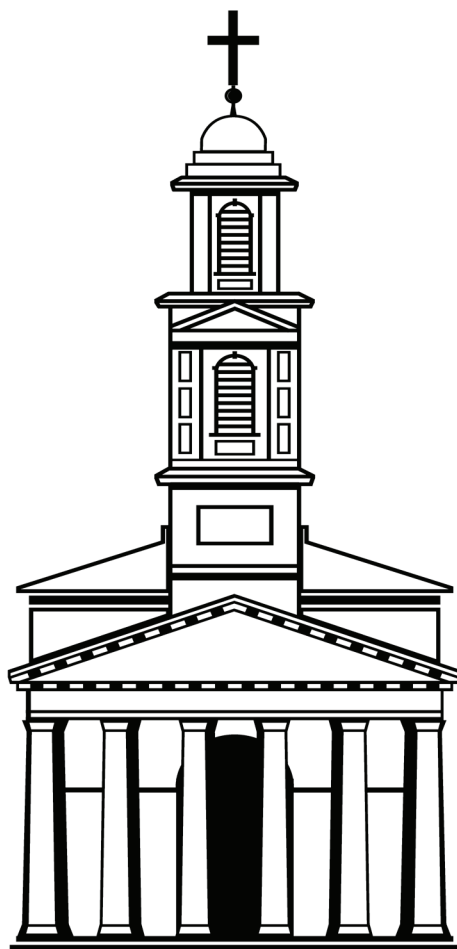


THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 6, 2026 ♦ Holy Eucharist at 10:30 a.m.



SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH

LAFAYETTE SQUARE • WASHINGTON, DC

*St. John's is a church for people of all races, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations,
and viewpoints grounded in love. Whoever you are, we welcome you.*

Welcome to St. John's Church, Lafayette Square.

*All are invited to participate in the service as able. Congregational responses appear in **bold**.*

Nursery care is available from 10 a.m. to noon on the second floor of the Parish House.

Prayer cards are provided at the entrance of the church. You are invited to write your prayers and place them in the collection plate. Your prayers will be blessed and will be prayed for by a priest during the week.

Please refrain from taking photos and videos during services.

VOLUNTARY

Prelude in B minor

César Franck (1822–1890)

HYMN 388

O worship the King, all glorious above!

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

1 O wor - ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove!
 2 O tell of his might! O sing of his grace!
 3 The earth, with its store of won - ders un - told,
 4 Thy boun - ti - ful care, what tongue can re - cite?
 5 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,

1 O grate - ful - ly sing his power and his love!
 2 Whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space.
 3 Al - might - y, thy power hath found - ed of old,
 4 It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
 5 in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;

1 Our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
 2 His char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,
 3 hath stab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
 4 it streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,
 5 thy mer - cies, how ten - der! how firm to the end!

1 pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.
 2 and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.
 3 and round it hath cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
 4 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
 5 Our Ma - ker, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend!

Words: Robert Grant (1779-1838).

Music: *Hanover*, att. William Croft (1678-1727).

THE WORD OF GOD *Please remain standing as you are able.*

Priest Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA (S-280) *Sung by all.*

Robert Powell (1932–2025)



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Romans 13:8-14

Please be seated.

Read by Caroline Faris.

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 119:33-40

Led by Betsy Danello, said responsively by half verse.

Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, * **and I shall keep it to the end.**

Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; * **I shall keep it with all my heart.**

Make me go in the path of your commandments, * **for that is my desire.**

Incline my heart to your decrees * **and not to unjust gain.**

Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; * **give me life in your ways.**

Fulfill your promise to your servant, * **which you make to those who fear you.**

Turn away the reproach which I dread, * **because your judgments are good.**

Behold, I long for your commandments; * **in your righteousness preserve my life.**

Children's Chapel in the Parish House: All who wish may gather in front of the pulpit at the start of the hymn, departing together and returning at the Peace. Parents are encouraged to accompany children younger than three.

GRADUAL HYMN 440

Blessèd Jesus, at thy word

Sung by all, standing as you are able.

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to
 2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness
 3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred
 shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night
 ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings
 with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to
 help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

Words: Tobias Clausnitzer (1619-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1829-1878); alt. Music: *Liebster Jesu*, melody Johann Rudolph Ahle (1625-1673); alt. *Das grosse Cantional: oder Kirchen-Gesangbuch*, 1687; harm. George Herbert Palmer (1846-1926).

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 18:15-20

Please remain standing as you are able.

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

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

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Cn. Maurice Dyer

THE NICENE CREED *Please stand as you are able.*

Let us affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Led by Martha Ellison.

Kneeling or standing as you are able.

Intercessor In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. *Silence.*

For all people in their daily life and work;

People **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

Intercessor For Donald, our President, the leaders of Congress, the Supreme Court, and all who are in authority; for this community, the nation, and the world;

People **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

Intercessor For the just and proper use of your creation;
People **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, oppression, and war.**

Intercessor For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
People **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

Intercessor For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
People **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

Intercessor For the communities of St. John's and our companion relationships with the Anglican Church of Southern Africa* and the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, for campus ministries and the National Association of Episcopal Schools; and that all may be blessed with meaningful work in which our passions meet the needs of our community and the world. For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Mariann, our Bishop; and Eugene, our Assistant Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers.
People **For all who serve God in the Church.**

Intercessor For the special needs and concerns of this congregation . . . Hear us, Lord;
People **For your mercy is great.**

Intercessor We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life . . . We will exalt you, O God our King;
People **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

Intercessor We pray for all who have died . . . , that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
 Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
People **Who put their trust in you.**

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

Intercessor We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence.

All **Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Priest Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *Please be seated.*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

You may make an offering by placing your donation in the plate, or use this QR code to pay electronically.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Simple Gifts

Traditional Shaker song

Sung by the choir.

arr. Aaron Copland (1900–1990)

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free, 'tis the gift to come down where you ought to be,
and when we find ourselves in the place just right, 'twill be in the valley of love and delight.

When true simplicity is gained, to bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed;
to turn, turn will be our delight, 'till by turning, turning we come round right.

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free, 'tis the gift to come down where you ought to be,
and when we find ourselves in the place just right, 'twill be in the valley of love and delight.

HYMN 304 *Sung by all, standing as you are able.*

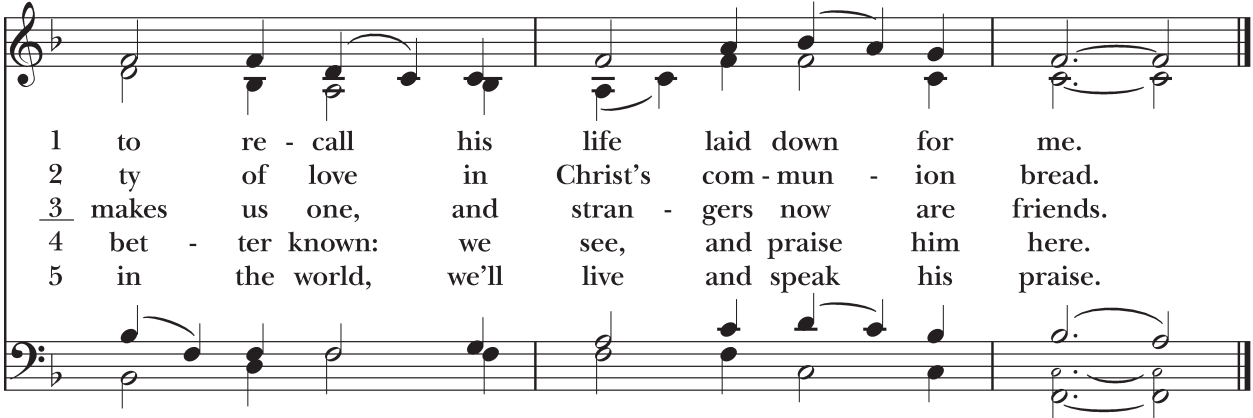
I come with joy to meet my Lord



1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to
3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each
4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll



1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der
2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -
3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us
4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship
5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple



1 to re - call his life laid down for me.
2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.
4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.
5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt. Copyright © 1971 by Hope Publishing Company Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983).

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please remain standing as you are able.

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Priest God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People **By your will they were created and have their being.**

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS (S-129) *Sung by all.*

Robert Powell

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est._____

Please stand or kneel as you are able. The priest continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

People **We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our ancestors in faith; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Priest And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

FRACTION ANTHEM (S-163) *Sung by all.*

Robert Powell

Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Priest The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All persons, including children, are welcome to receive Holy Communion with us. Wait for an usher to call your pew to come forward. You will first be handed a wafer by a priest (gluten-free wafers are available by request) and then offered wine by a lay server. You may either sip the wine or dip your wafer into the wine. Receiving the bread alone is a valid way to share in the Eucharist. Parents may decide if their children receive the bread and/or wine. All may instead signal their desire to be blessed by the priest by crossing their arms over their chest.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Teach me, O Lord

Thomas Attwood (1765–1838)

Sung by the choir.

Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes, and I will keep them unto the end.

—*Psalms 119:33*

HYMN 577

God is love, and where true love is

Sung by all, seated.

Refrain

God is love, and where true love is God him - self is there.

1 Here in Christ we gath - er, love of Christ our call - ing.
 2 When we Chris - tians gath - er, mem - bers of one Bo - dy,
 3 Grant us love's ful - fill - ment, joy with all the bless - ed,

Christ, our love, is with us, glad - ness be his greet - ing.
 let there be in us no dis - cord but one spi - rit.
 when we see your face, O Sa - vior, in its glo - ry.

Let us fear and love him, ho - ly God e - ter - nal.
 Ban - ished now be an - ger, strife and ev - ery quar - rel.
 Shine on us, O pur - est Light of all cre - a - tion,

Repeat Refrain

Lov - ing him, let each love Christ in one an - oth - er.
 Christ, our God, be al - ways pres - ent here a - mong us.
 be our bliss while end - less a - ges sing your prais - es.

Words: Latin; tr. James Quinn (b. 1919), alt. Copyright © 1969, James Quinn, SJ, printed by permission of Geoffery Chapman, a division of Cassell Ltd. Music: *Ubi caritas* (Murray), A. Gregory Murray (1905-1992). By permission of A. Gregory Murray.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

Priest Let us pray.

All Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

When scheduled, the Priest offers a communion kit to any Lay Eucharistic Minister doing a home visit, saying

On behalf of God and St. John's Church, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those whom you will visit may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Priest Life is short. And we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So be swift to love. Make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

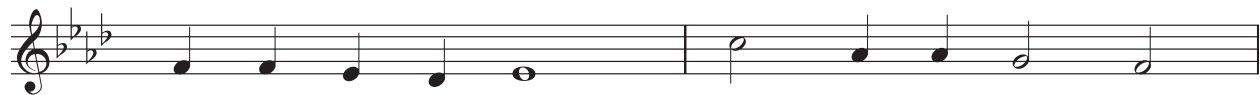
HYMN 541

Come, labor on

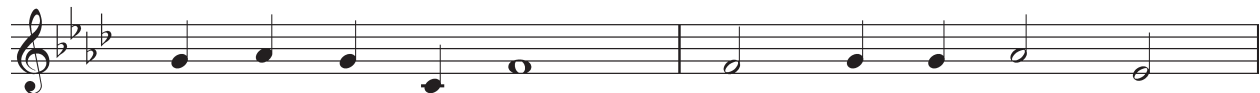
Sung by all, standing as you are able.



1	Come,	la - bor	on.	Who	dares	stand	i - dle
2	Come,	la - bor	on.	The	en - e - my	is	
3	Come,	la - bor	on.	A -	way	with	gloom - y
4	Come,	la - bor	on.	Claim	the	high	call - ing
5	Come,	la - bor	on.	No	time	for	rest, till



1	on	the	har - vest	plain,	while	all	a - round	us
2	watch - ing	night	and	day,	to	sow	the	tares, to
3	doubts	and	faith - less	fear!	No	arm	so	weak but
4	an - gels	can - not	share—		to	young	and	old the
5	glows	the	west - ern	sky,	till	the	long	sha - dows



1	waves	the	gold - en	grain?	And	to	each	ser - vant
2	snatch	the	seed	a - way;	while	we	in	sleep our
3	may	do	ser - vice	here:	by	feeb - lest	a -	gents
4	Gos - pel	glad - ness	bear:		re - deem	the	time;	its
5	o'er	our	path - way	lie,	and	a	glad	sound comes



1	does	the	Mas - ter	say,	“Go	work	to -	day.”
2	du - ty	have	for - got,	he	slum - bered	not.		
3	may	our	God	ful - fill	his	right - eous	will.	
4	hours	too	swift - ly	fly.	The	night	draws	nigh.
5	with	the	set - ting	sun,——	“Ser -	vants,	well	done.”

Words: Jane Laurie Borthwick (1813-1897), alt. Music: *Ora Labora*, Thomas Tertius Noble (1867-1953).

THE DISMISSAL

Priest Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

Toccata

Georgi Mushel (1909–1989)

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD,
and in honor of John Peters Irelan.

ASSISTING AT THIS SERVICE

Paul Barkett, *Crucifer*
Laurie Adams and Debby Hailey, *Chalice Bearers*
Grant Kraus, *Assistant Head Usher*
Joe Daniels, Julia Koster, and Karen Zachary, *Ushers*
Michele Mullins and Peter Odom, *Greeters*
Sarah Agnew and Julia Koster, *Flower Guild*
Jeremy Sheeler, *Livestream Technician*

Please help us be good stewards of the environment.
**If you do not wish to take this bulletin home after the service,
you may leave it at the end of the pew as you depart or place it in a blue recycling bin.**

ARE YOU NEW TO ST. JOHN'S?

*Please let us know who you are and how we can best serve you by filling out a "Welcome" card and leaving it in the offering plate or giving it to an usher or greeter. **Free valet parking** is available from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sundays; look for the valet sign at the corner of 16th and H streets, NW. Find us on **Instagram** at @stjohnschurchlafayettesquare or visit stjohns-dc.org for more about our offerings and how to get in touch.*

Reading and Gospel: From the New Revised Standard Version Bible © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. All rights reserved. Used by permission. ♦ Collect and Psalm: From the Book of Common Prayer, 1979. ♦ Music images reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701275.

Announcements for the Week of September 6

TODAY AT ST. JOHN'S

Last summer Sunday | New schedule begins September 13
Children's Chapel is offered during the sermon at 10:30 a.m.
Preaching this morning: The Rev. Cn. Maurice Dyer

- 8 a.m. Eucharist with Sermon
- 9:30 a.m. Summer Choir (Parish House Fourth Floor)
- 10 a.m. Nursery—available until noon
(Parish House Second Floor)
- 10:30 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon
- 11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour (Plaza, weather permitting,
or Parish House First Floor)



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: Belvoir Woods Parkway, Fort Belvoir; and Tracy Place, NW.

SERVICE SCHEDULE | *September 7–13*

Monday—No noonday service—Labor Day

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

Kickoff Sunday—The Rev. Rob Fisher, Preacher

8 a.m. Eucharist with Sermon

9 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon

11 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon

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

FALL SUNDAY SCHEDULE BEGINS SEPTEMBER 13

8 a.m. Eucharist with Sermon
Parish Choir Rehearsal

8:30 a.m. Nursery—available until 12:30 p.m.

9 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon

10 a.m. Speaker Series (see next page)
Coffee Hour

Church School (see next page)

Youth Group (see next page)

Adult Bible Study (when scheduled)

St. John's Choir Rehearsal

11 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon

Noon Coffee Hour

Church Tour (when scheduled)

Parish Lunch (when scheduled)

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

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

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Monday, September 7—Labor Day

All Day Parish Office closed

Tuesday, September 8

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

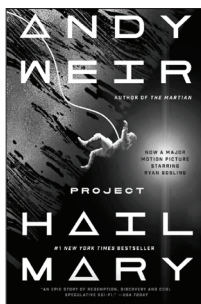
Thursday, September 10

7 p.m. Book Group (see below)

ST. JOHN'S BOOK GROUP

Thursday, September 10, at 7 p.m.

Join us via Zoom for our first meeting of the fall to discuss *Project Hail Mary* by Andy Weir. This science fiction novel centers on science teacher and former biologist Ryland Grace, who wakes up aboard a spacecraft, alone and afflicted with amnesia. For information and the Zoom link, contact us via the directory at stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory.



CHURCH SCHOOL & YOUTH GROUP

Open House: Sunday, September 13, at 10 a.m.

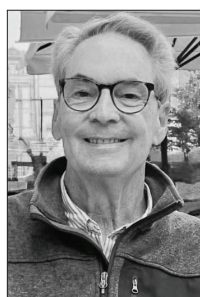
Classes begin: Sunday, September 20, 10–10:50 a.m.

Children, youth, and their caregivers are invited to explore classrooms and meet teachers between the 9 and 11 a.m. services on the first Sunday of the fall schedule. We'll have activities for kids and information about the program year ahead. Light refreshments will be served.

For more about Church School, contact Lauren Goodyear. For more about Youth Group, contact the Rev. Eric Bailey. Both can be reached via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR PATRICK QUINN

Friday, September 18, at 1 p.m.



We are saddened to announce that Patrick Quinn died on July 31. Please keep his loved ones in your prayers and plan to join us as we commend him to God's eternal care. The service will also be livestreamed for those who cannot attend in person; tune in via the Worship tab of our website.

COMING UP



PHOTO AT RIGHT: ANDREA BOOHER / FEMA PHOTO LIBRARY / NARA ACCESS TO ARCHIVAL DATABASES / PUBLIC DOMAIN

SPEAKER SERIES KICKS OFF NEXT SUNDAY

Remembering September 11, 2001

Sunday, September 13, at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

As we recall the September 11 attacks 25 years ago, the Rev. Rob Fisher will lead a conversation about experiences inside, outside, and surrounding the White House on that day, with guests **Ann Compton Hughes** (pictured at left) formerly of ABC News and **Claire Buchan Parker** (pictured at center) who was Deputy White House Press Secretary on 9/11. See page 4 for other upcoming speakers.

GRACE'S TABLE

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

Upcoming dates: September 19 and October 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.

GET INVOLVED! COME TO THE MINISTRY FAIR

Sunday, September 20, after the 9 and 11 a.m. services

Are you looking for ways to get involved in our church community? Look no further than our annual Ministry Fair, where you'll have the opportunity to explore ministries and find the perfect fit. Whether you're passionate about our church community, participating in worship, reaching out to the wider community, or helping with Christian education and formation, there's a ministry for you! Representatives from each ministry will be available to

answer any questions. Come learn about ministry goals and activities, as well as the time commitment and training required. Mark your calendars and contact Lisa Koehler via the About: Leadership tab on our website to learn more.

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Saturday, September 26, 5–7:30 p.m.

Kids ages 6 months through 5th grade are invited to play, watch a movie, and eat pizza while parents and caregivers enjoy an evening out. RSVP by Monday, September 21, to bit.ly/pno-sept-2026. Questions? Please contact Lauren Goodyear via the About: Leadership tab of our website.

PARISH LUNCH RETURNS

Sunday, September 27, at noon

Sunday lunch at St. John's is a longtime tradition in which every member and every visitor can participate. It's a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new ones—a time for fellowship and for hearing another's story. The lunch is held most Sundays in the Parish House. 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 an open date (in **bold** in box at top right)? Contact Parish Lunch coordinator Holly Sukenik at stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory.

CHORAL EVENSONG

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

Steeped in the beauty of the Anglican tradition, Evensong meets us at the even point between the active day and the restful night. Evensong is sung by the St. John's Choir on the last Wednesday of most months from September through May, beginning at 5:30 p.m. and followed by a reception in Togo West Parlor. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us. The service will also be available via livestream on our website. Parking validation for Evensong is available in the garage at 1575 I Street, NW. When asked for payment (upon arrival), indicate that you will be returning with a validated ticket from St. John's good for free parking.

FALL PARISH LUNCH SCHEDULE & HOSTS

September 27 “Welcome Back” Potluck: Please let Holly Sukenik know what you can bring to share and whether you are able to help set up, serve, or clean up.

October 4

October 11 Flower Guild

October 18

October 25 *No Lunch: Marine Corps Marathon*

November 1

November 8 New Members Reception: All invited!

November 15 Sisters at St. John's

November 22

November 29 *No Lunch: Thanksgiving Weekend*

December 6

December 13

December 20 *No Lunch*

December 27 *No Lunch*

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Sunday, October 4, at 9 a.m.

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

WOMEN OF ALL AGES: YOU'RE INVITED TO TEA WITH THE SISTERS AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, October 4, at noon

Women of all ages are warmly invited to join the Sisters of St. John's for tea (hot and cold) served with small sandwiches and desserts. The Sisters gather throughout the year for social and giving activities, in addition to offering an annual retreat and supporting one another in times of need. Come meet our members and learn more about this group! RSVP by Wednesday, September 30, via the online Ministry Directory on the Connect tab of our website.

LATROBE FELLOWSHIP OKTOBERFEST

Wednesday, October 7, at 6:30 p.m.

The Latrobe Fellowship is an active and engaged group of adults, primarily in their 20s and 30s. We typically gather at St. John's at 6:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month for a short worship service followed by an activity. Join us next month for an Oktoberfest celebration. Both alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages will be available. For more details or to connect with the group, contact Will Yale via the Connect: Ministry Directory tab on our website.



THE 2026 FALL ADULT INQUIRERS' CLASS

Saturdays, October 10 & 17, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Would you like to be baptized, confirmed, or received into membership in the Episcopal Church at St. John's? Or are you just interested in learning more about the Christian faith, the Episcopal tradition, and the ministry of St. John's Church? Either way, please join the two-day Fall Adult Inquirers' Class, led by the Rev. Rob Fisher, on Saturdays, October 10 and 17, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Contact Lisa Koehler via the About: Leadership tab on our website to learn more or register for this class.

SPEAKER SERIES

The Speaker Series is held most Sundays from September through May at 10 a.m. in the Togo West Parlor on the first floor of the Parish House. An audio recording will be available on our website the week after each talk.

September 13: Remembering September 11, 2001. This special kickoff presentation marking the 25th anniversary of 9/11 will take place in the sanctuary. See page 2 for the full description, including guest speakers.



September 27: Dr. Moisés Naím, a noted foreign policy expert and Distinguished Fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, will discuss the current state of relations between the U.S. and Venezuela.



October 4: The Rt. Rev. Eugene T. Sutton, Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Washington, will talk about how the Diocese of Maryland dealt with racial reconciliation and reparations for slavery.



October 11: Jonathan Rauch, a Brookings Institution Senior Fellow and acclaimed author, will discuss his most recent book, *Cross Purposes: Christianity's Broken Bargain with Democracy*.



October 25: Dan Rauch, Fisheries and Wildlife Biologist, DC Department of Energy and Environment, will discuss local wildlife and how to help area birds.

NEWS & NOTICES

BEING WITH: A COURSE EXPLORING CHRISTIAN FAITH AND LIFE

Monday evenings, 6:30–8 p.m., starting October 12

This fall we are once again excited to offer a 10-week course called *Being With*, to be led by parishioners Elizabeth Field and Alex Smith. *Being With* is an opportunity to explore faith through shared conversations and storytelling—no prior knowledge or experience needed. The course is open to everyone, especially those who are curious about faith, with sessions lasting 90 minutes and taking place in person on the third floor of the Parish House. Enrollment is capped at 10, and participants' schedules should allow them to attend most sessions. Contact the Rev. Eric Bailey via the About: Leadership tab on our website with questions or to sign up.

MAKE THIS YOUR SUMMER OF IMPACT!

As high unemployment and rising living costs continue to grip the area, Samaritan Ministry of Greater Washington is seeking your support for its 40th Anniversary Summer of Impact Campaign, which will fund the uniquely loving and personalized Next Step counseling and training that Samaritan offers to the region's most vulnerable residents. Visit www.samaritanministry.org or bit.ly/smgw-summer-2026 to learn more.



INVITATION TO DC LISTENING SESSIONS

Washington Interfaith Network (WIN) is encouraging partner congregations, DC residents, and others to voice their priorities at a series of listening sessions hosted this fall by Democratic mayoral nominee Janeese Lewis George. Attend in your ward of residence or come advocate for Ward 2, the neighborhood around St. John's. Dates and signup details are available at bit.ly/fall-2026-sessions.



FOR THOSE SEEKING TO BE BAPTIZED

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. The next dates for baptism and the required pre-baptismal class with the clergy at St. John's are:

Sunday, November 1, at 9 a.m.

Class: Saturday, October 31, at 10 a.m.

Sunday, January 10, at 11 a.m.

Class: Saturday, January 9, at 10 a.m.

Sunday, February 7, at 9 a.m.

Class: Saturday, February 6, at 10 a.m.

FEDERAL WORKERS | Giving or receiving support

Many of our parishioners have been affected by layoffs in the federal government. 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 directory on our website.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE IN 2027



OXFORD, LONDON, AND CANTERBURY

Join us on tour in England | August 18–30, 2027

Next summer, the Rector and choirs of St. John's invite you to join a parish pilgrimage to the historic heart of the Anglican Communion: from Oxford and London to Canterbury, the ancient see from which our tradition has spread throughout the world.

During the journey, the choirs of St. John's will offer Choral Evensong at three of England's great cathedral churches: Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford; Southwark Cathedral, London; and Canterbury Cathedral, where the choir will serve a week-long residency. In each place, our worship will take part in the centuries-old rhythm of daily prayer that continues to shape Anglican life and spirituality today.

You are invited along as we encounter the theological, intellectual, and artistic inheritance of our tradition through worship, architecture, music, and reflection in some of the most significant places in Anglican history. Those interested are encouraged to contact Brent Erstad via the About: Leadership tab of our website.

FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

NURSERY CARE | Today, 10 a.m. to noon

From 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. starting September 13

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

Today during the sermon at 10:30 a.m. worship
During 9 and 11 a.m. worship starting September 13

Most Sundays, kids from birth through grade 5 are invited to participate in a special liturgy just for them during the sermon at the 10:30 a.m. service. Children gather by the pulpit during the gradual hymn and process to the Parish House for a song, homily, and prayer time, returning to the sanctuary at the Peace. Parents may accompany their children and are encouraged to do so for those younger than three. Children are also welcome to stay and worship in the main sanctuary. Questions? Contact Lauren Goodyear via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

CHURCH SCHOOL CLASSES

Open House: September 13 | Classes begin September 20

Children in pre-K through fifth grade may participate in Church School on the second floor of the Parish House from 10 to 10:50 a.m. most Sundays of the school year. Contact Lauren Goodyear via the About: Leadership tab on our website with questions.

YOUTH GROUP

Open House: September 13 | Classes begin September 20

Middle and high school youth are invited to the Parish House second floor for an exploration of life and faith with their peers, most Sundays at 10 a.m., during the school year. Questions? Contact the Rev. Eric Bailey via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

THE ACOLYTE MINISTRY

From September through May, youth in 6th grade and above are encouraged to participate during worship by serving as torch bearers or crucifers and helping set the altar for communion. Contact Vincent Scauzzo via stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory for details.

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.

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.



LISTEN AGAIN TO SUNDAY SERMONS

To listen to past sermons or speaker series, visit our website, scan this QR code or search for "St. John's Church, Lafayette Square" in the Podcast app on your device.



JOIN A MINISTRY GROUP

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

LIVESTREAMED SERVICES

The weekly 10:30 a.m. Sunday service is broadcast on our website and available for replay, as are evensongs and occasional other special services and events.

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 with dignity, while ensuring the safety and well-being of those who worship in our facilities. We hire security personnel for Sundays and special services as a low-key, proactive presence prepared to respond quickly and respectfully to any needs that may arise.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY | Sundays when scheduled

During the program year, this group gathers most Sunday mornings, using a hybrid approach, with some joining via Zoom and others in person, with weekly study materials provided by email. Conversations explore the connections with the Sunday lectionary lessons and sermons. To join our email list or find out more, contact us via the Ministry Directory at stjohns-dc.org.

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 stjohndc.org to add yourself, family, or friends to our prayer list. Names of friends and family who are not members of the congregation are followed by the name of the parishioner making the request.

Our prayers are requested for the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially:

THOSE WHO ARE SICK, RECOVERING, OR GRIEVING

From our parish: Glen Bootay, Krista Bradley, Stevan Johnson, Jim Mullins, Lydia Olson, and Jack Reiffer.

Friends and family of our parish: Olivia Beckett (Justin Dean), Robert Bliss (Katherine Bliss and Mark Dennis), Casey Byers (Eric Peters), Chad (Wendy Fibison), Paul Colloton (Jack Reiffer), Jim DeBello (Grace Barrett), William and Jane Dennis (Katherine Bliss and Mark Dennis), Ann Dilworth (Sydney Brooks), Walt Eccard (Margaret Depue), Ed Eder (Joanne and Powell Hutton), Leonard Edwards (Lauren Edwards), Laurie Feldon (Eleanor and Peter Odom), David Ferriero (Fruzsina Harsanyi), 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), Petros Kartos (Meg Carter), Olivia Kehoe (Kat Kehoe), Elizabeth Lee (Clayton Crawford), Jane Lee (Claire Kim and Jess Unger), Laura Lynch (Wendy Fibison), Anne Lynch (Wendy Fibison), William Markiewicz (Matthew Taylor), Jim Martella (Livy More), Allie Matthews (Carl and Mary Raether), Tammy McCleaf (Matthew Taylor), Mike (Susan Cardwell), Nell Montgomery (Brandon Montgomery), Mark Mousouris (Chris Northrop), Ann Petrosky (Johnathan Miller), Susan Price (Richard Price), Scott (Marta Cook and Cal Trepagnier), Anne Shepherd (Jim Shepherd), Nancy

Stephenson (Ann and John Gardner), Ashley M. Smith (Marta Cook and Cal Trepagnier), Elena Sukenik (Holly Sukenik), Sunil (Susan Cardwell), Brad Todd (Pamela Venzke), Mackenzie Toland (Wendy J. Fibison), Caleb Williams (Alfred Thesmar), Darrel Williams (Caleb and James Hays-Reilly), Bess Williamson (Wendy Fibison), Michele Wilson (Margo Wiegenstein), Andrew Woods (Johnathan Miller), and Judith York (Caroline Fisher).

THOSE WHO ARE IN ASSISTED LIVING

From our parish: Milton Chamberlain, Marcella Odom, Larry Redway, Becky Schergens, Suzanne Whitmore, and Mary Wilson.

Friends and family of our parish: David Brown (Lisa Koehler), Bob Chrystal, Sr. (Chris Jones), Denise T. Griggs (Ginny Griggs), Veronica Jones (Chris Jones), Lori LaPoint (Brent Erstad), Yvonne Reiffer (Jack Reiffer), 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

Jimmy Azzarello, Joe Creech, Anne Elmore, Elizabeth Gardner, Victoria Jeffries, Georgia Johnson, Whitney Johnston, Claire Kim, Frank Klotz, Julia Koster, Joseph Mitchell, Emily Ornstein, Natalie Stolar, John Sukenik, Genevieve Tipler, Pierre Trepagnier, and Marie Von Hafften.

THOSE ON THE FRONT LINES

Friends and family of our parish: Janie Abernethy (Elizabeth Lewis and David Abernethy), Audrey Anikeeff (Tony Anikeeff and Tung Lin Wu), Faith Drow (Glen Bootay), Philip L. Faris (Caroline and Steve Faris), and Charles Lewis, Jr. (Charles Lewis, Sr.).

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

WELCOME!

At St. John's Church, we believe Christ is calling us to be a renewed church in a changing world. Empowered by the Spirit of God, we respond to Jesus' call as we deepen our bond with Christ through worship, become a community where all are accepted, and work together as laity and clergy to do God's work in the world.

St. John's was organized in 1815 to serve as a parish church for Episcopalians residing in the neighborhoods in the west end of the District of Columbia. Its cornerstone was laid on September 14, 1815, and it was consecrated on December 27, 1816. Beginning with James Madison, every person who has held the office of President of the United States has attended a service at the church. Several Presidents have been communicants. Thus, St. John's is often referred to as the "Church of the Presidents." Pew 54 is the President's Pew. The architect of the church was Benjamin Henry Latrobe, who assisted in the rebuilding of the U.S. Capitol and the White House after the War of 1812. Twenty-five of the stained glass windows in St. John's were designed and executed by artisans of the noted Lorin firm of Chartres, France.

If you are visiting, please fill out the visitor information card found at the end of each pew to enable us to welcome you personally into the life of our parish.

St. John's website (www.stjohns-dc.org) has up-to-date information about the church including the Sunday service schedule, Speaker Series speakers and topics, and newsworthy events.

Vestry Leadership & Members

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. Eric Bailey, *Assistant Priest for*

Parish Life and New Member Ministry

The Rev. Cn. Maurice Dyer, *Assisting Priest*

The Rev. William Morris, *Assisting Priest*

for Engaging Local Communities

Lauren Goodyear, *Lay Minister for Children*

and Families

Brent Erstad, *Director of Music and Organist*

Christopher Betts, *Associate Organist*

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