

A SERVICE IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF

Robert Eugene Park

October 13, 1931 – August 11, 2025



Saturday, November 29, 2025, at 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.*



“Well done, good and faithful servant.”

Matthew 25:23

Robert Eugene Park, known as “Bob” to friends and family, died peacefully at home on August 11, 2025. He is remembered by all who knew him for his kindness, his gracious manner, and his brilliant intellect.

Bob was born on October 13, 1931, in Sanford, Florida, to Dr. Charles L. Park and Geneva Park (Whitehead). He was close with his brothers, Dr. Charles L. Park, Jr. (d. 2016) and William Bryan Park (d. 2021). A lover of learning from a young age, he went on to receive a BS, BA, and JD from the University of Florida. After Florida, he served as an intelligence officer with the U.S. Navy and later earned his LLM from Yale. Bob taught as Professor of Law at George Washington University Law School for more than 40 years, concentrating on administrative law, constitutional powers, individual rights, and jurisprudence, while also serving as a consultant to governmental offices and international organizations. He was beloved in the classroom, teaching young lawyers how to think critically, precisely, and ethically.

Bob married Sharon Alden Collins on Christmas Day in 1972. He wanted to begin his married life guided from the start by the Christian faith. They raised three children—Priscilla (Marla Soileau), Charlie (Sarah Dunning), and Melissa (An “Barry” Bui). Bob balanced his teaching commitments with roles in the community—serving twice on the vestry at St. John’s Church on Lafayette Square—and his whole-hearted care for the family. In his later years, Bob enjoyed painting with the Northern Virginia Art League and following the lives of his children and five grandchildren (Lucy, James, Frances, Lawton, and Faye). His legacy of service, teaching, and lifelong learning is carried on by them, as well as by his thousands of GW Law students. He will be missed by all.

Welcome to St. John's Church, Lafayette Square.
*All are invited to participate in the service as able. Congregational responses appear in **bold**.*

VOLUNTARY

INTROIT

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts

Henry Purcell

Sung by the choir.

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts;
shut not thy merciful ears unto our prayers;
but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty.
O holy and most merciful Savior, thou most worthy judge eternal,
suffer us not at our last hour, for any pains of death,
to fall from thee. Amen.

—Funeral sentences from the Book of Common Prayer

Please stand as you are able as the procession enters.

Priest I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord.
Whoever has faith in me shall have life,
even though he die.
And everyone who has life,
and has committed himself to me in faith,
shall not die for ever.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives
and that at the last he will stand upon the earth.
After my awaking, he will raise me up;
and in my body I shall see God.
I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him
who is my friend and not a stranger.

For none of us has life in himself,
and none becomes his own master when he dies.
For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord,
and if we die, we die in the Lord.
So, then, whether we live or die,
we are the Lord's possession.

Happy from now on
are those who die in the Lord!
So it is, says the Spirit,
for they rest from their labors.

COLLECTS

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Let us pray.

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant Bob, and grant him an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with Bob's family and friends in their grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

WELCOME

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher

Please be seated.

REMEMBRANCES

Melissa Park Bui

Robert Tuttle, read by Robert Brauneis

HYMN 523

Glorious things of thee are spoken

Sung by all, standing as you are able.

1 Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, ci - ty
2 See! the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e -
3 Round each ha - bi - ta - tion hov - ering, see the cloud and
4 Blest in - hab - it - ants of Zi - on, washed in the Re -

of our God; he whose word can - not be bro - ken
ter - nal love, well sup - ply thy sons and daugh - ters
fire ap - pear for a glo - ry and a cov - ering,
deem - er's blood! Je - sus, whom their souls re - ly on,

formed thee for his own a - bode; on the Rock of A - ges
 and all fear of want re - move. Who can faint, when such a
 show - ing that the Lord is near. Thus de - riv - ing from their
 makes them kings and priests to God. 'Tis his love his peo - ple

found - ed, what can shake thy sure re - pose? With sal -
 riv - er ev - er will their thirst as - suage? Grace which,
 ban - ner, light by night, and shade by day, safe they
 rais - es o - ver self to reign as kings: and as

va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
 like the Lord, the giv - er nev - er fails from age to age.
 feed up - on the man - na which he gives them when they pray.
 priests, his sol - emn prais - es each for a thank - of - fering brings.

Words: John Newton (1725-1807), alt. Music: *Abbot's Leigh*, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991). Copyright © 1942, Renewal 1970 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

THE FIRST READING

Read by Charlie Park.

Selected verses from Psalm 119

Please be seated.

Praise be to you, Lord; teach me your decrees. With my lips I recount all the laws that come from your mouth. Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law. I run in the path of your commands, for you have broadened my understanding. Teach me, Lord, the way of your decrees, that I may follow it to the end. Give me understanding, so that I may keep your law and obey it with all my heart. Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight. I will walk about in freedom, for I have sought out your precepts. I will speak of your statutes before kings and will not be put to shame, for I delight in your commands because I love them. Your hands made me and formed me; give me understanding to learn your commands. May your unfailing love be my comfort, according to your promise to your servant.

Let your compassion come to me that I may live, for your law is my delight. Your word, Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faithfulness continues through all generations; you established the earth, and it endures. Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

My Shepherd will supply my need

Virgil Thomson (1896–1989)

Sung by the choir.

My Shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is his Name;
in pastures fresh he makes me feed beside the living stream.
He brings my wand'ring spirit back when I forsake his ways,
and leads me, for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death, thy presence is my stay;
a word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread;
my cup with blessings overflows; thine oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
O may thy house be mine abode, and all my work be praise!
There would I find a settled rest while others go and come,
no more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.

—Isaac Watts (1674–1748)

THE SECOND READING

Read by Priscilla Park.

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Please be seated.

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to
 2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy
 3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Said by all, 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.

A PRAYER ATTRIBUTED TO ST. FRANCIS

Read by Sarah Park.

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. **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 PRAYERS *Please stand or kneel as you are able.*

Led by Powell Hutton

Intercessor For our brother Bob, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am Resurrection and I am Life."

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Bob, and dry the tears of those who weep.

People Hear us, Lord.

Intercessor You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

People Hear us, Lord.

Intercessor You raised the dead to life; give to our brother eternal life.

People **Hear us, Lord.**

Intercessor You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our brother to the joys of heaven.

People **Hear us, Lord.**

Intercessor Our brother was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give him fellowship with all your saints.

People **Hear us, Lord.**

Intercessor He was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant him a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

People **Hear us, Lord.**

Intercessor Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our brother; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

The priest continues

Father of all, we pray to you for Bob, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May his soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

THE COMMENDATION *Please stand as you are able.*

Priest Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,

People **where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

Priest You only are immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

People **Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

Priest Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Bob. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

A BENEDICTION

Offered by Lucy Park.

Life is short, and we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us, so be quick to love and make haste to be kind. And may the blessing of the One who made us, and the One who loves us, and the One who travels with us, be with you and those you love this day and always. **Amen.**

—Adapted from Henri-Frédéric Amiel (1821–1881)

THE BLESSING

Priest The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Standing as you are able.

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Jesu, joy of man's desiring

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Sung by the choir; please be seated.

Words: Martin Janus (c. 1620–1682)

Jesu, joy of man's desiring, holy wisdom, love most bright,
drawn by thee, our souls aspiring soar to uncreated light.

Word of God our flesh that fashioned with the fire of life impassioned,
striving still to truth unknown, soaring, dying, round thy throne.

HYMN 494 *Sung by all, standing as you are able.*

Crown him with many crowns

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne; Hark!
2 Crown him the Son of God be - fore the worlds be - gan, and
3 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave, and
4 Crown him of lords the Lord, who o - ver all doth reign, who
5 Crown him the Lord of heaven, en - throned in worlds a - bove; Crown

1 how the heaven - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own; a -
2 ye, who tread where he hath trod, crown him the Son of man; who
3 rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save; his
4 once on earth, the in - car - nate Word, for ran - somed sin - ners slain, now
5 him the King, to whom is given the won - drous name of Love. Crown

1 wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and
2 ev - ery grief hath known that wrings the hu - man breast, and
3 glo - ries now we sing who died, and rose on high, who
4 lives in realms of light, where saints with an - gels sing their
5 him with man - y crowns, as thrones be - fore him fall, crown

1 hail him as thy match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 2 takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest.
 3 died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 4 songs be - fore him day and night, their God, Re - deem - er, King.
 5 him, ye kings, with man - y crowns, for he is King of all.

Words: Matthew Bridges (1800-1894). Music: *Diademata*, George Job Elvey (1816-1893).

VOLUNTARY

Following the service, all are invited to a reception in Togo West Parlor.

If you wish to make a memorial offering to St. John's, you may do so using the QR code or at bit.ly/sjc-offering.



“Gone From My Sight” by Henry Van Dyke (1852–1933)

I am standing upon the seashore. A ship, at my side, spreads her white sails to the moving breeze and starts for the blue ocean. She is an object of beauty and strength. I stand and watch her until, at length, she hangs like a speck of white cloud just where the sea and sky come to mingle with each other. Then, someone at my side says, “There, she is gone.” Gone where? Gone from my sight. That is all. She is just as large in mast, hull, and spar as she was when she left my side. And, she is just as able to bear her load of living freight to her destined port. Her diminished size is in me—not in her. And, just at the moment when someone says, “There, she is gone,” there are other eyes watching her coming, and other voices ready to take up the glad shout, “Here she comes!” And that is dying.

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ASSISTING AT TODAY'S SERVICE

CLERGY—The Rev. Robert W. Fisher, *Rector*

REMEMBRANCES—Melissa Park Bui, and Robert Tuttle (read by Robert Brauneis)

READERS & INTERCESSORS—Charlie Park, Priscilla Park, Sarah Park, Powell Hutton, and Lucy Park

MUSICIANS—Brent Erstad, *Director of Music and Organist*

Sonya Hayes and Pamela Lassell, *Violins* | Jerome Gordon, *Viola* | Kathryn Hufnagle, *Cello*

Elissa Edwards, Nicole Vernot-Jonas, and Tory Wood, *Sopranos*

Adrin Akins, Lisa Koehler, and Jennifer Mathews, *Altos*

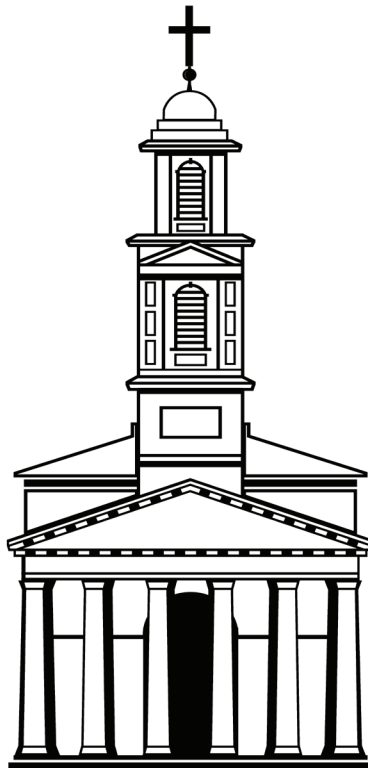
John Mullan, Nate Roper, and Andrew Sauvageau, *Tenors*

Justin Dean, Chris Jones, and Nathan Lofton, *Basses*

CRUCIFER—Jack Reiffer

USHERS—Richard Busch, Julia Koster, Debby Hailey, and Fruzsina Harsanyi

FLOWER GUILD—Joanne Hutton and Julia Koster | LIVESTREAM—Jeremy Skog



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

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