

SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH

LAFAYETTE SQUARE • WASHINGTON, DC

THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 16, 2025 ♦ Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m.

*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.*

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.

ORDER OF SERVICE

All page numbers reference the Book of Common Prayer. See inside for the readings.

The Word of God, page 355

The Collect of the Day

The First Reading

The Psalm

The Gospel

The Sermon: The Rev. Robert W. Fisher

The Nicene Creed, page 358

The Prayers of the People, Form VI, page 392

Confession and Absolution

The Peace, page 360

The Holy Communion

A Prayer for Stewardship (*see inside*)

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer A, page 361

Prayer after Communion, page 365

Blessing

Dismissal

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 98

Said responsively by half verse.

Sing to the LORD a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.

With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.

The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Sing to the LORD with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.

Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.

In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 21:5-19

Please stand as you are able.

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

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

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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

ASSISTING AT THIS SERVICE

Robyne Johnston, *Lay Server*
George Diliberto, *Assistant Head Usher*
Anita Diliberto, *Usher*
Paul Barkett and Anne Harrington, *Flower Guild*

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.**

OFFERING PRAYER INTENTIONS

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.

MAKING AN OFFERING

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



INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

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.

Announcements for the Week of November 16

TODAY AT ST. JOHN'S

Feeding Families / Communities in Schools (see next column).

Our annual Angel Tree Gift Drive continues (see next page).

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

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. New Members Reception: All are welcome!
(see next column)

Communion Class for Families (Togo West
Parlor; see next column)

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

Noon New Members Reception: All are welcome!
(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: Old Dominion Drive, Arlington; 11th Street, NW; and Veazey Terrace, NW.

FEEDING DC FAMILIES

Communities in Schools, a St. John's Outreach partner, is coordinating a crisis response to the delay of SNAP benefits to their families, many of whom were already experiencing acute food insecurity. Parishioners are invited to help, as they are able, by contributing Giant or Safeway gift cards, which will be collected before and after Sunday services through November. This is an opportunity to honor Thanksgiving by reaching out to others in greater need. Please contact Ann Gardner or Livy More via the Ministry Directory at stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory.

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY | Today at 10 a.m. & noon

If you began attending St. John's recently or have returned after some time away, please join us for a reception following the 9 a.m. or 11 a.m. service. You'll receive a flower as our way of saying welcome. Longtime members are encouraged to join us and get to know someone new.

COMMUNION CLASS FOR FAMILIES

Today at 10 a.m.

This interactive offering aims to help adults and children have a more meaningful experience of Holy Communion. Whether or not your child already consumes the bread or wine during services, all are encouraged to attend to deepen their understanding of what happens when we participate in the Eucharist. This one-session class takes the place of Church School for the day.

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 Kevin Cordova-Brookey.

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

2025 ANGEL TREE GIFT DRIVE

It's that joyful time of year! 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 recipient has provided a wish list of toys, books, or clothes that they are hoping to find underneath the Christmas tree this year.

TWO WAYS TO PURCHASE GIFTS:

- **Shop Local:** Select an angel tag from the tree in the Parish House, shop for the listed gifts, and return them unwrapped by Monday, December 8.
- **Shop Online:** Purchase gifts from our Amazon Wish List at bit.ly/sjc-angel-tree-2025, and items will ship directly to the church.

THREE IMPORTANT DATES:

- **Gift Delivery Deadline:** Monday, December 8
- **Gift Wrapping:** Saturday, December 13 (see page 4)
- **Gift Distribution:** Begins Monday, December 15, so please return your gift purchases on time.

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.

SERVICE SCHEDULE | November 17–23

Monday—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist

Tuesday—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist

Wednesday—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist

Thursday—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist

Friday—12:10 p.m.—Noonday Prayer

Sunday—The Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell, preacher

8 a.m. Eucharist with Sermon

9 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon

11 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Special Music and Sermon (see next column, "Celebrating Christ the King")

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

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Monday, November 17

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

Tuesday, November 18

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

6 p.m. Vestry Meeting (Togo West Parlor)

Wednesday, November 19

4:30 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal

Thursday, November 20

3 p.m. Ohio University Singers Concert (see below)

4:30 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal

6 p.m. Combined Adult Choirs Rehearsal



OHIO UNIVERSITY SINGERS CONCERT

Thursday, November 20, at 3 p.m.

The University Singers, the premier mixed choir of Ohio University's School of Music directed by Dr. Peter Allen Haley, will present a free concert featuring works by G.B. Martini, J.S. Bach, Shawn Kirchner, Rosephanye Powell, and others. All are welcome to enjoy this afternoon of choral music at St. John's.

CELEBRATING CHRIST THE KING

Sunday, November 23, at 11 a.m.

On the final Sunday of the church year, the Parish Choir, St. John's Choir, and Choristers will combine to offer Vienne's *Messe Solennelle*. Louis Vienne was a towering figure of French Romantic sacred music and longtime organist of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. His stirring mass setting provides a fittingly grand and joyful conclusion to the liturgical year as we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King.

STEWARDSHIP

PLEASE MAKE A 2026 PLEDGE TO ST. JOHN'S

As of Wednesday, November 12, we had received 162 pledges, totaling commitments of \$731,633 for 2026.

Your 2026 pledge is a commitment of financial support to St. John's for the upcoming year. It can be a one-time annual payment, or it can be paid weekly, monthly, or on the schedule of your choosing. Pledges enable us to plan for the work we will undertake in the mission and ministry of St. John's in 2026. You can make your pledge online on our website (stjohns-dc.org/give/pledge) or by returning a pledge card either by mail to the church office or by placing it in the offering plate on Sunday. Thank you for your financial commitment to our parish!

HERE'S ANOTHER WAY TO GIVE

As part of fulfilling an annual pledge or any other special gift, we welcome a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) directing your annual Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) to a qualified 501(c)(3) charity such as St. John's.

Individuals aged 70½ or older may contribute up to \$108,000 per year from their IRA to charity. This amount may include all or part of your RMD if you are subject to one. Those with inherited IRAs who are over age 70½ may also direct up to \$108,000 annually to a qualified charity.

Always consult with your financial and tax advisors to confirm the best strategy for you, and remember that these distributions can be made **only** from IRA accounts, **not** from a 401(k), 403(b), Thrift Savings Plan (TSP), or other non-IRA retirement plans. Contact Lisa Kirchenbauer via the Give tab of our website with any questions.

THE 1816 SOCIETY

Planned giving is another way to sustain the mission and ministry of St. John's. The 1816 Society honors those who remember St. John's through a planned gift, such as a bequest in their will, a life-income gift, or a gift of real estate or life insurance. Check out the Episcopal Church Foundation (episcopalgifts.org) to learn more about your options for planned giving, and contact Lisa Kirchenbauer via the Ministry Directory at stjohns-dc.org with questions or to join the 1816 Society.

COMING UP

CHORAL EVENSONG FOR THANKSGIVING

Wednesday, November 26, 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. This new St. John's tradition invites you to 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 818 Connecticut Avenue NW; please see an usher for a validation sticker.

Please note: No worship service scheduled on Thanksgiving Day.

ADVENT WREATH MAKING

Sunday, November 30, 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 Sarah Akes-Cardwell via the About: Leadership tab of our website with questions. This activity will take the place of Church School and Youth Group.

LATROBE YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

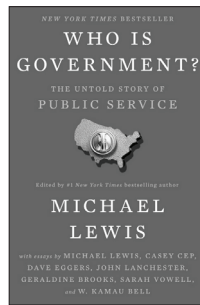
Wednesday, December 3, at 6:30 p.m.

Celebrate the holiday season with the Latrobe Fellowship! Join us on Wednesday, December 3, 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. Contact the Rev. Eric Bailey, our minister for youth and young adults, via the About: Leadership tab of our website for more information.

ST. JOHN'S BOOK GROUP
Thursday, December 4, at 7 p.m.

Please join us via Zoom to discuss *Who Is Government? The Untold Story of Public Service* by Michael Lewis. This book highlights unexpected, inspiring, and riveting stories of the people, mostly uncelebrated and unrecognized, who are doing daily work that is beneficial for all Americans. 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.



REFUGEE COMMITTEE EVENT
Saturday, December 6, at 10:30 a.m.

Join us on Saturday, December 6, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Lutheran Social Services refugee Resource Center (5710A General Washington Drive, Alexandria) to sort donations, stock shelves, pack orders for clients, and do light cleaning and inventory. The Resource Center is a hub for donations for refugee families and also hosts cultural orientation and group gatherings for recently resettled refugees. Volunteers of all ages and abilities welcome! Please contact Lacy Broemel via the Connect: Ministry tab at stjohns-dc.org if you plan to attend.

ADVENT PARTY
Sunday, December 7, 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. This year brings a few new surprises for all ages, including a special reading of *A Visit from St. Nicholas* by the rector, as well as a visit from St. Nicholas himself! Bring your friends, your family, and your holiday spirit as we celebrate the season together. RSVP by December 1 by visiting bit.ly/sjc-advent-party-rsvp. If you'd like to volunteer, contact Lisa Koehler through the About: Leadership tab on our website.

ANGEL TREE WRAPPING PARTY
Saturday, December 13, 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. Whether you are great at wrapping gifts or not, you are 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. RSVP

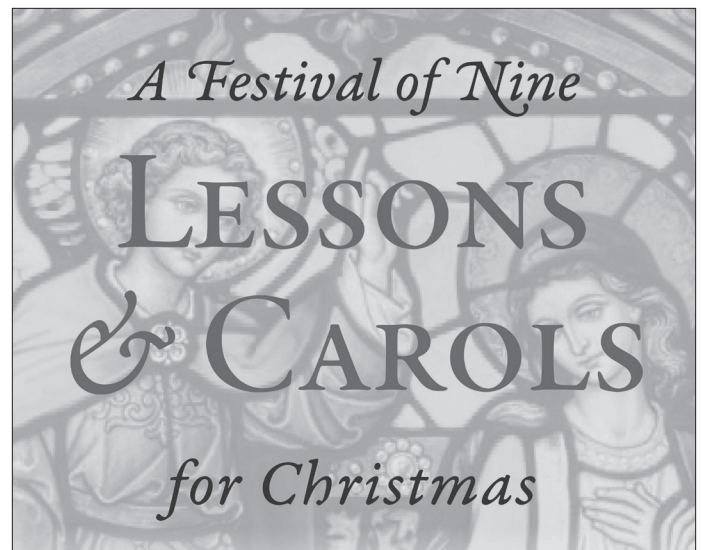
to coordinator Kevin Cordova-Brookey via the Connect: Ministry Directory tab of our website.

GRACE'S TABLE
Third Saturdays, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Upcoming dates: December 20 and January 17

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.

HELP DELIVER CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS
Sunday, December 21

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 21, with cards addressed to parishioners who live near you in Virginia, Maryland, or the District. Give the gift of your time, love, and cheer.



LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS
Sunday, December 21, 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. 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 on our website. Please note: We are unable to offer nursery care for this service.

For the full schedule of Christmas services, see the inside back cover. Know of someone you'd like to invite? Share the schedule with them so they can plan.

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.



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

VESTRY NOMINATIONS

Deadline: Sunday, November 30

The Vestry Nominating Committee will meet in early December to select the slate for Vestry elections to be held at the Parish's Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 1, 2026. 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 Tony Anikeeff, chair of the Nominating Committee. The deadline for nominations is Sunday, November 30.

NEW 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, treating everyone with dignity. We are also mindful of ensuring the safety and well-being of all who worship in our facilities. In coordination with the Vestry and our Usher Guild, we have hired security

personnel to attend our Sunday and holiday/special services. They will provide a low-key, proactive presence and respond quickly and respectfully to any arising situations in coordination with our ushers, staff, and, as needed, law enforcement/first responders. We will provide additional training for our staff, who interact with the public every day, and our ushers, so they have shared approaches for all who come to our church. Fortunately, we are able to take these steps prayerfully and proactively, and as we go forward we will continue to assess what best serves our church's needs.

THE CHURCH IS HIRING!

As we have previously shared, our Chief Operating Officer, Preston Cherouny, will soon be moving on to begin his next chapter, so we are now searching for a successor. The job posting can be found on the About: Employment tab of our website. If you know someone who might be a good fit (and who is **not** a current parishioner), please mention this opportunity and forward the link. The deadline for submitting applications is Monday, November 17.

FEDERAL WORKERS | Giving or receiving support

Many of our parishioners have been affected by recent layoffs in the federal government. We are seeking to care for one another. If you are seeking help—or if you have help to offer—please complete our survey at bit.ly/sjc-federal-survey with the details of what you need or can provide. You can also reach out to Jordan Baugh, our point person for this ministry, via the Ministry Directory on our website.

STONework ON THE PLAZA

The plaza in front of the church has experienced wear and tear over the years and in some places is badly in need of repair. Stone replacement and curbing work continues, with a projected completion before the end of this month. We have marked off the work area for the duration.

PARISH LUNCH SCHEDULE AND HOSTS

Most Sundays after the 11 a.m. service

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 costs of the lunch. 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 a future date? Contact Parish Lunch coordinator Holly Sukenik at stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory.

November 9	Greg Morrison and Tony & TL Anikeeff
November 16	New Members Reception: All invited!
November 23	Pre-Thanksgiving Lunch: Free!
November 30	No Lunch: Thanksgiving Weekend
December 7	Stewardship Committee
December 14	Lafayette Fellowship
December 21	No Lunch
December 28	No Lunch
January 4	
January 11	Latrobe Fellowship
January 18	
January 25	St. John's Book Group
February 1	Annual Meeting and Reception
February 8	Refugee Committee
February 15	Will Yale, Craig & Barbara Burkhardt, Karen Zachary, and Miller Winecoff
February 22	Bishop Walker School



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, 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.

Sunday, April 12, at 9 a.m.

Class: Saturday, April 11, at 10 a.m.

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.

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 9 and 11 a.m. services. 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.

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.

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 Vincent Scauzzo 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

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 and return it either to the offering plate or to Sharlyne “Charley” Griffin in the Parish Office.

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.

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.



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.

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: Margo Arnold, Hyman Field, Chase Rynd, and Mary Wilson.

Friends and family of our parish: Alvin Atlas (Richard Metzger), 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), Blair Fiore (Debby Hailey), Bob and Heather Gilbert (Andrea Winchell), 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 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), Nell Montgomery (Brandon Montgomery), Ann Petrosky (Johnathan Miller), Norm Phillips (Susan Cardwell), Yvonne Reiffer (Jack Reiffer), Scott (Marta Cook and Cal Trepagnier), Connor Smith (Patrick and Cameron Smith), Pam Snyder (Sarah Agnew), Nancy Stephenson (Ann and John Gardner), Patsy Swain (Margo Arnold), Sallie and William Wilkie Thompson (Cecelia Thompson), Ashley Smith Thomson (Marta Cook and Cal Trepagnier), Mackenzie Toland (Wendy J. Fibison), Caleb Williams (Alfred Thesmar), Darrel Williams (Caleb and James Hays-Reilly), Edward Leland Williams II (Virginia Bader), Bess Williamson (Wendy Fibison), 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).

THOSE IN OUR PARISH CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY

David Abernethy, Lara Kanitra, David Kirchenbauer, Robert Kirchenbauer, Evan Lyerly, Jason Ornstein, Chip Sherrill, and Sonya Williams.

THOSE IN OUR PARISH CELEBRATING AN ANNIVERSARY

Jennifer Agiesta and Paul Hortenstine, Doug and Sylvia Martin Estes, Chip and RJ Lyerly, Roderick and Becca Brown-Todd, and Carl and Kristin Ward.

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.*

LIST OF 2026 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 2026:**

(As of November 12, 2025)

Anonymous (8)
Kingsley Afemikhe
Tony Anikeeff & Tung-lin Wu
Douglas & Margo Arnold
Gale Arnold
Eric Bailey
Jordan & Angelle Baugh
Robert Beizer
Murray J. Belman
Kathleen Benner
William & Martha Birdseye
Diane Bitsberger
Marion Blakey & Bill Dooley
Paul Bledsoe & Celia Boddington
Matthew Bode & Laurie Adams
Jeff Bozman
Sydney Brooks
Craig & Barbara Burkhardt
Meghan & Douglas Burt
Rick Busch
Carolyn Buser
Susan Cardwell
Mark Cardwell & Paul Ramos
Virginia Chew
Andrew Clarke & Chip Sherrill
Gwinneth Ann Clarkson
Ann Compton Hughes
Brian & Kevin Cordova-Brookey
Margaret J. Craft
Nicole & Stephen Crochet
Garry & Patricia Dalby
Betsy Danello
Clayton & Margaret Depue
John Derrick
Anita & George Diliberto
Mike & Beth DuMond
Diana Duke Duncan
James Eastwood
Janet Edmond
Kaye Edwards
Rob & Anna Ehrich
Martha Ellison
Clark Ervin & Carolyn Harris
Le & Casey Evans

Caroline & Steve Faris
Wendy J. Fibison
Hyman Field
Rob Fisher & Sarah Wood
Art & Louise Fisher
Alex Frye
Deborah & Jay Fuller
Ellie Fullerton
Elizabeth Gallalee
David Gallalee
Carrie & Jim Garland
Kay Gilley
Donald & Ronnie Goodheart
Ginny Griggs
Richard & Jeanne Grimmett
Stephanie & Greg Guyett
Sandra Hackworth
Deborah Hailey
Budd & Susan Jess Hallberg
Peter & Summer Hardinge
Robert & Anne Harrington
Fruzsina Harsanyi
Diane Hauslein
Caleb Hays & James Reilly
Tim & Susan Heil
Powell & Joanne Hutton
Marlene Ikeda
John Peters Irelan
Cindy Jiang
Bruce & Georgia Johnson
Ethan Johnson
Robyne Johnston
Bill & Sara Josey
Bill & Ann Kaye
Carter & Fran Keithley
William T. Kendall
Kim Kennedy & Beverly Roberts
Lisa & James Kirchenbauer
Anyia Kleymenova
Elizabeth Koehler
Liz & Jon Kosobucki
Julia Koster
Kevin Kozlowski & Lara Kanitra
Kenny Kraft

Grant Kraus
Patricia Leslie
Grace Limoncelli & Philip Kuhn
James Longley
John & Emily Lucio
Jan Lupton
Chip & RJ Lyerly
Middleton Martin
Sherill Mason
Clayton McCleskey
Saunders & Joan McElroy
Richard Metzger
Nathan & Kelly Miller
Johnathan S. Miller
Livy More
Gregory & Elizabeth Morrison
Rob Mosbacher, Jr.
Jack Musso
Peter & Eleanor Odom
Lydia & Ralph Olson
Ucheora & Nkem Onwuamaegbu
Owen & Felicia Owunwanne
Matthew L. Paeffgen
Robert D. Pahnke
Sharon Park
Cami Pease & Matt Martone
Raymond & Susan Petniunas
Richard Price & Yung Chang
William Priest
Will Rabbe & Brittany Prime
Carl & Mary Raether
Luis J. Ramos-Chacon
Hwa Cha Redman
Jack Reiffer
Harker & Geraldine Rhodes
Hap & Nora Rigby
Chase Rynd
Jessica & Alex Sanchez
KayAnn & Brian Schoeneman
Susan & Sandy Sierck
Will & Annie Simonds
Jeremy Skog
Alex Smith
Peter Spaulding

continues on the next page

John Staples & Scott Raspa
Ken & Susan Starling
Anne D. Stewart
Toby Stock & Margy Slattery
Hillary & Tim Stuart
Holly & John Sukenik
Riley Temple
Alfred & Hilary Thesmar

Marianne Thomas
Cal Trepagnier & Marta Cook
Susan Valaskovic
Ryan Wagner
Christopher Wall
Alis Wang & Amy Stulman
Susan Welch
Gail Berry West

Trey & Amy Whitworth
Emma Wilson
Anita Woehler
William Yale
Zhijun Yang
Karen Zachary
JoAnn Zuercher & Glenn Reichardt

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 21, 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.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

Arrive 30 minutes early (at all three 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

THURSDAY, 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 Sunday, December 21. Please contact the Rev. Sarah Akers-Cardwell 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

Nora Rigby, *Senior Warden*

Alfred Thesmar, *Junior Warden*

Tony Anikeeff, Brian Cordova-Brookey,
Kaye Edwards, Casey Evans, Debby Hailey,
Fruzsina Harsanyi, Julia Koster,
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

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher, *Rector*

The Rev. Sarah Akers-Cardwell, *Associate Rector*
for Family Ministry and Pastoral Care

The Rev. Eric Bailey, *Assistant Priest for Parish Life*
and New Member Ministry

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

Brent Erstad, *Director of Music and Organist*

Linda Morgan Stowe and John Chappell Stowe,
Interim Assistant Organists

Preston Cherouny, *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