

SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH

LAFAYETTE SQUARE • WASHINGTON, DC

CHORAL EVENSONG

April 17, 2024

*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 third Wednesday of each month from September through May. To see a schedule of upcoming services and events, visit our website: 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 by Sarah MacDonald (b. 1968)
Canticles—Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924) in G*

VOLUNTARY

Allegretto, Op. 101

Charles Villiers Stanford

Te lucis ante terminum

John Rutter (b. 1945)

(To thee before the close of day)

INTROIT

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life

Becky McGlade (b. 1974)

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: Such a Way, as gives us breath:
Such a Truth, as ends all strife: Such a Life, as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: Such a Light, as shows a feast:
Such a Feast, as mends in length: Such a Strength, as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: Such a Joy, as none can move:
Such a Love, as none can part: Such a Heart, as joys in love.

—George Herbert (1593–1633)

HYMN 46

The duteous day now closeth

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

1 The du - teous day now clos - eth, each flower and tree re -
 2 Now all the heaven - ly splen - dor breaks forth in star-light
 3 Though long our mor - tal blind - ness has missed God's lov - ing -

pos - eth, shade creeps o'er wild and wood: let
 ten - der from myr - iad worlds un - known; and
 kind - ness and plunged us in - to strife; yet

us, as night is fall - ing, on God our Ma - ker
 we, this mar - vel see - ing, for - get our self - ish
 when life's day is o - ver, shall death's fair night dis -

call - ing, give thanks to him, the Giv - er good.
 be - ing for joy of beau - ty not our own.
 cov - er the fields of ev - er - last - ing life.

Words: Paul Gerhardt (1607-1676); tr. Robert Seymour Bridges (1844-1930) and others. Music: *O Welt, ich muss dich lassen*, melody att. Heinrich Isaac (1450?-1517); harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

THE OPENING SENTENCES

Please remain standing.

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall.

—*Psalm 16:7, 8*

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 119:25-48

Daleth: Adhaesite pavimento

Joseph Barnby (1838–1896)

Please be seated.

My soul cleaveth to the dust *
O quicken thou me, according to thy word.
I have acknowledged my ways, and thou heardest me *
O teach me thy statutes.
Make me to understand the way of thy commandments *
and so shall I talk of thy wondrous works.
My soul melteth away for very heaviness *
comfort thou me according unto thy word.
Take from me the way of lying *
and cause thou me to make much of thy law.
I have chosen the way of truth *
and thy judgements have I laid before me.
I have stuck unto thy testimonies *
O LORD, confound me not.
I will run the way of thy commandments *
when thou hast set my heart at liberty.
Teach me, O LORD, the way of thy statutes *
and I shall keep it unto the end.

Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law *
 yea, I shall keep it with my whole heart.
 Make me to go in the path of thy commandments *
 for therein is my desire.
 Incline my heart unto thy testimonies *
 and not to covetousness.
 O turn away mine eyes, lest they behold vanity *
 and quicken thou me in thy way.
 O stablish thy word in thy servant *
 that I may fear thee.
 Take away the rebuke that I am afraid of *
 for thy judgements are good.
 Behold, my delight is in thy commandments *
 O quicken me in thy righteousness.
 Let thy loving mercy come also unto me, O LORD *
 even thy salvation, according unto thy word.
 So shall I make answer unto my blasphemers *
 for my trust is in thy word.
 O take not the word of thy truth utterly out of my mouth *
 for my hope is in thy judgements.
 So shall I always keep thy law *
 yea, for ever and ever.
 And I will walk at liberty *
 for I seek thy commandments.
 I will speak of thy testimonies also, even before kings *
 and will not be ashamed.
 And my delight shall be in thy commandments *
 which I have loved.
 My hands also will I lift up unto thy commandments, which I have loved *
 and my study shall be in thy statutes.
 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 Brian Cordova-Brookey.

Exodus 19:16-25

On the morning of the third day there was thunder and lightning, as well as a thick cloud on the mountain, and a blast of a trumpet so loud that all the people who were in the camp trembled. Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God. They took their stand at the foot of the mountain. Now Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke, because the LORD had descended upon it in fire; the smoke went up like the smoke of a kiln, while the whole mountain shook violently. As the blast of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses would speak and God would answer him in thunder. When the LORD descended upon Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain, the LORD summoned Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up. Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go down and warn the people not to break through to the LORD to look; otherwise many of them will perish. Even the priests who approach the LORD must consecrate themselves or the LORD will break out against them." Moses said to the LORD, "The people are not permitted to come up to Mount Sinai; for you yourself warned us, saying, 'Set limits around the

mountain and keep it holy.” The LORD said to him, “Go down, and come up bringing Aaron with you; but do not let either the priests or the people break through to come up to the LORD; otherwise he will break out against them.” So Moses went down to the people and told them.

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.

THE SECOND READING

Read by Kevin Cordova-Brookey.

Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

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.

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 O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread:
Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and
reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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. Robert W. Fisher

Please be seated.

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

O Lord, support us

David Briggs (b. 1962)

Sung by the choir.

O Lord, support us all the day long until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed and the fever of life is over and our work is done. Then in thy mercy, grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last.

—John Henry Newmann (1801–1890)

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.

Choir 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 383 *Sung by all.*

Fairest Lord Jesus

1 Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Ru-ler of all na - ture, O thou of
 2 Fair are the mea - dows, fair-er still the wood - lands, robed in the
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair-er still the moon - light, and all the

God and man the Son; thee will I cher - ish,
 bloom - ing garb of spring: Je - sus is fair - er,
 twink - ling, star - ry host: Je - sus shines bright - er,

thee will I hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.
 Je - sus is pur - er, who makes the woe-ful heart to sing.
 Je - sus shines pur - er, than all the an-gels heaven can boast.

Words: German composite; tr. pub. New York, 1850, alt. Music: *St. Elizabeth*, melody from *Schlesische Volkslieder*, 1842; harm. Thomas Tertius Noble (1867-1953).

VOLUNTARY

Gigue

Elisabeth Jacquet de la Guerre (1665–1729)

NEWS AND EVENTS AT ST. JOHN'S



ST. JOHN'S PRIDE SPRING RETREAT

Saturday, April 20, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

St. John's Pride (LGBTQ+ and allies), will hold its spring retreat next Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. We will spend a day packed with organizing our vision and impacts, storytelling, Bible study, community service planning, and brunch! Contact leaders Brian Cordova-Brookey and John Schutz via the online Ministry Directory at stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory if interested in attending.



ROEDEAN GIRLS CHOIR CONCERT

Thursday, April 25, at 7 p.m.

St. John's will host a special performance by the Roedeane Girls Choir from Johannesburg, South Africa on Thursday, April 25, at 7 p.m. In its 104-year history, the Roedeane Girls Choir has recorded numerous secular and sacred albums and has performed worldwide. The choir has been at the forefront of promoting indigenous South African music and performs regularly for local and foreign dignitaries in South Africa and on tour. While this concert is open to the public free of charge, an offering will be gathered in support of Kwasa College, our companion school in the Anglican Diocese of Highveld, South Africa.

FINAL MIDWEEK MUSIC OF THE SEASON

Wednesday, May 1, at 12:15 p.m.

Our 2023–2024 Midweek Music concert series concludes with a fan favorite, the U.S. Army Chorus, which provides musical support for the leadership of the United States and inspirational engagement with the American people. Midweek Music performances take place during the lunch hour on the first Wednesday of each month from October through May and are open to the public free of charge.

LATROBE YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

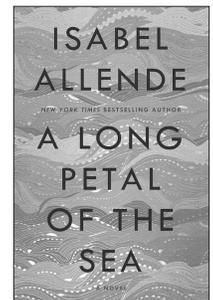
Wednesday, May 1, at 6:30 p.m.

The Latrobe Young Adult Fellowship is an active and engaged group of adults, primarily in their 20s and 30s. We 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. Shawn Evelyn using the About: Leadership tab on our website.

ST. JOHN'S BOOK GROUP

Thursday, May 2, at 7 p.m.

Join us via Zoom to discuss *A Long Petal of the Sea* by Isabel Allende. Set in the late 1930s amid the Spanish Civil War, this novel follows a young pregnant widow and an army doctor who are forced to flee Spain and unite in a marriage neither of them wants in order to survive. The book group meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. For information and the Zoom link, contact us via the directory at stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory.



ADULT INQUIRERS' CLASS

Would you like to be baptized, confirmed, or received into membership in the Episcopal Church at St. John's—or just to learn a bit more about the church? If so, consider taking our two-day Adult Inquirers' Class. This class will meet on Saturdays, May 11 and 18, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., led by the Rev. Rob Fisher, Rector of St. John's. All are welcome, whether you are a newcomer or a longtime parishioner. This is an opportunity to learn more about the Christian faith, the Episcopal tradition, and the ministry of St. John's Church. To express interest or learn more, please contact Lisa Koehler via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

ASSISTING AT THIS SERVICE

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher, *Rector*

Jack Reiffer, *Crucifer*

Anthony Pegues, *Assistant Head Usher*

Jeremy Sheeler, *Livestream Technician*

St. John's Choir and Choristers

Brent Erstad, *Director of Music*

Lyn Loewi, *Associate Organist*

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.**

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

Nora Rigby, *Senior Warden*

Alfred Thesmar, *Junior Warden*

Tony Anikeeff, Krista Rimple Bradley, Kaye Edwards,

Casey Evans, Wendy J. Fibison, David Gallalee,

Fruzsina Harsanyi, Elizabeth Cavert Morrison,

Ucheora Onwuamaegbu, Jack Reiffer,

Matthew Taylor, and Jess Unger, *Members*

Sara McGanity, *Treasurer*

Jeremy Skog, *Assistant Treasurer*

Allie Raether, *Secretary*

Harker Rhodes, *Parish Counsel*

Head Usher

James H. Czerwonky

Heads of Flower Guild

Pat Dalby and Katherine Kyle

Head Greeters

Eleanor and Peter Odom

Worship and Program Staff

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher, *Rector*

The Rev. Sarah Akers-Cardwell, *Associate
for Children and Family Ministries*

The Rev. Shawn Evelyn, *Associate for Parish Life*

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

Brent Erstad, *Director of Music and Organist*
Lyn Loewi, *Associate Organist*

Staff

Preston Cherouny, *Chief Operating Officer*

Charley Griffin, *Operations Manager*

Lisa Koehler, *Program Associate and
Executive Assistant to the Rector*

David Evans, *Hospitality, Administration,
and Program Assistant*

Javier Obregon, *Sexton*

GeeGee Bryant and David Gamboa, *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