

SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH

LAFAYETTE SQUARE • WASHINGTON, DC

CHORAL EVENSONG

April 1, 2026

*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

Whether you are a longtime member or a visitor, we are happy to welcome you this evening. If you would like to learn more about St. John's and our presence in this city, we invite you to fill out a "Welcome" card that can be placed in the offering plate or handed to an usher. Choral Evensong is offered on the last Wednesday of most months from September through May. To see a schedule of upcoming services and events, visit our website at www.stjohns-dc.org.

Steeped in the beauty of the Anglican tradition, Evensong meets us at the even point between the active day and the restful night. It draws on the richness of monastic worship by inviting us to reflect upon scripture, to sing praises to God, and to pray. In its cadence, Evensong speaks to many of our deepest 21st-century needs, providing space for peace and for contemplation. We hope that this service, in the midst of this busy city, refreshes and restores you this evening.

SETTINGS FOR THIS EVENING

*Preces and Responses—Plainsong
Canticles—Second Evening Service by William Byrd (c. 1540–1623)*

VOLUNTARY

Fantasia in Five Parts

William Byrd

INTROIT

Civitas sancti tui

William Byrd

*Civitas sancti tui facta est deserta:
Sion deserta facta est:
Jerusalem desolata est.*

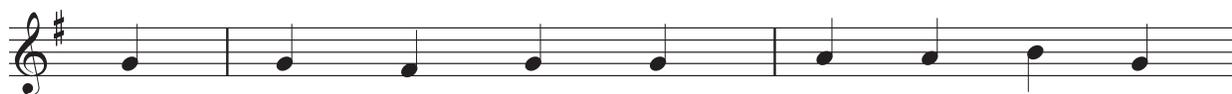
Your holy city has become a wilderness.
Zion has become a wilderness,
Jerusalem has been made desolate.

—Isaiah 64:10

HYMN 43

All praise to thee, my God, this night

Please stand as the procession enters and remain standing to sing the hymn.



1 All praise to thee, my God, this night, for
2 For - give me, Lord, for thy dear Son, the
3 O may my soul on thee re - pose, and
4 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise



all the bless - ings of the light: keep me, O keep me,
ill that I this day have done; that with the world, my -
with sweet sleep mine eye - lids close; sleep that shall me more
him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye



King of kings, be - neath thine own al - might - y wings.
self, and thee, I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.
vi - gorous make to serve my God when I a - wake.
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Words: Thomas Ken (1637-1711). Music: *The Eighth Tune*, Thomas Tallis (1505?-1585); adapt. *Hymnal 1982*.

WELCOME

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher

THE OPENING SENTENCES

Please remain standing.

Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth tremble before him.

—*Psalm 96:9*

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

—*John 8:12*

THE PRECES AND RESPONSES

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips;
Choir And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

Officiant O God, make speed to save us;
Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
Choir As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Officiant Praise ye the Lord.
Choir The Lord's Name be praised.

PSALM 70

Plainsong

Please be seated.

Haste thee, O God, to deliver me *
make haste to help me, O Lord.
Let them be ashamed and confounded that seek after my soul *
let them be turned backward and put to confusion that wish me evil.
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.
As for me, I am poor and in misery *
haste thee unto me, O God.
Thou art my helper, and my redeemer *
O Lord, make no long tarrying.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Read by Martha Ellison.

Hebrews 12:1-3

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinners, so that you may not grow weary or lose heart.

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

THE MAGNIFICAT

Sung by the choir.

My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me,
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm;
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat,
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel,
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

—*Luke 1:46-55*

THE SECOND READING

Read by Debby Hailey.

John 13:21-32

At supper with his friends, Jesus was troubled in spirit, and declared, “Very truly, I tell you, one of you will betray me.” The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he was speaking. One of his disciples—the one whom Jesus loved—was reclining next to him; Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. So while reclining next to Jesus, he asked him, “Lord, who is it?” Jesus answered, “It is the one to whom I give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish.” So when he had dipped the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas son of Simon Iscariot. After he received the piece of bread, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, “Do quickly what you are going to do.” Now no one at the table knew why he said this to him. Some thought that, because Judas had the common purse, Jesus was telling him, “Buy what we need for the festival”; or, that he should give something to the poor. So, after receiving the piece of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night. When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE NUNC DIMITTIS

Sung by the choir.

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,
according to thy word,
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles,
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

—*Luke 2:29-32*

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Sung by all on a monotone, standing as you are able.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS

Officiant The Lord be with you.

Choir And with thy spirit.

Officiant Let us pray.

Choir Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Sung by all on a monotone.

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. Amen.

THE SUFFRAGES

Officiant O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;
Choir And grant us thy salvation.
Officiant O Lord, save the State;
Choir And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
Officiant Endue thy ministers with righteousness;
Choir And make thy chosen people joyful.
Officiant O Lord, save thy people;
Choir And bless thine inheritance.
Officiant Give peace in our time, O Lord;
Choir Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.
Officiant O God, make clean our hearts within us;
Choir And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

THE COLLECTS

Officiant Lord God, whose blessed Son our Savior gave his body to be whipped and his face to be spit upon: Give us grace to accept joyfully the sufferings of the present time, confident of the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Choir Amen.
Officiant Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior.
Choir Amen.
Officiant Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.
Choir Amen.

REMARKS

The Rev. Eric Bailey

Please remain standing until invited to sit.

An offering to support the ministry of St. John's Church will be collected during the singing of the anthem. You may make an offering by placing your donation in the plate or using 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.



THE ANTHEM

When David heard

Eric Whitacre (b. 1970)

Sung by the choir.

When David heard that Absalom was slain, he went up into his chamber over the gate and wept:
“My son, my son, O Absalom my son! Would God I had died for thee!”

—2 Samuel 18:33

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Said by all, standing as you are able.

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Officiant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost,
be with us all evermore.

People Amen.

HYMN 662 *Sung by all.*

Abide with me: fast falls the eventide

1 A - bid e with me: fast falls the e - ven - tide;
 2 I need thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour;
 3 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
 4 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;

the dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bid e:
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's power?
 ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
 shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;

when o - ther help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 Who, like thy - self, my guide and stay can be?
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
 heaven's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain sha - dows flee;

help of the help - less, O a - bid e with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, Lord, a - bid e with me.
 I tri - umph still, if thou a - bid e with me.
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bid e with me.

Words: Henry Frances Lyte (1793-1847). Music: *Eventide*, William Henry Monk (1823-1889).

All are invited to a reception in Togo West Parlor immediately following the service.

Shortly afterward, members of St. John's Pride will gather for drinks at Opaline at the Sofitel Hotel, just a three-minute walk from St. John's. Join us if you can, or contact our leaders via stjohns-dc.org to learn more about this group.

ASSISTING AT THIS SERVICE

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher
The Rev. Eric Bailey

Brent Erstad, *Director of Music and Organist*
Linda Morgan Stowe and John Chappell Stowe, *Interim Assistant Organists*
St. John's Choir and Choristers

Risa Browder, Amy Dominguez, Jessica Eig,
John Moran, and Leslie Nero, *Viol Consort*

Jack Reiffer, *Crucifer*
Kevin Cordova-Brookey and Helena Upshaw, *Acolytes*
Susan Cardwell and Julia Koster, *Ushers*
Ryan Wagner, *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](https://www.instagram.com/stjohnschurchlafayettesquare) or visit stjohns-dc.org for more about our offerings and how to get in touch.

Readings: 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. ♦ Music images reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701275.

NEWS AND EVENTS AT ST. JOHN'S



MAUNDY THURSDAY—April 2

- 5 p.m. Family Service with Eucharist, Foot Washing, and Stripping of the Altar
- 7 p.m. Choral Eucharist with Foot Washing and Stripping of the Altar

GOOD FRIDAY—April 3

- Noon Good Friday Service with Communion from the Reserved Sacrament

EASTER DAY—April 5—The Rev. Rob Fisher, Preacher

- 8 a.m. Eucharist with Hymns
- 9 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Brass and Percussion
- 11 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Brass and Percussion

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

SPEAKER SERIES | Most Sundays at 10 a.m.

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.



April 12: Aalok Mehta, Director of the Center for Strategic and International Studies' Wadhani AI Center, will address the promise, perils, and defining questions of artificial intelligence.



April 19: Aaron Reichlin-Melnick, a senior fellow with the American Immigration Council, will bring us up to date on the current state of U.S. immigration policies and practices.



April 26: Martha Gimbel, Executive Director and Co-Founder of the Budget Lab at Yale University, a non-partisan policy research center, will discuss the state of the U.S. economy.

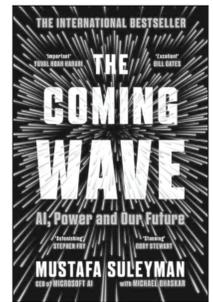


May 3: The Rev. James Hawkey, Canon Theologian of Westminster Abbey and Chaplain to King Charles III, will engage us in a Q&A-style conversation led by the Rev. Rob Fisher.

ST. JOHN'S BOOK GROUP

Thursday, April 9, at 7 p.m.

Please join us via Zoom to discuss *The Coming Wave* by Mustafa Suleyman. As cofounder of the pioneering company DeepMind, Suleyman highlights the unprecedented risks to global order that are posed by a wave of fast-developing technologies such as artificial intelligence and genetic engineering—powerful tools that can address complex challenges but also create upheaval at the same time. 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.



LATROBE FELLOWSHIP IN-TOWN RETREAT

Saturday, April 18, at 9:30 a.m.

Please join the Latrobe Fellowship for a one-day spring retreat to be held at the Cathedral House and Bishop's Garden. This will be a time to rest and connect with one another, and will offer worship, a picnic by the cathedral, and activities on themes of community and communion. To help cover expenses, the fee is \$25 per person.

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 the Rev. Eric Bailey via the About: Leadership tab of our website.

GRACE'S TABLE

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

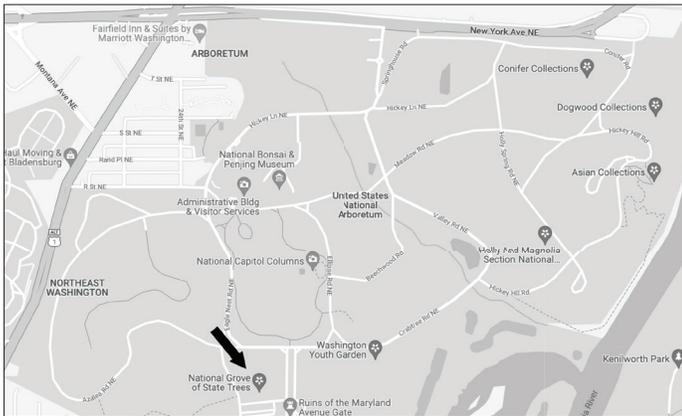
Upcoming dates: April 18 and May 16

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.

NATIONAL ARBORETUM AZALEA WALK

Saturday, April 25, at 10 a.m.

All ages are welcome on a walk through the azaleas at the National Arboretum, which are projected to be in peak bloom, followed by a celebration of the Eucharist. We will gather at the Grove of State Trees parking lot. Enter the arboretum from R Street or New York Avenue, NE, and allow extra time for slow traffic. Walking shoes, hats, and water bottles are encouraged, and there are picnic tables if you'd like to bring food. For more information and to RSVP or request a ride, contact the Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell via the About: Leadership tab of our website. Please include your cell phone number so we can contact you as needed.



PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Saturday, April 25, 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, April 20, to bit.ly/sjc-pno. Questions? Contact the Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell via our website.



AN EVENING WITH THE CHOIR OF WESTMINSTER ABBEY

Friday, May 1, at 7 p.m., at St. John's

The White House Historical Association and St. John's, in celebration of America's 250th, will host an evening with the choir of Westminster Abbey on Friday, May 1. Westminster Abbey's choir is renowned worldwide as one of the finest of its type, with up to 30 boys and 12 professional adult singers. The choir's wide-ranging performing activities are rooted in a centuries-old tradition, and its repertoire ranges from plainsong and Tudor polyphony to 20th-century masterpieces and new commissions. Purchase tickets (\$25) at www.whitehousehistory.org/events. This event will be held at St. John's.

N STREET VILLAGE SUPPLY DRIVE

Through Easter Day, April 5

The Sisters at St. John's are partnering with N Street Village, a local group that supports D.C. women experiencing homelessness by offering a broad spectrum of services, housing, and advocacy in an atmosphere of dignity and respect. We are collecting a variety of necessities, including toilet paper, paper towels, sanitary pads, women's underwear all sizes, and casual pants sizes medium to XL. To donate, bring any of the above items to church and leave them in the basket by the reception area in the Parish House.

Visit our website for more news and the full calendar of upcoming events. You can find us at www.stjohns-dc.org.

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. Sarah Akes-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

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