m.

Join us on the eve of Thanksgiving for a special service of Choral Evensong as we usher in the season of gratitude. Begin your holiday by lifting your heart in prayer and song with favorite hymns of Thanksgiving, including "Come, ye thankful people, come" and "Now thank we all our God." A reception will follow in the Togo West Parlor.

Complimentary parking is available in the garage at 1575 I Street, NW. When asked for payment, indicate you will return with a validated ticket from St. John's good for free parking.

ADVENT WREATH MAKING
Sunday, November 29, at 10 a.m.

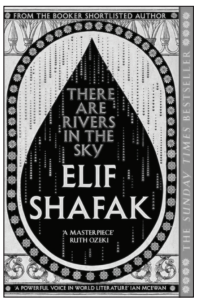
Join in this fun annual tradition at St. John's that is suitable for all ages. Using seasonal greens, we will make decorative wreaths that double as devotional aids during the Advent season. Materials will be provided for each household to make one wreath, and a few "take and make" bags will be available for those who cannot stay to make a wreath. You're encouraged to bring your own clippers if you have them. Contact Lauren Goodyear via the About: Leadership tab of our website with questions. This activity will take the place of Church School and Youth Group.

LATROBE FELLOWSHIP
Wednesday, December 2, at 6:30 p.m.

Celebrate the holiday season with the Latrobe Fellowship! Join us on Wednesday, December 2, at 6:30 p.m. for a worship service followed by dinner and drinks (both alcoholic and non) in the Togo West Parlor. We will also have an optional white elephant gift exchange; if you wish to participate, bring a fun or silly wrapped gift ($30 or less) of the sort that you, yourself, would enjoy receiving.

The Latrobe Fellowship is an active and engaged group of adults, primarily in their 20s and 30s. We typically gather at St. John's at 6:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month for a short worship service followed by an activity. For more information, contact Will Yale via the Ministry Directory tab on our website.

ST. JOHN'S BOOK GROUP
Thursday, December 3, at 7 p.m.



Join us via Zoom to discuss *There Are Rivers in the Sky* by Elif Shafak, a wide-ranging novel from 2024 that tells the story of three characters living along two great rivers, all connected by a single drop of water. The book group typically meets the first Thursday of the month via Zoom. For information and the link, contact us via the online Ministry Directory at stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory.



PHOTO: MICHAEL JUSTIN

SKYLARK RETURNS TO ST. JOHN'S
Saturday, December 5, at 5 p.m. | Ticketed event

Following last year's acclaimed performance at St. John's, the award-winning Skylark Vocal Ensemble returns with *Spotless Rose*, a program of choral music for the Christmas season. Centered on the beloved hymn "Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming," the concert brings together medieval carols, Renaissance motets, and contemporary reflections in a celebration of the season. For more information and tickets, visit skylarkensemble.org/experiences.

ADVENT PARTY
Sunday, December 6, 5–7 p.m.

Join us for one of St. John's beloved holiday traditions. We'll gather for food, fellowship, and joyful music, including the ever-popular carol sing-along, also the reading of *A Visit from St. Nicholas*, and quite possibly a surprise visit from St. Nicholas himself! Bring your friends, your family, and your holiday spirit as we celebrate the season together. RSVP by November 30 by visiting bit.ly/sjc-advent-party-rsvp. If you'd like to volunteer, contact Lisa Koehler through the staff page on our website.

ANGEL TREE WRAPPING PARTY
Saturday, December 12, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

To wrap up our Angel Tree gift drive, we will have a special gift-wrapping event for all the donations. No matter how professional—or not—your wrapping skills are, you're invited to come spread cheer. This will be a fun gathering with food and music to help us prepare to distribute gifts and make someone's Christmas a little extra special this year. Questions to coordinator Kevin Cordova-Brookey via the Connect: Ministry Directory tab of our website.

HELP DELIVER CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS
Sunday, December 20

Please plan to deliver at least one Christmas poinsettia to fellow parishioners who cannot be present with us at worship at this time. The plants will be in the Parish House parlors on Sunday, December 20, with cards addressed to parishioners who live near you in Virginia, Maryland, or the District. Along your way, help brighten someone's day!

LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS
Sunday, December 20, at 5:30 p.m.

Join the combined choirs of St. John's for one of our most beloved holiday traditions, sung in the beauty of a candlelit church. The service begins with the singing of "Once in royal David's city," followed by nine lessons interspersed with carols and choral anthems. Complimentary valet parking will be available starting at 4:45 p.m. The service will be followed by a reception in the Togo West Parlor. Invite your friends and family to join us for this special holiday offering. The service will also be livestreamed.

NEWS & NOTICES

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.

1 PETER 4:10

2027 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

The 2027 Stewardship Campaign is underway! Join the growing community of parishioners and friends who have already made their pledge to St. John's. As Christian

stewards, we believe God's blessings merit our grateful response. Our pledge is an act of spiritual responsibility that acknowledges God's work in our lives and the life of our church.

Your pledge can be a one-time annual payment or it can be paid weekly, monthly, or on the schedule of your choosing. You may pledge online under the Give tab of our website, use the QR code above, or return your pledge envelope by mail or in the offering plate on Sunday. Thank you for making your financial commitment to St. John's.

VESTRY NOMINATIONS
Deadline: Sunday, November 29

The Vestry Nominating Committee will meet in early December to select the slate for Vestry elections to be held at the upcoming Annual Meeting. The role of the Vestry Nominating Committee is to select, from all those nominated, the six candidates who will stand for election, of whom three will be elected. Nominees should be pledging members of the congregation, attend worship regularly, and be active in the life of the parish. Submit names using the form found at bit.ly/sjc-vestry-nomination. Questions? Speak to Fruzsina Harsanyi, chair of the Nominating Committee. The deadline for nominations is Sunday, November 29.

WE ARE EXPLORING A 2027 VISIT TO KWASA

St. John's is considering a trip to visit Kwasa College, a pre-primary and primary school in South Africa and our long-term international outreach partner, with travel dates likely in winter or spring of 2027. Prior St. John's trips have toured Johannesburg, a game park, and Capetown, in addition to spending time with Kwasa students. Interested? Contact Lisa Koehler via the About: Leadership tab of our website.

PARISH LUNCH SCHEDULE AND HOSTS

Sunday lunch at St. John's is a longtime tradition in which every member and every visitor can participate. It's a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new ones—a time for fellowship and for hearing another's story. The lunch is held most Sundays in the Parish House. Contributions of $5 for adults and young people 13 and over and $2 for children under 13 are requested to help defray the cost. All are welcome. Valet parking hours are extended to 2 p.m. any Sunday with a parish lunch.

The Sunday lunch tradition relies on volunteers to prepare and serve the meal—which is why we encourage individuals, families, groups, or ministries to host at least once per program year. Hosts may be reimbursed for expenses or receive a tax receipt. Not sure what's involved? Want to claim an open date in 2027? Contact coordinator Holly Sukenik at stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory.

November 8	New Members Reception: All invited!
November 15	Sisters at St. John's
November 22	Greeters
November 29	*No Lunch: Thanksgiving Weekend*
December 6	Stewardship Committee
December 13	Book Group
December 20	*No Lunch*
December 27	*No Lunch*
January 3	Three Kings' Day Potluck

WOMEN'S WEEKEND RETREAT
Friday, March 5, through Sunday, March 7

Women of all ages are warmly invited to join the Sisters at St. John's for "Exploring the Gift of Conflict," to be held at the A. Felix DuPont Memorial House in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. Led by the Rt. Rev. Mary Gray-Reeves, we will focus on the dynamics of conflict and explore God's desire for us to engage in the holy work of reconciliation and restoration. Space is limited; please complete the online registration at bit.ly/sjc-retreat-2027-register and submit your payment to secure your spot. The cost ($425) includes housing and meals. Scholarships are available for those in need of financial assistance; contact the Rev. Rob Fisher with your request. Questions? Reach out to leader Emily Lucio via the online Ministry Directory—and remember that your payment (not your email) secures your place at the retreat. More information can be found at bit.ly/sjc-gift-of-conflict.

We are also planning a local one-day retreat this February. Contact Emily Lucio to learn more or express interest.

Contact Pastoral Care at ***Connect: Ministry Directory on our website*** *to add, remove, or change a status on the prayer list.*



FOR THOSE SEEKING TO BE BAPTIZED

If you are interested in baptism for yourself or for a child, please contact Lisa Koehler via the About: Leadership tab on our website. Please note that the parents or grandparents of children being baptized must be active, pledging members of St. John's. Adults interested in baptism must also attend an Adult Inquirers' Class, offered twice a year, and be active, pledging participants in the life of the parish. The next dates for baptism and the required pre-baptismal class with the clergy at St. John's are:

Sunday, January 10, at 11 a.m.
Class: Saturday, January 9, at 10 a.m.

Sunday, February 7, at 9 a.m.
Class: Saturday, February 6, at 10 a.m.

Sunday, April 4, at 9 a.m.
Class: Saturday, April 3, at 10 a.m.

SPEAKER SERIES

The Speaker Series is held most Sundays from September through May at 10 a.m. in the Togo West Parlor on the first floor of the Parish House. An audio recording will be available on our website the week after each talk.



November 8: Erika Gault, Ph.D., Director of the Center for the Study of African American Religious Life, and the Lilly Endowment Curator of African American Religious History at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, will present on the worship experience of African Americans in early U.S. history, especially in the National Capital Region.



November 15: William Taylor, former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine (2006–2009) and chargé d'affaires *ad interim* at the U.S. embassy in Kyiv (2019–2020), will discuss the state of the war between Ukraine and Russia.



December 6: Lois Romano, former Washington Post journalist and columnist, Lois Romano, will discuss her New York Times bestselling book *An Inconvenient Widow: The Torment, Trial, and Triumph of Mary Todd Lincoln*, about the long misunderstood, underappreciated wife of President Abraham Lincoln.

IMAGE: LINDAEDITS | CC BY-SA 4.0 | VIA WIKIMEDIA COMMONS | CROPPED



December 13: Shibley Telhami, a noted Mideast expert, will speak about the recent elections in Israel. Telhami is a nonresident senior fellow with the Center for Middle East Policy at Brookings, and the Anwar Sadat Professor for Peace and Development at the University of Maryland. He has also served as a senior advisor to the U.S. Department of State, advisor to the U.S. Mission to the United Nations, advisor to Congressman Lee Hamilton, and member of the Iraq Study Group.

FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

NURSERY CARE | Sundays, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Infants and children are welcome at all worship services. Nursery care is also available most Sundays for infants and children up to age three. The nursery is on the second floor of the Parish House.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL
Sundays during the sermon at 9 and 11 a.m. worship

Most Sundays, kids from birth through grade 5 are invited to participate in a special liturgy just for them during the

sermon at the 9 and 11 a.m. services. Children gather by the pulpit at the start of the gradual hymn and process to the Parish House for a song, homily, and prayer time, returning to the sanctuary at the Peace. Parents may accompany their children and are encouraged to do so for those younger than three. Children are also welcome to stay and worship in the main sanctuary. Questions? Contact Lauren Goodyear via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Sundays, 10–10:50 a.m., from September through May

Children in pre-K through fifth grade may participate in Sunday School on the second floor of the Parish House from 10 to 10:50 a.m. most Sundays of the school year. Contact Lauren Goodyear via the About: Leadership tab on our website with questions.

YOUTH GROUP

Sundays, 10–10:50 a.m., from September through May

Middle and high school youth are invited to the Parish House second floor for an exploration of life and faith with their peers, most Sundays at 10 a.m., during the school year. Questions? Contact the Rev. Eric Bailey via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

THE ACOLYTE MINISTRY

From September through May, youth in 6th grade and above are encouraged to participate during worship by serving as torch bearers or crucifers and helping set the altar for communion. Contact Vincent Scauzzo via stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory for details.

REMINDERS

ADULT BIBLE STUDY | Most Sundays at 10 a.m.

During the program year, this group gathers most Sunday mornings, using a hybrid approach, with some joining via Zoom and others in person, with weekly study materials provided by email. Conversations explore the connections with the Sunday lectionary lessons and sermons. To join our email list or find out more, contact us via the Ministry Directory at stjohns-dc.org.

FLOWER MEMORIALS AND THANKSGIVINGS

Flowers in the church and Parish House are made possible by gifts and are often dedicated to the memory of a loved one or to mark a birth or birthday, wedding, anniversary, graduation, or other special event. To make a dedication, pick up a flower card at the entrance to the church.

JOIN A MINISTRY GROUP

We'd love to help you find your way into life at St. John's. Explore our many ministry groups at www.stjohns-dc.org. If something appeals to you, simply complete the form at **bit.ly/sjc-ministry-interests**, and a ministry leader will be in touch to welcome you and answer any questions.

LISTEN AGAIN TO SUNDAY SERMONS

To listen to past sermons or speaker series, visit our website, scan this QR code or search for "St. John's Church, Lafayette Square" in the Podcast app on your device.

LIVESTREAMED SERVICES

The weekly 11 a.m. Sunday service is broadcast on our website and available for replay, as are evensongs and occasional other special services and events.

SECURITY MEASURES AT ST. JOHN'S

St. John's identity as a congregation is shaped by our urban location in the nation's capital. We seek to welcome all to our services and activities with dignity, while ensuring the safety and well-being of those who worship in our facilities. We hire security personnel for Sundays and special services as a low-key, proactive presence prepared to respond quickly and respectfully to any needs that may arise.

PRAYER & PASTORAL CARE

Praying for those in need is an important part of our life together. Contact the Pastoral Care team via the Connect: Ministry Directory tab at stjohns-dc.org to add yourself, family, or friends to our prayer list. Names of friends and family who are not members of the congregation are followed by the name of the parishioner making the request.

Our prayers are requested for the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially:

THOSE WHO ARE SICK, RECOVERING, OR GRIEVING

From our parish: Glen Bootay, Stevan Johnson, Carter Keithley, Lydia Olson, and Jack Reiffer.

Friends and family of our parish: Olivia Beckett (Justin Dean), Earl Billings (Chase Rynd) Robert Bliss (Katherine Bliss and Mark Dennis), Jenny Bradley (Wendy J. Fibison), Judi C. (Adelle Simmons), Casey Byers (Eric Peters), Lewis Coleman Casey "Cole" (Eric Bailey), Chad (Wendy Fibison), Tim Collins (Wendy J. Fibison), Paul Colloton (Jack Reiffer), Jim DeBello (Grace Barrett), Dominic D'Andrea (Krista Bradley), Jane Dennis (Katherine Bliss and Mark Dennis), Ann Dilworth (Sydney Brooks), Walt Eccard (Margaret Depue), Ed Eder (Joanne and Powell Hutton), Leonard Edwards (Lauren Edwards), Laurie Feldon (Eleanor and Peter Odom), David Ferriero (Fruzsina Harsanyi), Benoit Gibert (Margaret Wiegenstein), Chantay Griffin (Charley Griffin and Gee Gee Bryant), Linda Young Gsell (Rick Young), Morgan Hickenlooper (Livy More), Doug Holy (Joanne Hutton), Jack (Marta Cook and Pierre Cal Trepagnier), Latithia and Charles Jones (GeeGee Bryant), Petros Kartos (Meg Carter), Olivia Kehoe (Kat Kehoe), Svetlana Kleymenova (Anya Kleymenova), (Elizabeth Lee (Clayton Crawford), Tom Lamont (Eric Bailey), Jane Lee (Claire Kim and Jess Unger), William Markiewicz (Matthew Taylor), Jim Martella (Livy More), Allie Matthews (Carl and Mary Raether), Tammy McCleaf (Matthew Taylor), Mike (Susan Cardwell), Nell Montgomery (Brandon Montgomery), Mark Mousouris (Chris Northrop), Ann Petrosky (Johnathan Miller), Susan Price (Richard Price), Scott (Marta Cook and Pierre Cal Trepagnier), Nancy Stephenson (Ann and John Gardner), Ashley M. Smith (Marta Cook and Pierre Cal Trepagnier), Elena Sukenik (Holly Sukenik), Sunil (Susan Cardwell), Betty Tisevich (Debby Hailey), Brad Todd (Pamela Venzke), Mackenzie Toland (Wendy J. Fibison), Caleb Williams (Alfred Thesmar), Bess Williamson (Wendy J. Fibison), Michele Wilson (Margo Wiegenstein), Andrew Woods (Johnathan Miller), and Judith York (Caroline Fisher).

THOSE WHO ARE IN THE HOSPITAL

Friends and family of our parish: Dean McGrath (Laurie Adams).

THOSE WHO ARE IN ASSISTED LIVING

From our parish: Milton Chamberlain, Marcella Odom, Larry Redway, Becky Schergens, Suzanne Whitmore, and Mary Wilson.

Friends and family of our parish: David Brown (Lisa Koehler), Bob Chrystal, Sr. (Chris Jones), Denise T. Griggs (Ginny Griggs), Veronica Jones (Chris Jones), Lori LaPoint (Brent Erstad), Yvonne Reiffer (Jack Reiffer), and Carl Wright (Frank and Nancy Klotz).

THOSE WHO ARE IN HOSPICE CARE

Friends and family of our parish: Wilma Daubs (Kay Gilley).

THOSE IN OUR PARISH CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY

Clark Agnew, Carys Beaumont, Glen Bootay, Kathryn Bubolz, Anita Diliberto, Brenna Duncan, Rob Ehrich, Jeff Hantson, Ann Kaye, Grant Kraus, James Longley, Joshua Maxey, Quincy Rhodes, Jessica Sanchez, Abraham Watts, Dan Williams, and Wes Williams.

THOSE IN OUR PARISH CELEBRATING AN ANNIVERSARY

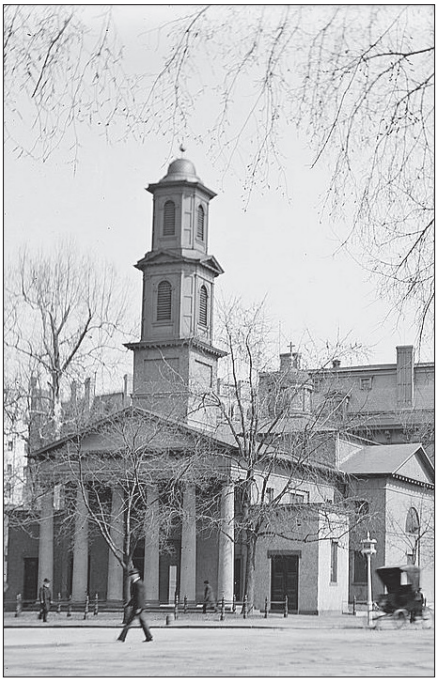
Karolina Arias and Peter Koch, Krista and Larry Bradley, Branda and Paul Mandelson, and Elena and Marty Williams.

THOSE ON THE FRONT LINES

Friends and family of our parish: Janie Abernethy (Elizabeth Lewis and David Abernethy), Audrey Anikeeff (Tony Anikeeff and Tung-lin Wu), Philip L. Faris (Caroline and Steve Faris), Charles Lewis, Jr. (Charles Lewis, Sr.), and Miles Stewart (James Benjamin).

LIST OF 2027 PLEDGERS

On behalf of the rector, wardens, vestry, and all who share in the grace of God through the worship, ministries, programs, and outreach of St. John's Church, we thank the following for their pledges for the year 2027.



As of November 2, 2026

Anonymous (3)
Kingsley Afemikhe
Anthony Anikeeff & Tung-lin Wu
Bryan Aung
Eric & Jack Bailey
Frederick Baldwin
Jordan & Angelle Baugh
Gabrielle & Simon Beaumont
James Benjamin
Kathleen Benner
Diane Hendricks Bitsberger
Marion Blakey & Bill Dooley
Craig & Barbara Burkhardt
Richard Busch
Virginia Chew
Ross Coe
Brian & Kevin Cordova-Brookey
Betsy Danello
Mark Dennis & Katherine Bliss
Mike & Beth Dumond
Diana Duncan
Janet Edmond
Kaye Edwards
Martha Ellison
Cliff & Anne Elmore
Clark Ervin & Carolyn Harris
Doug Estes & Sylvia Martin Estes
Caroline & Steve Faris
Elizabeth Field
Rob Fisher & Sarah Wood
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Ford
Linda Gaines
Liz Gallalee
John Goheen & Haleigh Hildebrand
Kate & Chris Gorud
Sandra Hackworth
Debby Hailey
Robert & Anne Harrington
Fruzsina Harsanyi
Timothy & Susan Heil
Powell & Joanne Hutton
Marlene Ikeda
Bruce & Georgia Johnson
Katherine Johnson & Nate Rawlings
Robyne Johnston
David Kieve & Kate Bedingfield
James & Lisa Kirchenbauer
Anya Kleymenova
Frank & Nancy Klotz
Lisa Koehler
Julia Koster
Kenny Kraft
Chien-Min Lee
Pam Covington Lottmann
John & Emily Lucio
Jan Lupton
Sherill Mason
Abbott McCartney & Sigrid Block
Saunders & Joan McElroy
Richard Metzger
Livy More
Kim Nguyen
Peter & Eleanor Odom
Apiyo Oloya
Ralph & Lydia Olson
Matthew Paeffgen
Sharon Park
Ray & Susan Petniunas
Jane Reichard
Carlos Reyes
Charles & Geraldine Rhodes
Claire Rhodes
Susan & Steve Roehrich
Brian Schoeneman
Jeremy Skog & Laura Lieberman
Toby Stock & Margy Slattery
Ed & Lacey Szczepanik
Riley Temple
Hilary & Alfred Thesmar
Pierre Cal Trepagnier & Marta Cook
Frances Tyler
Susan Valaskovic
Patrick & Pamela Venzke
Ryan Wagner
Susan Welch
Gail Berry West
Trey & Amy Whitworth
Margaret Wiegenstein
Will Yale
Karen Zachary

CHRISTMAS AT ST. JOHN'S



Visit our website for more news and the full calendar of upcoming services, events, and holiday office closures.

www.stjohns-dc.org

LESSONS & CAROLS

Sunday, December 20, at 5:30 p.m.

Join the combined choirs of St. John's for one of our most beloved holiday traditions, sung in the beauty of a candlelit church. The service begins with the singing of "Once in royal David's city," followed by nine lessons interspersed with carols and choral anthems, and a reception afterward in the Togo West Parlor. Invite your friends and family for this special holiday offering. The service will also be livestreamed.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

Arrive 30 minutes early for any of our Christmas Eve services to enjoy a prelude of carols and music before worship begins.

4:30 p.m. Pageant & Choral Eucharist with Choir

7 p.m. Festal Choral Eucharist
Sermon—The Rev. Rob Fisher

10 p.m. Festal Choral Eucharist
Sermon—The Rev. Rob Fisher

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25

11 a.m. Choral Holy Eucharist
Sermon—The Rev. Will Morris

THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

December 24 at 4:30 p.m.

The annual Christmas Pageant will take place on Christmas Eve beginning at 4:30 p.m. Children ages three and up are invited to participate in the pageant as an Angel, Shepherd, or Friendly Beast. Come 30 minutes early to enjoy a prelude of anthems and carols before the start of the service. All children who wish to participate should attend rehearsal on Saturday, December 19, at 9 a.m. Please contact Lauren Goodyear via the About: Leadership tab of our website for more information.

CHRISTMAS EVE FESTAL EUCHARIST

December 24 at 7 and 10 p.m.

Join with family, friends, and neighbors as we gather at St. John's to celebrate the birth of our Savior. The St. John's Choir and Choristers will be joined by strings and organ in offering George Malcolm's charming "Mass at the Crib," along with many favorite carols. The service will conclude with the traditional singing of "Silent night" by candlelight.

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.

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) has up-to-date information about the church including the Sunday service schedule, Speaker Series speakers and topics, and newsworthy events.

Vestry Leadership & Members

Alfred Thesmar, *Senior Warden*
Julia Koster, *Junior Warden*

Kate Benner, Brian Cordova-Brookey, Kaye Edwards, Elizabeth Field, Debby Hailey, Fruzsina Harsanyi, Apiyo Oloya, Jack Reiffer, Brian Schoeneman, Matthew Taylor, Trey Whitworth, and Jess Unger, *Members*

Anya Kleymenova, *Treasurer*
Jane Reichard, *Assistant Treasurer*
Will Priest, *Secretary*
Harker Rhodes, *Parish Counsel*

Head Usher—James H. Czerwonky
Head Greeters—Eleanor and Peter Odom

Heads of Flower Guild
Pat Dalby and Katherine Kyle

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher, *Rector*
The Rev. Eric Bailey, *Assistant Priest for Parish Life and New Member Ministry*
The Rev. Cn. Maurice Dyer, *Assisting Priest*
The Rev. William Morris, *Assisting Priest for Engaging Local Communities*
Lauren Goodyear, *Lay Minister for Children and Families*
Brent Erstad, *Director of Music and Organist*
Christopher Betts, *Associate Organist*

John Stowe, *Chief Operating Officer*
Charley Griffin, *Parish Administrator*
Lisa Koehler, *Program Associate and Executive Assistant to the Rector*
Javier Obregon, *Sexton*
GeeGee Bryant, David Gamboa, and John Queen, *Assistant Sextons*
Anne Stone, *Publications*

ST. JOHN'S MISSION STATEMENT

St. John's shines as a beacon of God's love through faith, worship, care, and community, and offers a place of grace at our historic corner in the nation's capital.

Parish House
1525 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005-1005
(202) 347-8766 ✦ www.stjohns-dc.org