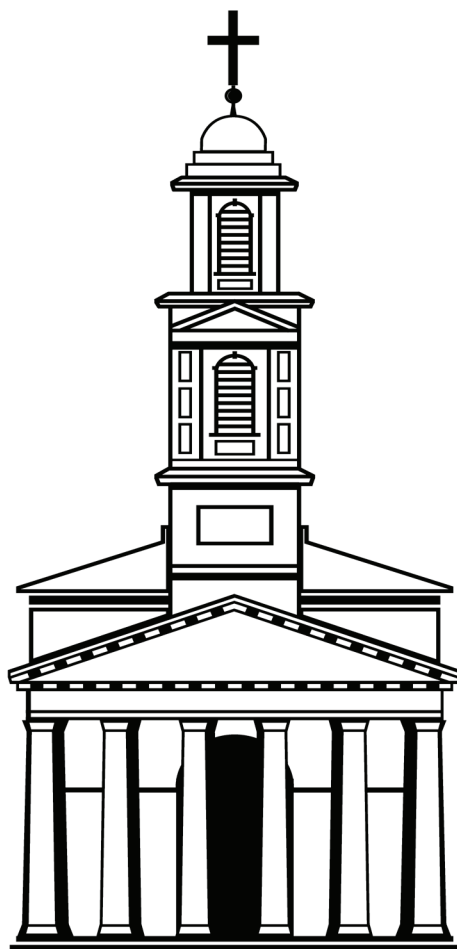


THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 21, 2025 ♦ 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.

VOLUNTARY

O Gott, du frommer Gott
(O God, thou faithful God)

Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)

HYMN 48

O day of radiant gladness

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

1 O day of ra - diant glad - ness, O day of joy and
2 This day at the cre - a - tion, the light first had its
3 This day, God's peo - ple meet - ing, his Ho - ly Scrip - ture
4 That light our hope sus - tain - ing, we walk the pil - grim

light, O balm of care and sad - ness, most
birth; this day for our sal - va - tion Christ
hear; his liv - ing pres - ence greet - ing, through
way, at length our rest at - tain - ing, our

beau - ti - ful, most bright; this day the high and
rose from depths of earth; this day our Lord vic -
Bread and Wine made near. We jour - ney on, be -
end - less Sab - bath day. We sing to thee our

low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune, sing,
to - rious the Spi - rit sent from heaven, and,
liev - ing, re - newed with heav - en - ly might, from
prais - es, O Fa - ther, Spi - rit, Son; the

“Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,” to the great God Tri - une.
thus this day most glo - rious a tri - ple light was given.
grace more grace re - ceiv - ing on this blest day of light.
Church her voice up - rais - es to thee, blest Three in One.

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.**

GLORIA *Sung by all.*

Mass in E

Jeffrey Smith (b. 1960)

(Organ) Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and

peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al -

might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly
Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther:
re - ceive our prayer. *(Organ)* For you a - lone are the
Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,
Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of
God the Fa - ther. A - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Amos 8:4-7

Please be seated.

9 a.m. Read by Chris Janson.

11 a.m. Read by Beth DuMond.

Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat." The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 113

9 a.m. Said responsively by half verse, led by Richard Greene.

11 a.m. Chanted by the choir; setting by Henry Ley (1887-1962)

Hallelujah!

Give praise, you servants of the LORD; *
praise the Name of the LORD.

Let the Name of the LORD be blessed, *
from this time forth for evermore.

From the rising of the sun to its going down *
let the Name of the LORD be praised.

The LORD is high above all nations, *
and his glory above the heavens.

Who is like the LORD our God, who sits enthroned on high *
but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?

He takes up the weak out of the dust *
and lifts up the poor from the ashes.

He sets them with the princes, *
with the princes of his people.

He makes the woman of a childless house *
to be a joyful mother of children.

(11 a.m. only) Children's Chapel in the Parish House: All who wish may gather in front of the pulpit during the following hymn and will return at the Peace. Parents are encouraged to accompany children younger than three.

GRADUAL HYMN 488

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart

Sung by all, standing as you are able. Stanzas 1 & 2 will be sung before the Gospel, stanza 3 after.



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 High King of hea - ven, when vic - tory is won,
all else be nought to me, save that thou art—
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
may I reach hea - ven's joys, bright hea - ven's Sun!
thou my best thought,— by day or by night,
thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be;
Heart of my heart,— what - ev - er be - fall,
wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.
still be my vis - ion, O Ru - ler of all.

Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931); tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt. Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927; harm. David Evans (1874-1948). By permission of Oxford University Press.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 16:1-13

Please remain standing as you are able.

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

“Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Following the Gospel, all sing stanza 3 of the gradual hymn.

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 Mark Dennis.

Kneeling or standing as you are able.

11 a.m. Led by Betsy Danello.

Intercessor Let us give thanks to the living God for all the gifts that we enjoy, saying, “We thank you, living God.”

Silence.

Intercessor For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea:

People **We thank you, living God.**

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 St. Matthew’s Church/San Mateo, Hyattsville, and St. Matthew’s Day School, Hyattsville. For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Mariann, our Bishop; Eugene, our Assistant Bishop; and for all people whose lives reveal the image of Christ:

People **We thank you, living God.**

Intercessor For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends:

People **We thank you, living God.**

Intercessor For minds to think, hearts to love, and hands to serve:

People **We thank you, living God.**

Intercessor For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play:

People **We thank you, living God.**

Intercessor For challenges which call forth new strength, for failures which teach greater humility, and for encouragement to persevere when life is hard:

People **We thank you, living God.**

Intercessor For those in special need today, especially . . . ; and for your care for all those in need:

People **We thank you, living God.**

Intercessor For those celebrating a birthday this week . . . ; for those celebrating an anniversary this week . . . ; and for all blessings of this life:

People **We thank you, living God.**

Intercessor We pray for Donald, our President, the leaders of Congress, and the Supreme Court, that they will work for justice, freedom, and peace.

And for those who serve on behalf of our civic life:

People **We thank you, living God.**

Intercessor For those who have died, especially . . . For all who have gone before us, for all who walk beside us, and for all children who are precious to us and to you:

People **We thank you, living God.**

Intercessor And for the great wisdom and hope that you reveal to us through Jesus, our leader, example, teacher, liberator, and friend:

People **We thank you, living God.**

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.**

THE PEACE

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

*You may make an offering by placing your donation in the plate, or use this QR code to pay electronically.
A donation via this code can go only to offerings and not to pledges or any other specific funds.*



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Sung by the choir.

At 9 a.m.

O Lord, increase our faith

Henry Loosemore (c. 1607–1670)

O Lord, increase our faith;
strengthen us and confirm us in thy true faith;
endue us with wisdom, charity, and patience;
in all our adversities, sweet Jesu, say Amen.

—*Anonymous*

At 11 a.m.

The call of wisdom

Will Todd (b. 1970)

Lord of wisdom, Lord of truth, Lord of justice, Lord of mercy,
walk beside us down the years till we see you in your glory.

Striving to attain the heights, turning in a new direction,
entering a lonely place, welcoming a friend or stranger.

I am here, I am with you. I have called: Do you hear me?

Silver is of passing worth, gold is not of constant value,
jewels sparkle for a while; what you long for is not lasting. *Refrain*

Rulers govern under me with my insight and my wisdom.
Those who know me know my love, those who seek me find their answer. *Refrain*

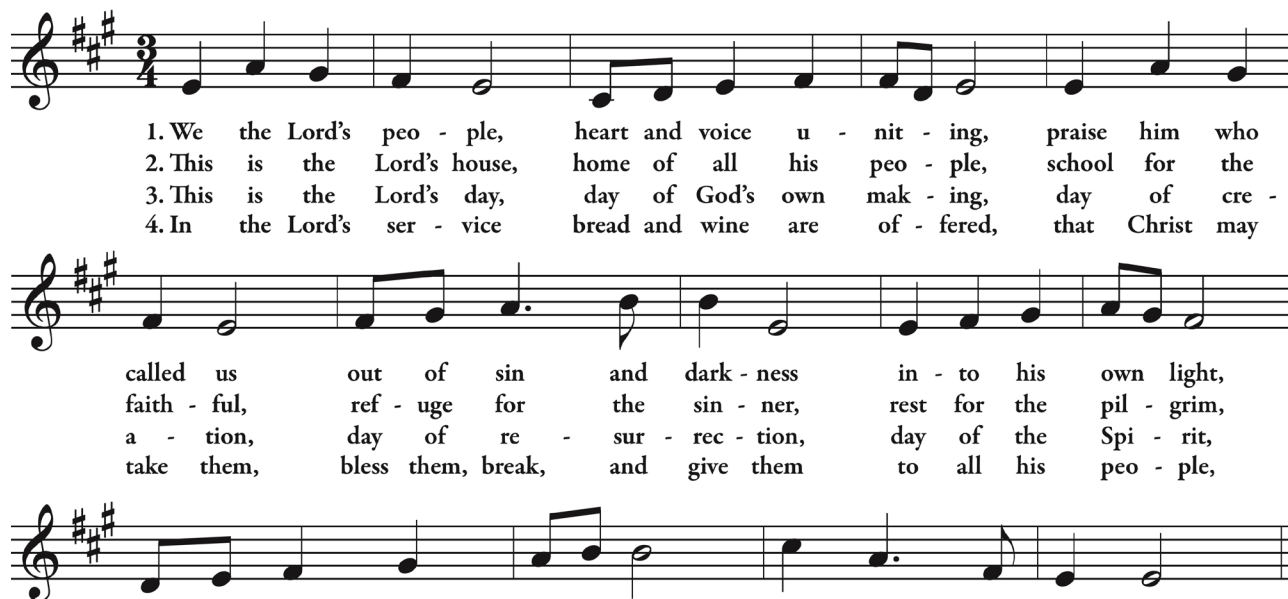
God the Father and the Son, Holy Spirit coeternal,
glory be ascribed to you now and to the end of ages. *Refrain*

—*Michael Hampel (b. 1967) based on Proverbs 8*

HYMN 51

We the Lord's people, heart and voice uniting

Sung by all, standing as you are able.



1. We the Lord's peo - ple, heart and voice u - nit - ing, praise him who
2. This is the Lord's house, home of all his peo - ple, school for the
3. This is the Lord's day, day of God's own mak - ing, day of cre -
4. In the Lord's ser - vice bread and wine are of - fered, that Christ may

called us out of sin and dark - ness in - to his own light,
faith - ful, ref - uge for the sin - ner, rest for the pil - grim,
a - tion, day of re - sur - rec - tion, day of the Spi - rit,
take them, bless them, break, and give them to all his peo - ple,

that he might a - noint us a roy - al priest - hood.
ha - ven for the wea - ry; all find a wel - come.
sign of hea - ven's ban - quet, day for re - joic - ing.
his own life im - par - ting, food ev - er - last - ing.

Words: John E. Bowers (1923–2019), alt. Music: *Decatur Place*, Richard Wayne Dirksen (1921–2003)

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 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:

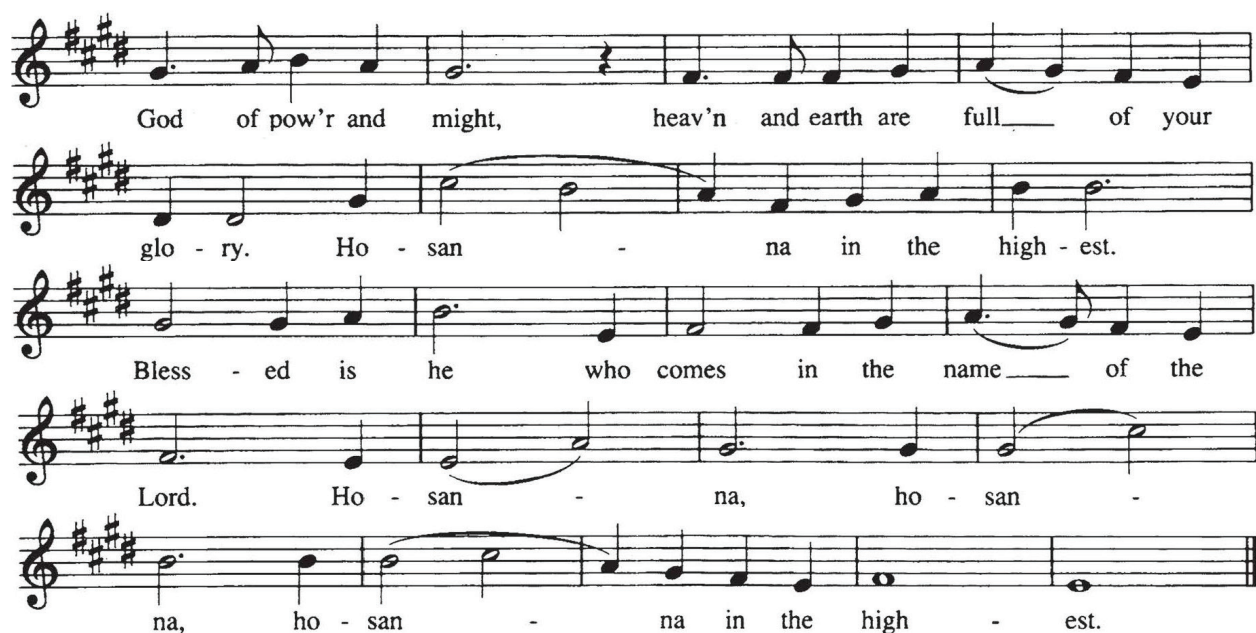
SANCTUS *Sung by all.*

Mass in E

Jeffrey Smith



(Organ) Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,



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

AGNUS DEI *Sung by all.*

Mass in E

Jeffrey Smith

(Organ) Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of
God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: grant us peace.

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

Beati quorum via

Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)

Sung by the choir.

*Beati quorum via integra est:
qui ambulant in lege Domini.*

Blessed are those whose way is blameless:
who walk in the law of the LORD.

—Psalm 119:1

HYMN 325 *Sung by all, seated.*

Let us break bread together on our knees



1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; _____
 2 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; _____



let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; _____
 let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; _____



when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,



O Lord, have mer-cy on me. _____



3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees; _____



let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees; _____



when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,



O Lord, have mer-cy on me. _____

Words: African-American spiritual. Music: *Let Us Break Bread*, Afro-American spiritual; arr. and harm. David Hurd (b. 1950).

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

Priest Let us pray.

All 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.

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 594

God of grace and God of glory

Sung by all, standing as you are able.

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple pour thy power;
2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as - sail his ways!
3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, bend our pride to thy con - trol;
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils we de - plore;

crown thine an - cient Church's sto - ry; bring her bud to glo - rious flower.
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise:
shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in things and poor in soul.
let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our glo - ry ev - er - more.

Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, for the fac - ing of this
 grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, for the liv - ing of these
 Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, lest we miss thy king-dom's
 Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, serv - ing thee whom we a -

hour,
 days,
 goal,
 dore,

for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss thy king-dom's goal.
 serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878-1969), alt. By permission of the author. Music: *Cwm Rhondda*, John Hughes (1873-1932).

THE DISMISSAL

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

VOLUNTARY

Concerto in A minor, BWV 593, Allegro

J.S. Bach (1685–1750)

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

and in memory of Christopher Warren Danello.

ASSISTING AT THE 9 A.M. SERVICE

Kenny Kraft, *Crucifer* ♦ Robyne Johnston and Jack Reiffer, *Chalice Bearers*
Bud Harrell, *Assistant Head Usher* ♦ Martha Ellison and Julia Koster, *Ushers*
Eleanor Odom and Peter Odom, *Greeters*
Julia Koster, Katherine Kyle, and Adelle Simmons, *Flower Guild*

ASSISTING AT THE 11 A.M. SERVICE

Mike DuMond, *Crucifer* ♦ Ugo Owunwanne and Lily Venzke, *Acolytes*
Debby Hailey and Matthew Taylor, *Chalice Bearers*
Grant Kraus, *Assistant Head Usher*
Joe Daniels, Elizabeth Oblinger, Randall Roe, and Karen Zachary, *Ushers*
Elena Braithwaite-Williams and Sarah Wood, *Greeters*
Julia Koster, Katherine Kyle, and Adelle Simmons, *Flower Guild*
Jeremy Sheeler, *Livestream Technician*

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 with 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.

Reading and Gospel: From the New Revised Standard Version Bible © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. All rights reserved. Used by permission. ♦ Collect and Psalm: From the Book of Common Prayer, 1979. ♦ Prayers adapted from Brian McLaren's *We Make the Way by Walking*. All rights reserved. Used by permission. ♦ Music images reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701275.

Announcements for the Week of September 21

TODAY AT ST. JOHN'S

- 8 a.m. Eucharist—Sermon by the Rev. Rob Fisher
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—Sermon by the Rev.
Rob Fisher
- 10 a.m. Coffee Hour (Plaza, weather permitting,
or Parish House First Floor)
Church 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—Sermon by the Rev.
Rob Fisher
Children's Chapel (children begin in church)
- Noon Coffee Hour (Plaza, weather permitting,
or Parish House First Floor)
Parish Lunch (see next column)
Church Tour (see next column)

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: 52nd Street, NW; U Street, NW; E Street, SE; 27th Street N., Arlington; and N. Veitch Street, Arlington.

PLEASE JOIN OUR ONLINE DIRECTORY

Stop by the reception desk in the Parish House today

Help St. John's connect with you—and you with St. John's—by signing up to join our online parish directory. Come to the reception desk after the 9 and 11 a.m. services to learn more and opt in to this helpful online community tool.

SUNDAY PARISH LUNCH

"Welcome Back" potluck today at noon

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. All are welcome. Valet parking hours are extended to 2 p.m. any Sunday with a parish lunch.



TOUR OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

Today at noon

For more than 200 years our church has served as a place of worship for a growing and everchanging city and country. Its structure is a lasting testament to Benjamin Henry Latrobe, who, because of his training in both architecture and engineering, is considered by the American Institute of Architects as our country's first architect. If you are interested in an in-person tour of St. John's Church, meet at the front of the church near the baptismal font after the 11 a.m. service. Today's guide is Richard Busch.

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

SERVICE SCHEDULE

September 22–28

Monday—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist

Tuesday—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist

Wednesday—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist
5:30 p.m.—Choral Evensong

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 and
Children's Chapel

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Monday, September 22

6:15 p.m. Lawyers' AA (Togo West Parlor)

Tuesday, September 23

1 p.m. Staff Meeting (Togo West Parlor)

Wednesday, September 24

5:30 p.m. Choral Evensong and Reception (see below)

Thursday, September 25

4:30 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal
7 p.m. Parish Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, September 27

5 p.m. Parents' Night Out (see next column)

COMING UP

CHORAL EVENSONG

Wednesday, September 24, at 5:30 p.m.

Steeped in the beauty of the Anglican tradition, Evensong meets us at the even point between the active day and the restful night. Evensong is sung by the St. John's Choir and Choristers on the last Wednesday of most months

from September through May, beginning at 5:30 p.m. and followed by a reception in Togo West Parlor. Parking validation is available in the Colonial parking garage at 818 Connecticut Avenue, NW; obtain a validation ticket from an usher before or after the service. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for this special offering. The service will also be available via livestream on our website.

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Saturday, September 27, 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, September 22, to bit.ly/PNO-0927. Questions? Contact the Rev. Sarah Akers-Cardwell via our website.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

TEA WITH THE SISTERS AT ST. JOHN'S

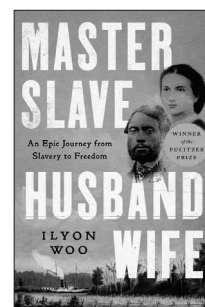
Sunday, September 28, at noon

Women of all ages are invited to join the Sisters of St. John's for tea (hot and cold) served with small sandwiches and desserts. The Sisters gather throughout the year for social and giving activities, in addition to offering an annual retreat and supporting one another in times of need. Come meet our members and learn more about this group! RSVP by Wednesday, September 24, via the online Ministry Directory on the Connect tab of our website.

ST. JOHN'S BOOK GROUP

Thursday, October 2, at 7 p.m.

Join us via Zoom to discuss *Master Slave Husband Wife: An Epic Journey from Slavery to Freedom* by Ilyon Woo. Winner of 2024 Pulitzer Prize for Biography, this is the remarkable true story of Ellen and William Craft, who escaped slavery in the South in the 1840s. Ellen disguised herself as a disabled white gentleman and William as her manservant, exploiting assumptions about race, class, and disability to hide in public on their journey to the North, where they became famous abolitionists. The book group typically meets the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. For information and the link, contact us via the directory at stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory.



CREATION CARE FALL PROJECT

Saturday, October 4, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Come celebrate God's creation of the great outdoors with the Care of Creation committee. On Saturday, October 4, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., we will join with the Ward 8 Woods Conservancy to clean up in the nature preserve of Suitland Parkway. All supplies will be provided. For more information, ride-sharing info, and signup, contact the Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell via the About: Leadership tab of our website. RSVPs requested by Tuesday, September 30.



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Sunday, October 5, at 9 a.m.

Humans of all ages and pets of all varieties are welcome! The Blessing of the Animals will take place during the 9 a.m. service. Leashed or crated pets are invited into the sanctuary for worship that will last less than an hour. The Blessing of the Animals is often held in early October to coincide with the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi (October 4), the patron saint of animals and the environment.

LATROBE FELLOWSHIP OKTOBERFEST

Wednesday, October 8, at 6:30 p.m.

(Note: Second Wednesday in October)

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. Join us for an Oktoberfest trivia night that will include questions on the history of the Reformation, Oktoberfest, and beer in religion. Both alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages will be available. For more information, contact the Rev. Eric Bailey, our minister for youth and young adults, via the About: Leadership tab of our website.



THE 2025 FALL ADULT INQUIRERS' CLASS

Saturdays, October 11 & 18, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Would you like to be baptized, confirmed, or received into membership in the Episcopal Church at St. John's? Or are you just interested in learning more about the Christian faith, the Episcopal tradition, and the ministry of St. John's Church? Either way, please join the two-day Fall Adult Inquirers' Class, led by the Rev. Rob Fisher, on Saturdays, October 11 and 18, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Contact Lisa Koehler via the About: Leadership tab on our website to learn more or register for this class.

GRACE'S TABLE

Third Saturdays, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Upcoming Dates: October 18 and November 15

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.



BAPTISMS

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. Upcoming dates for baptism and required pre-baptismal classes with the clergy at St. John's include:

Sunday, November 2, at 9 a.m.

Class: Saturday, November 1, at 10 a.m.

Sunday, January 11, 2026, at 11 a.m.

Class: Saturday, January 10, at 10 a.m.

Sunday, February 15, at 9 a.m.

Class: Saturday, February 14, 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.



September 28: Daniel Shapiro, former U.S. Ambassador to Israel and former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for the Middle East, will discuss the war in Gaza between Israel and Hamas.



October 5: Debra Bruno, journalist and novelist, will share the fascinating account of her family's connection to slavery, documented in her book *A Hudson Valley Reckoning*.



October 12: Karim Sadjadpour, a noted Iran expert at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, will update us on the latest from and about Iran, following the U.S. strike on its nuclear facilities some months ago.



October 26: 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.



November 9: Stephen I. Vladeck, constitutional law expert and a professor at Georgetown Law School, will speak about the past and current Supreme Court terms.



December 7: The Rev. Richard A. Burnett, General Secretary of the Colleges and Universities of the Anglican Communion (CUAC), will share about the work of this institution.

NEWS & NOTICES

PLEASE SIGN UP TO HOST 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? Contact Parish Lunch coordinator Holly Sukenik at stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory.

September 21 "Welcome Back" Potluck

September 28 No Lunch

October 5

October 12

October 19 Susan Cardwell & Debby Hailey

October 26 No Lunch: Marine Corps Marathon

November 2 The Sisters at St. John's

November 9 Elizabeth & Greg Morrison and
Tony & TL Anikeeff

November 16 New Members Reception: All invited!

November 23

November 30 No Lunch: Thanksgiving Weekend

December 7 Stewardship Committee

December 14

December 21 No Lunch

December 28 No Lunch

FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

NURSERY HOURS

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 meets in the Godly Play Classroom #2 on the second floor of the Parish House.

CHURCH SCHOOL CLASSES

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

Children in pre-K through fifth grade may participate in Church School on the second floor of the Parish House. For information, contact the Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

YOUTH GROUP

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

Most Sundays from September through May, middle and high school youth are invited to the second floor of the Parish House for an exploration of life and faith with their peers. Questions? Contact the Rev. Eric Bailey via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Sundays during 11 a.m. worship

Kids from birth through grade 5 are invited to participate in a special liturgy just for them during the sermon at the 11 a.m. service. Children gather by the pulpit during 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 the Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

THE ACOLYTE MINISTRY

Sundays during 11 a.m. worship, September through May

Youth in 6th grade and above are welcome to participate during the 11 a.m. service, serving as torch bearers or crucifers and helping set the altar for communion. To learn more, contact us via stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory.

CHORISTER PROGRAM, September through May

We offer a choir for children and youth with unchanged (treble) voices. Through a custom-made curriculum, singers receive training in sight reading, vocal production, music theory, liturgy, and leadership, and become part of a vibrant community of music makers. To learn more or express interest, contact Brent Erstad via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

REMINDERS

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Sundays at 10 a.m.

This group gathers most Sunday mornings, using a hybrid approach, with some joining via Zoom and others in person. Conversations explore the connections with the Sunday lectionary lessons and sermons. For information, notes, and the Zoom link, contact Jack Reiffer 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.

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.

MAKE A PLEDGE TO ST. JOHN'S

A pledge is a commitment of financial support payable over the course of a year that enables us to plan the work that we undertake in mission and ministry. You can indicate a pledge commitment using this QR code or by visiting the Give tab on our website.



ONLINE OFFERINGS TO DESIGNATED FUNDS

To make a monetary offering toward your pledge or a specific fund, scan the QR code at right, or visit our website, then select the desired destination using the "Fund" drop-down menu.



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.



JOIN A MINISTRY GROUP

Explore our many ministry groups at www.stjohns-dc.org, and contact the leaders via our online Ministry Directory for details or to sign up.

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, Steve Faris, Hyman Field, Christina Wilson, and Mary Wilson.

Friends and family of our parish: Conor Barry (Sarah Wood), Billy Beardsley Conderman (Margo Arnold), Robert Bliss (Katherine Bliss and Mark Dennis), Gisela Block (Sigi Block), Jim DeBello (Grace Barrett), Walt Eccard (Margaret Depue), Ed Eder (Joanne and Powell Hutton), Sue Edmonds (Sarah and Jeff Agnew), Julie Ellis (Preston Cherouny), Laurie Feldon (Eleanor and Peter Odom), Bob and Heather Gilbert (Andrea Winchell), Linda Young Gsell (Rick Young), Mark Hallett (Livy More), Morgan Hickenlooper (Livy More), Doug Holy (Joanne Hutton), Jack (Marta Cook and Cal Trepagnier), Latithia and Charles Jones (GeeGee Bryant), Sean Josey (Bill and Sara Josey), Charlotte Crowley Junilla (Margo Arnold), Olivia Kehoe (Kat Kehoe), Elizabeth Lee (Clayton Crawford), William Markiewicz (Matthew

Taylor), Jim Martella (Livy More), Tammy McCleaf (Matthew Taylor), Kathleen McTighe (Bill and Sara Josey), Nell Montgomery (Brandon Montgomery), Patrick Christopher O'Donnell (Wendy J. Fibison), Paul Peralta (Debby Hailey), Ann Petrosky (Johnathan Miller), Norm Phillips (Susan Cardwell), Leo S. (Wendy J. Fibison), Nancy Stephenson (Ann and John Gardner), Scott (Marta Cook and Cal Trepagnier), Pam Snyder (Sarah Agnew), Patsy Swain (Margo Arnold), Sallie and William Wilkie Thompson (Cecelia Thompson), Ashley Smith Thomson (Marta Cook and Cal Trepagnier), Mackenzie Toland (Wendy J. Fibison), Jim Wardrop (Jack Reiffer), Darrel Williams (Caleb and James Hays-Reilly), Edward Leland Williams II (Virginia Bader), Andrew Woods (Johnathan Miller), Linda Woolley (Blount and Charlotte Stewart), and Judith York (Caroline Fisher).

THOSE WHO ARE IN ASSISTED LIVING

From our parish: Eve Atkeson, Milton Chamberlain, Marcella Odom, and Becky Schergens.

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

THOSE WHO ARE IN HOSPICE CARE

Friends and family of our parish: Wilma Daubs (Kay Gilley) and Henry Farrington (Wendy J. Fibison).

THOSE IN OUR PARISH CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY

Sigi Block, Clayton Depue, Caroline Faris, Art Fisher, Kristy Highsmith, Elizabeth Johnston, Christine Kennedy, Margot Kieve, Ivy Mason, Michael Mengel, and Jocelyn Tichenor.

THOSE IN OUR PARISH CELEBRATING AN ANNIVERSARY

John and Zachary Schutz, Bob and Tammi Hoback, and Nancy and Randall Roe.

THOSE ON THE FRONT LINES

Friends and family of our parish: Janie Abernethy (Elizabeth Lewis and David Abernethy), Philip L. Faris (Caroline and Steve Faris), and Charles Lewis, Jr. (Charles Lewis, Sr.).

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

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

Nora Rigby, *Senior Warden*

Alfred Thesmar, *Junior Warden*

Tony Anikeeff, Brian Cordova-Brookey,
Kaye Edwards, Casey Evans, Debby Hailey,
Fruzsina Harsanyi, Julia Koster,
Elizabeth Cavert Morrison,
Ucheora Onwuamaegbu, Jack Reiffer,
Matthew Taylor, and Jess Unger, *Members*

Nora Haugh, *Treasurer*

Anya Kleymenova, *Assistant Treasurer*

Allie Raether, *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

Worship & Program Staff

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher, *Rector*

The Rev. Sarah Akers-Cardwell, *Associate Rector*

The Rev. William Morris, *Assisting Priest*
for Engaging Local Communities

Brent Erstad, *Director of Music and Organist*

Lyn Loewi, *Associate Organist*

The Rev. Eric Bailey, *Assistant Priest for Youth,*
Young Adults, and New Member Engagement

Staff

Preston Cherouny, *Chief Operating Officer*

Charley Griffin, *Operations Manager*

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