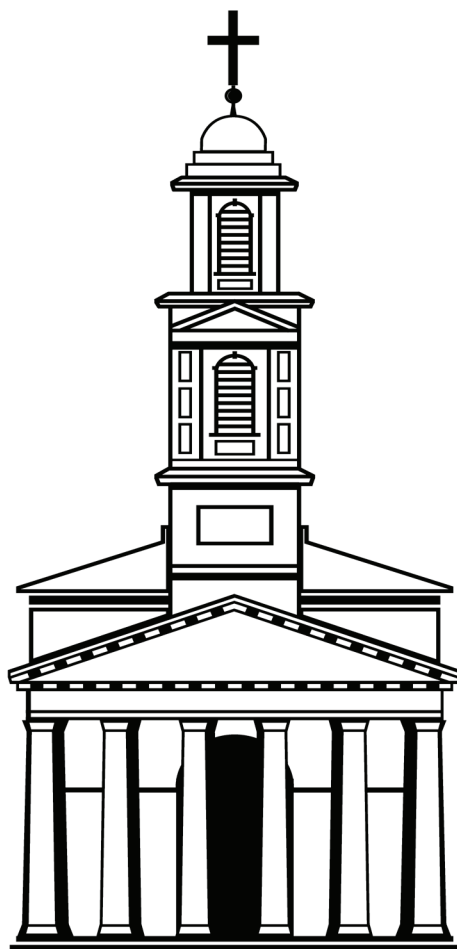


THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 14, 2025 ♦ Holy Eucharist at 9 and 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.*

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 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 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 or videos during services.

THE ADVENT WREATH

As we await Christ's Advent, or "coming," we symbolically acknowledge the role of his birth in salvation history through the lighting of our Advent wreath. The Advent wreath is a circle of greenery adorned with four candles, symbolizing the four Sundays of Advent—a season of preparation and hopeful expectation for Christ's coming. Each Sunday, we light an additional candle, marking our journey from darkness into light as we draw closer to Christmas. The candles may be blue or purple, reflecting the season's themes of hope, peace, joy, and love. Often the candle for the third week is pink or rose to represent joy and rejoicing as the coming of Christ comes near. On Christmas Eve, a white candle is added to the center and is known as the Christ Candle. The wreath invites us to pause, pray, and open our hearts to the light of Christ, who comes to dwell among us.

VOLUNTARY

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659

J.S. Bach (1685–1750)

HYMN 68

Rejoice! rejoice, believers

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

1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!
2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;
3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark-ened sphere!

The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;
 The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.
 rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride-groom is at hand!
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt. Music: *Llangloffan*, melody from *Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru*, 1865.

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.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

As three candles are lit, the following prayer is said.

Faithful God, as we light these candles, kindle in us your deep and lasting joy. Help us rejoice in your promises and share your gladness with the world. Amen.

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 35:1-10

Please be seated.

9 a.m. Read by Kate Benner.

11 a.m. Read by Jordan Baugh.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 15 The Song of Mary

9 a.m. Said responsively by half verse, led by Martha Ellison.

11 a.m. Plainsong, chanted by the choir

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

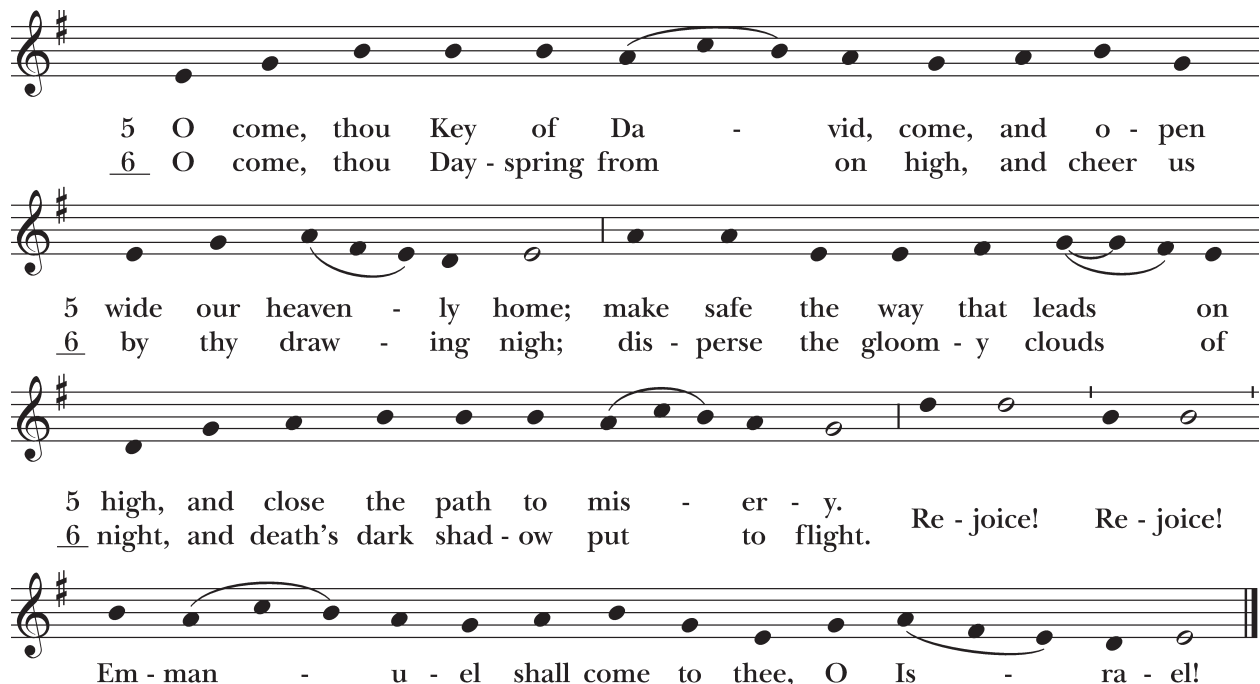
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Children's Chapel in the Parish House: All who wish may gather in front of the pulpit during the following hymn and will return at the Peace. Parents are encouraged to accompany children younger than three.

GRADUAL HYMN 56

O come, O come, Emmanuel

Sung by all, standing as you are able. Stanza 5 will be sung before the Gospel, stanza 6 after.



5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us

5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of

5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y. Re - joice! Re - joice!
6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight. Re - joice! Re - joice!

Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 11:2-11

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.**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Following the Gospel, all sing stanza 6 of the gradual hymn.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher

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

9 a.m. Led by Frank Klotz.

Kneeling or standing as you are able.

11 a.m. Led by Chris Janson.

Intercessor Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

People **That we all may be one.**

Intercessor Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

Intercessor We pray 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 St. Thomas' Church, DC; and St. Thomas', Upper Marlboro, and the Chapel of the Incarnation, Brandywine. For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Mariann, our Bishop; Eugene, our Assistant Bishop; and all bishops, priests, and deacons.

People **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

Intercessor We pray for Donald, our President; for the leaders of Congress and the nations, for the Supreme Court, and for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Intercessor Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Intercessor We pray for . . . Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

People **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Intercessor We pray for . . . Give to the departed eternal rest;

People **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Intercessor We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Intercessor We pray for . . . Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence.

Priest Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

Priest Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence.

All **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. 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. A donation via this code can go only to offerings and not to pledges or any other specific funds.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come

Paul Manz (1919–2009)

Sung by the choir.

Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sins, who loved us all and shed his blood that we might saved be. Sing holy, holy to our Lord, the Lord, Almighty God, who was, and is, and is to come; sing holy, holy Lord! Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell within, rejoice on earth, ye saints below, for Christ is coming soon! E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more; they need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ will be their All!

—Revelation 22, adapted by Ruth Manz

HYMN 66 *Sung by all, standing as you are able.*

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Stuttgart*, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

A PRAYER FOR STEWARDSHIP

Said by all.

Gracious and everlasting God, the giver of all good gifts, you have blessed us and our parish abundantly. Grant us the hope to dream and the courage to live into our possibilities. Make us faithful stewards, both for the provision of our necessities and for the relief of those who are in need. Bless the efforts of our annual giving this year to extend the work of spiritual renewal in our church and community of faith. Through Jesus Christ, who gave all of himself, we offer this prayer. Amen.

THE 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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

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

Robert Powell (1932–2025)

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

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

People **We remember his death,
 we proclaim his resurrection,
 we await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all, presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. John and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

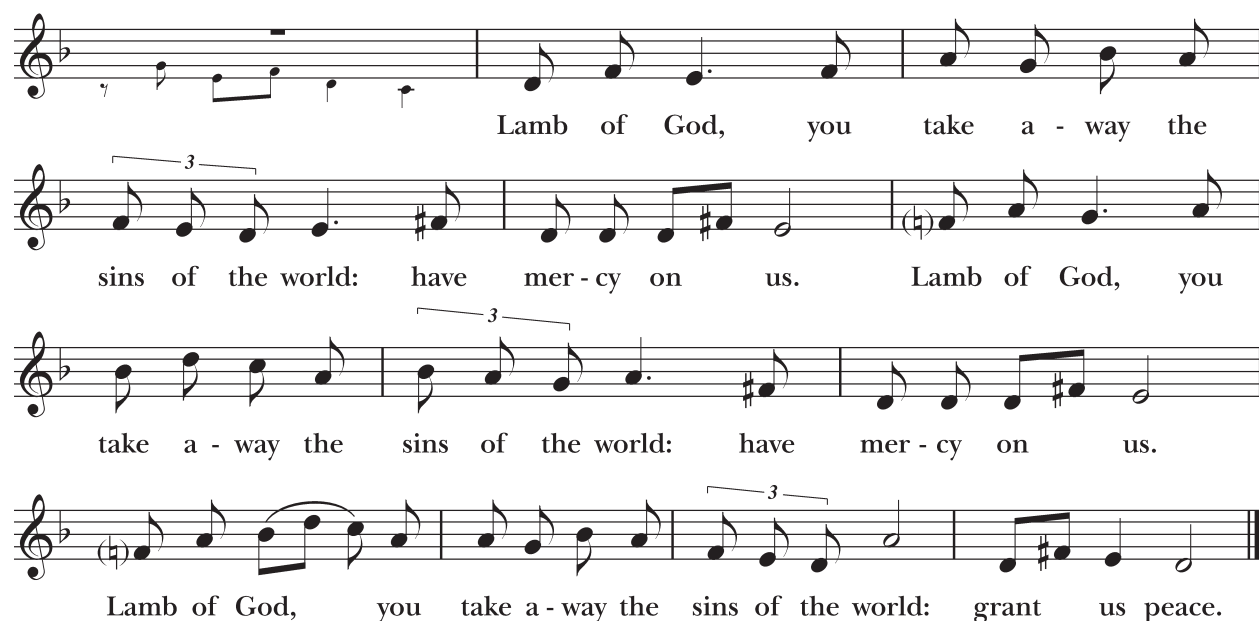
Priest And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a melody with various note values including eighth, quarter, and half notes, as well as rests. There are three triplet markings (indicated by a '3' and a bracket) over the notes 'sins', 'have', and 'grant' in the lyrics.

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

Mercy and truth are met together

Ned Rorem (1923–2023)

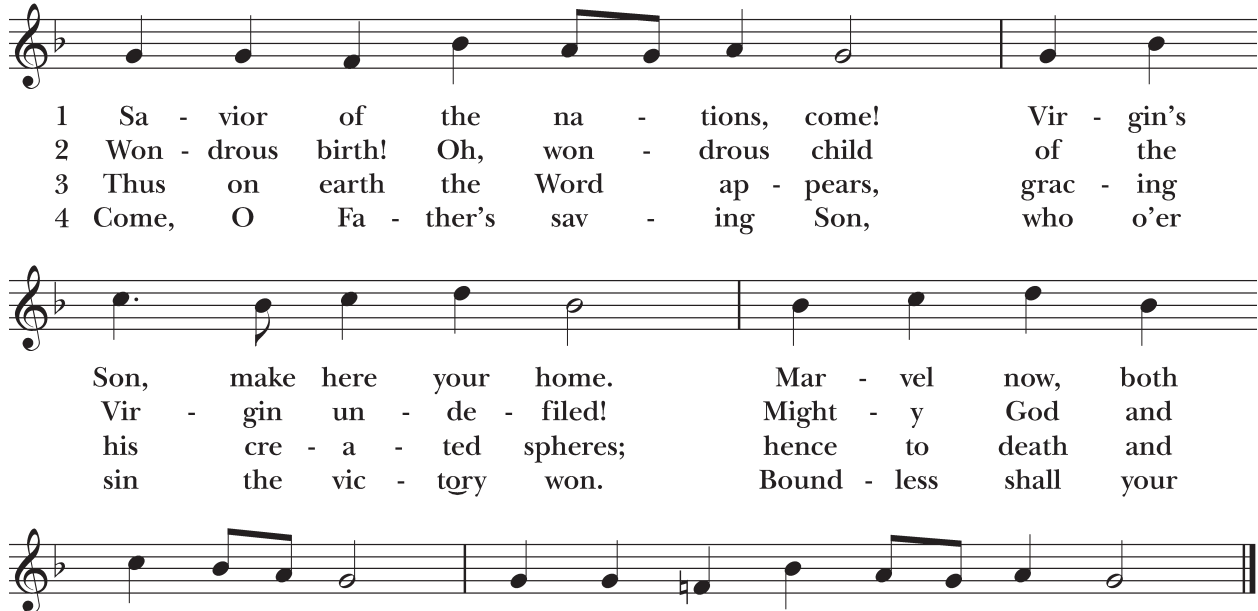
Sung by the choir.

Mercy and truth are met together,
righteousness and peace have kissed.
Truth shall spring out of the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
Yea, the LORD shall show loving-kindness,
and our land shall yield her increase.
Righteousness shall go before him,
and peace shall be the pathway of his steps.

—*Psalms 85:10-13*

HYMN 54 *Sung by all, seated.*

Savior of the nations, come!



1 Sa - vior of the na - tions, come! Vir - gin's
2 Won - drous birth! Oh, won - drous child of the
3 Thus on earth the Word ap - pears, grac - ing
4 Come, O Fa - ther's sav - ing Son, who o'er

Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, both
Vir - gin un - de - filed! Might - y God and
his cre - a - ted spheres; hence to death and
sin the vic - tory won. Bound - less shall your

heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.
Ma - ry's son, ea - ger now his race to run!
hell de - scends, then the heaven - ly throne a - scends.
king - dom be; grant that we its glo - ries see.

Words: Martin Luther (1483-1546) after Ambrose of Milan (340-397); tr. William M. Reynolds (1812-1876) and James Waring McCrady (b. 1938). Sts. 3-4 Copyright © 1982, James Waring McCrady. Music: *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*, melody from *Erfurt Enchiridia*, 1524; harm. Melchior Vulpus (1560?-1616).

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 72

Hark, the glad sound! the Savior comes

Sung by all, standing as you are able.

1 Hark, the glad sound! the Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - oners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the wound - ed
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long! Let ev - ery heart pre -
bond - age held; the gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

pare a throne, and ev - ery voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - bled poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Words: Philip Doddridge (1702–1751). Music: *Richmond*, melody Thomas Haweis (1734–1820); adapt. Samuel Webbe, Jr. (1770–1843); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

THE DISMISSAL

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 661

J.S. Bach

THE ADVENT FRONTAL ON THE ALTAR WAS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD,
and in loving memory of Avedis Thomas Reid Jr., Joseph Browning Reid II, and Richmond Shackleton Reid.

THE GREENS IN THE CHURCH ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD,
and in loving memory of Ottis Hamilton.

ASSISTING AT THE 9 A.M. SERVICE

Jack Reiffer, *Crucifer* | Debby Hailey and Hilary West, *Chalice Bearers*
Robyne Johnston, *Assistant Head Usher* | Kenny Kraft, *Usher*
Eleanor Odom and Susan Valascovic, *Greeters*
Allison Childress, Julia Koster, and Adelle Simmons, *Flower Guild*

ASSISTING AT THE 11 A.M. SERVICE

Anya Kelymenova, *Crucifer* | Powe Rigby and Lily Venzke, *Acolytes*
Sylvia Martin Estes and Matthew Taylor, *Chalice Bearers*
Grant Kraus, *Assistant Head Usher*
Linda Chen, Doug Estes, James Longley, and Randall Roe, *Ushers*
Kim Kennedy and Desirée Stolar, *Greeters*
Allison Childress, Julia Koster, and Adelle Simmons, *Flower Guild*
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 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 December 14

TODAY AT ST. JOHN'S

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

Church School is replaced by an intergenerational activity.

Youth Group will meet at 1:30 p.m. instead of 10 a.m.

Preaching this morning: The Rev. Rob Fisher

- 8 a.m. Eucharist with Sermon
Parish Choir (Parish House Fourth Floor)
- 8:30 a.m. Nursery—available until 12:30 p.m.
(Parish House Second Floor)
- 9 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon
- 10 a.m. Coffee Hour (Plaza, weather permitting,
or Parish House First Floor)
Christmas Cards and Goodie Bags
(Togo West Parlor, see next column)
Adult Bible Study (Parish House Third Floor)
St. John's Choir (Parish House Fourth Floor)
- 11 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon
- Noon Coffee Hour (Plaza, weather permitting,
or Parish House First Floor)
Parish Lunch (see next column)
Church Tour (see next column)
- 1:30 p.m. Youth Holiday Party (see next column)

FLOWER DELIVERIES

Help us brighten the day of parishioners by taking them flowers, located in the side chapel most Sundays of the year. A card is attached to each vase with contact information.

Today flower deliveries are needed to: E Street, NW; Pennsylvania Avenue, NW; and 62nd Street, Bethesda.

INTERGENERATIONAL SERVICE ACTIVITY: Christmas Cards & Goodie Bags | Today at 10 a.m.

Help us spread comfort and joy this holiday season by decorating Christmas cards and assembling goodie bags for unhoused neighbors and guests of Grace's Table feeding ministry in Georgetown. Materials will be provided and parishioners of all ages are invited to participate. This activity will take the place of Church School. Questions? Contact the Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell via our website.

PARISH LUNCH

Today at noon | Hosted by the Lafayette Fellowship

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 is extended to 2 p.m. any Sunday with a parish lunch.

TOUR OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH | Today at noon

For more than 200 years our church has served as a place of worship for a growing and everchanging city and country. Its structure is a lasting testament to Benjamin Henry Latrobe, who, because of his training in both architecture and engineering, is considered by the American Institute of Architects as our country's first architect. If you are interested in an in-person tour of St. John's Church, meet at the front of the church near the baptismal font after the 11 a.m. service. Today's guide is Kevin Cordova-Brookey.

YOUTH HOLIDAY PARTY | Today at 1:30 p.m.

Youth are encouraged to enjoy Parish Lunch after the 11 a.m. service and join us shortly thereafter for a holiday party and Christmas film with popcorn and snacks. You are welcome to bring friends, whether or not they attend church. This activity takes the place of the 10 a.m. formation hour.

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

SERVICE SCHEDULE | *December 15–21*

Monday—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist

Tuesday—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist

Wednesday—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist

Thursday—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist

Friday—12:10 p.m.—Noonday Prayer

Sunday—The Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell, preacher

8 a.m. Eucharist with Sermon

9 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon

11 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon

5:30 p.m. Lessons and Carols for Christmas

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

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Monday, December 15

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

Tuesday, December 16

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

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

Wednesday, December 17

Deadline for Christmas memorials and thanksgivings

4:30 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal

Thursday, December 18

4:30 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal

7 p.m. Parish Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, December 20

10:30 a.m. Grace's Table (see below)

GRACE'S TABLE

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

Upcoming dates: December 20 and January 17

Grace's Table is an outreach partnership between St. John's and Grace Episcopal Church in Georgetown. Every third Saturday of the month, a group from St. John's prepares and serves a meal at Grace to folks who are unhoused or at risk of losing their housing. This is a wonderful opportunity

to get to know other St. John's parishioners and to spread God's loving kindness in our community. Contact leader Elizabeth Field using the Connect: Ministry Directory tab of our website with questions or to volunteer.



HELP DELIVER CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Sunday, December 21

Please plan to deliver at least one Christmas poinsettia to fellow parishioners who cannot be present with us at worship at this time. The plants will be in the Parish House parlors on Sunday, December 21, with cards addressed to parishioners who live near you in Virginia, Maryland, or the District. Give the gift of your time, love, and cheer.



LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 21, at 5:30 p.m.

Join the combined choirs of St. John's for one of our most beloved holiday traditions. Sung in the beauty of a candlelit church, the service begins with the singing of "Once in royal David's city," followed by nine lessons interspersed with carols and choral anthems. Free valet parking will be available starting at 4 p.m. The service will be followed by a reception in the Togo West Parlor. Invite your friends and family to join us for this special holiday offering. The service will also be livestreamed on our website. Please note: We are unable to offer nursery care for this service.



CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS AND THANKSGIVINGS

The poinsettias and evergreens that enhance the beauty of the church and parish house at Christmastide are given by parishioners as memorials for those who have died and as thanksgiving for those who are living. Please consider remembering those who are important to you. The suggested donation is \$50 per name. Your support of this important ministry is greatly appreciated. **The deadline for inclusion in the Christmas order of service is Wednesday, December 17.**

To pay by check, please enclose your completed form with a check payable to St. John's Church, and return it to Sharlyne "Charley" Griffin in the Parish Office with "Christmas Flowers" noted on the outside of the envelope—or simply place this form with your check in the offering plate on Sunday.

You may also make your payment online at bit.ly/SJCLGive. Choose "Special Flowers" from the dropdown menu. Under memo, list the name(s) and indicate whether your gift is in memory of or in thanksgiving for.

In memory of _____

In thanksgiving for _____

Your name _____

Address _____

Phone number _____ Amount _____

Mail to: St. John's Church ♦ 1525 H Street, NW ♦ Washington, DC 20005 ♦ Attention: Charley Griffin
Please contact the Parish Office at 202-347-8766 if you have questions.

CHRISTMAS EVE, CHRISTMAS DAY, AND DECEMBER 28



Visit www.stjohns-dc.org for news and the full calendar of upcoming services, events, and holiday office closures.

THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

December 24 at 4:30 p.m. (Musical prelude starts at 4 p.m.)
Rehearsal: Sunday, December 21, at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

The annual Christmas Pageant will take place on Christmas Eve beginning at 4:30 p.m. Children ages three and up are invited to participate in the pageant as an Angel, Shepherd, or Friendly Beast. Come 30 minutes early to enjoy a prelude of anthems and carols before the start of the service. All children who wish to participate should attend rehearsal on Sunday, December 21, at 10 a.m. Please contact the Rev. Sarah Akers-Cardwell via the About: Leadership tab of our website for more information.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

4:30 p.m. Pageant & Choral Eucharist with Choir & Harp

7 p.m. Festal Choral Eucharist with Strings—
The Rev. Rob Fisher, preacher

10 p.m. Festal Choral Eucharist with Incense and
Strings—The Rev. Rob Fisher, preacher

Nursery available for the 4:30 p.m. service only.

*Each service on Christmas Eve will be preceded by
30 minutes of carols and music. Come early and enjoy!*

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist—The Rev. Will Morris, preacher

No valet parking available on Christmas Day.

*The Parish Office will close after the service and remain closed
through Monday, December 29.*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

8 a.m. Eucharist with Sermon

9 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon

11 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon

Preaching at all services will be the Rev. Rob Fisher.

*No nursery, Church School, or Youth Group offerings.
Children's Chapel **will** be offered.*

*The Church and Parish Office will close at 1 p.m. on December 31
and remain closed all day on Wednesday, January 1.*

STEWARDSHIP

PLEASE MAKE A 2026 PLEDGE TO ST. JOHN'S

As of Tuesday, December 9, we had received 221 pledges, totaling commitments of \$950,406 for 2026.

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

Pledge envelopes are available for pickup at the reception desk.

THE 1816 SOCIETY

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

HERE'S ANOTHER WAY TO GIVE

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

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

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

YEAR-END MATCHING GIFTS

Here's how to make your gift to St. John's do a bit more

Many employers in the area want to make a positive impact in the community by offering matching gifts for various charitable programs. Matches are mostly focused around community support, education, and other 501(c)(3) entities, with gifts handled through portals such as Benevity, DoubleTheDonation, Global Giving, and YourCause.

To find out whether your organization has a matching gift program, please contact your company's corporate giving officer, who can help you navigate the gift portal and make sure that St. John's is listed as a verified recipient. (You can also contact the Parish Office for assistance.) Using your company's matching gifts program is a wonderful, easy way to make a meaningful difference at and through St. John's.

COMING UP IN THE NEW YEAR

THREE KINGS' PROCESSION

Sunday, January 4, at 11 a.m.

We will celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany on January 4 with our annual, costumed procession to "We three kings of Orient are." Members of the choir will play the kings, and young people from our congregation will accompany them as the star and pages. Join us for this special offering during the 11 a.m. service. *Note: This service will include incense.*

HELP US RING IN THE NEW YEAR

Sunday, January 4, at noon

On Sunday, January 4, after the 11 a.m. service, we are hosting a special Three Kings-themed parish potluck. You are invited to bring your favorite New Year's or Epiphany dish—or any other favorite food—to share as we celebrate the arrival of the magi and mark the beginning of 2026.

LATROBE YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

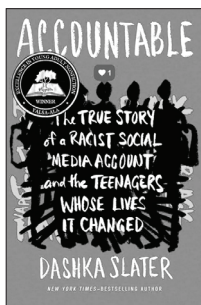
Wednesday, January 7, at 6:30 p.m.

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. Contact the Rev. Eric Bailey, our minister for youth and young adults, via the About: Leadership tab of our website for more information.

ST. JOHN'S BOOK GROUP

Thursday, January 8, at 7 p.m.

Please join us via Zoom to discuss *Accountable: The True Story of a Racist Social Media Account and the Teenagers Whose Lives It Changed* by Dashka Slater. This award-winning book raises difficult questions about accountability and the very real harm that can be caused from behind a screen. 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.



February 8: Ronald C. White, best-selling author on Abraham Lincoln and Ulysses S. Grant, will kick off our annual three-part presidential series, this year focusing on John Quincy Adams, our nation's sixth president.

NEWS & NOTICES

THANKS FOR HELPING HUNGRY FAMILIES!

Through the Thanksgiving season, St. John's parishioners contributed close to \$1,000 in supermarket gift cards, which went right out to some of the neediest families helped by Communities in Schools of the Nation's Capital. Thanks to all of you for the love and care you have shown.

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. Upcoming dates for baptism and required pre-baptismal classes with the clergy at St. John's include:

Sunday, January 11, 2026, at 11 a.m.

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

Sunday, February 15, at 9 a.m.

Class: Saturday, February 14, at 10 a.m.

Sunday, April 12, at 9 a.m.

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

HEARING AID RECYCLING DRIVE

Place donations in the box near the reception desk

As you may be aware, hearing aids are extremely expensive. One study conducted by the National Institutes of Health determined that hearing aids were unaffordable for three-fourths of Americans with functional hearing loss. And the evidence is clear that hearing affects mental acuity as we age. For his Eagle Scout project, Cooper Thesmar is organizing the collection of hearing aid devices that are no longer needed, which will be cleaned, restored or refurbished, and given to those in need. All brands, models, and ages are welcome, and donation receipts can be provided on request.



PHOTO: PAUL LEW/Flickr/CC-BY-NC-ND 2.0

EPIPHANYTIDE LESSONS AND CAROLS

Sunday, January 18, at 5:30 p.m.

The combined professional choirs of St. John's, Lafayette Square, and Christ Church, Georgetown, will offer a joint service of Epiphanytide Lessons and Carols at St. John's on Sunday, January 18. The service includes readings interspersed with seasonal hymns and choral anthems. A reception follows. We hope you'll join us for this annual collaboration with a neighboring parish as we observe the joyous season of Epiphany.

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.

January 25: Vestry Candidates Presentation. Hear from those seeking election to the Vestry, in preparation to cast your vote at Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 1.

PARISH LUNCH SCHEDULE AND HOSTS

Most Sundays after the 11 a.m. service

The Sunday lunch tradition relies on volunteers to prepare and serve the meal—which is why we encourage individuals, families, groups, or ministries to host at least once per program year. Hosts may be reimbursed for expenses or receive a tax receipt. Not sure what's involved? Want to claim a future date? Contact Parish Lunch coordinator Holly Sukenik at stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory.

December 14	Lafayette Fellowship
December 21	<i>No Lunch</i>
December 28	<i>No Lunch</i>
January 4	Three Kings' Day Potluck (see page 5)
January 11	Latrobe Fellowship
January 18	
January 25	St. John's Book Group
February 1	Annual Meeting and Reception
February 8	Refugee Committee
February 15	Will Yale, Craig & Barbara Burkhardt, Karen Zachary, and Miller Winecoff
February 22	Bishop Walker School

FEDERAL WORKERS | Giving or receiving support

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

NEW SECURITY MEASURES AT ST. JOHN'S

St. John's identity as a congregation is shaped by our urban location in the nation's capital. We seek to welcome all to our services and activities, treating everyone with dignity. We are also mindful of ensuring the safety and well-being of all who worship in our facilities. In coordination with the Vestry and our Usher Guild, we have hired security personnel to attend our Sunday and holiday/special services. They will provide a low-key, proactive presence and respond quickly and respectfully to any arising situations in coordination with our ushers, staff, and, as needed, law enforcement/first responders. We will provide additional training for our staff, who interact with the public every day, and our ushers, so they have shared approaches for all who come to our church. Fortunately, we are able to take these

steps prayerfully and proactively, and as we go forward we will continue to assess what best serves our church's needs.

FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

NURSERY HOURS

Sundays, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Infants and children are welcome at all worship services. Nursery care is also available most Sundays for infants and children up to age three. The nursery meets in the Godly Play Classroom #2 on the second floor of the Parish House.

CHURCH SCHOOL CLASSES

Sundays, 10–10:50 a.m., from September through May

Children in pre-K through fifth grade may participate in Church School on the second floor of the Parish House. For information, contact the Rev. Sarah Akers-Cardwell via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

YOUTH GROUP

Sundays, 10–10:50 a.m., from September through May

Most Sundays from September through May, middle and high school youth are invited to the second floor of the Parish House for an exploration of life and faith with their peers. Questions? Contact the Rev. Eric Bailey via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Sundays during the sermon at 9 and 11 a.m. worship

Most Sundays, kids from birth through grade 5 are invited to participate in a special liturgy just for them during the sermon at 9 and 11 a.m. services. Children gather by the pulpit during the gradual hymn and process to the Parish House for a song, homily, and prayer time, returning to the sanctuary at the Peace. Parents may accompany their children and are encouraged to do so for those younger than three. Children are also welcome to stay and worship in the main sanctuary. Questions? Contact the Rev. Sarah Akers-Cardwell via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

THE ACOLYTE MINISTRY | September through May

Youth in 6th grade and above are welcome to participate during worship services, serving as torch bearers or crucifers and helping set the altar for communion. Contact Vincent Scauzzo via stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory for details.

CHORISTER PROGRAM | September through May

We offer a choir for children and youth with unchanged (treble) voices. Through a custom-made curriculum, singers receive training in sight reading, vocal production, music theory, liturgy, and leadership, and become part of a vibrant community of music makers. To learn more or express interest, contact Brent Erstad via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

REMINDERS

ONLINE OFFERINGS TO DESIGNATED FUNDS

To make a monetary offering toward your pledge or a specific fund, scan the QR code at right, or visit our website, then select the desired destination using the “Fund” drop-down menu.



ADULT BIBLE STUDY | Most Sundays at 10 a.m.

This group gathers most Sunday mornings, using a hybrid approach, with some joining via Zoom and others in person. Conversations explore the connections with the Sunday lectionary lessons and sermons. We are currently studying the first chapters of Matthew, and the book of Genesis. For information, notes, and the Zoom link, contact Jack Reiffer via the Ministry Directory at stjohs-dc.org.

Note: No Bible study on Sundays, December 21 or 28.

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.stjohs-dc.org, and contact the leaders via our online Ministry Directory for details or to sign up.

FLOWER MEMORIALS AND THANKSGIVINGS

Flowers in the church and Parish House are made possible by gifts and are often dedicated to the memory of a loved one or to mark a birth or birthday, wedding, anniversary, graduation, or other special event. To make a dedication, pick up a flower card at the entrance to the church and return it either to the offering plate or to Sharlyne “Charley” Griffin in the Parish Office.

LIVESTREAMED SERVICES

The weekly 11 a.m. Sunday service is broadcast on our website and available for replay, as are evensongs and occasional other special services and events.

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

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

THOSE WHO ARE SICK, RECOVERING, OR GRIEVING

From our parish: Margo Arnold, Cay Buser, Pat Czerwonky, Hyman Field, and Mary Wilson.

Friends and family of our parish: Alvin Atlas (Richard Metzger), Conor Barry (Sarah Wood), Billy Beardsley Conderman (Margo Arnold), Robert Bliss (Katherine Bliss and Mark Dennis), Gisela Block (Sigi Block), Jim DeBello (Grace Barrett), Walt Eccard (Margaret Depue), Ed Eder (Joanne and Powell Hutton), Sue Edmonds (Sarah and Jeff Agnew), Julie Ellis (Preston Cherouny), Laurie Feldon (Eleanor and Peter Odom), Blair Fiore (Debby Hailey), Peggy Fisher (Debby Hailey), Bob and Heather Gilbert (Andrea Winchell), Chantay Griffin (Charley Griffin and Gee Gee Bryant), Linda Young Gsell (Rick Young), Morgan Hickenlooper (Livy More), Doug Holy (Joanne Hutton), Jack (Marta Cook and Cal Trepagnier), Latithia and Charles Jones (GeeGee Bryant), Sean Josey (Bill and Sara Josey), Charlotte Crowley Junilla (Margo Arnold), Olivia Kehoe (Kat Kehoe), Gregory Lawler (Richard Metzger),

Elizabeth Lee (Clayton Crawford), William hymn to them Markiewicz (Matthew Taylor), Jim Martella (Livy More), Tammy McCleaf (Matthew Taylor), Nell Montgomery (Brandon Montgomery), Teri Nelson (Lisa Koehler), Ann Petrosky (Johnathan Miller), Scott (Marta Cook and Cal Trepagnier), Connor Smith (Patrick and Cameron Smith), Pam Snyder (Sarah Agnew), Nancy Stephenson (Ann and John Gardner), Patsy Swain (Margo Arnold), Sallie and William Wilkie Thompson (Cecelia Thompson), Ashley Smith Thomson (Marta Cook and Cal Trepagnier), Mackenzie Toland (Wendy J. Fibison), Caleb Williams (Alfred Thesmar), Darrel Williams (Caleb and James Hays-Reilly), Edward Leland Williams II (Virginia Bader), Bess Williamson (Wendy Fibison), Andrew Woods (Johnathan Miller), Linda Woolley (Blount and Charlotte Stewart), and Judith York (Caroline Fisher).

THOSE WHO ARE IN ASSISTED LIVING

From our parish: Eve Atkeson, Milton Chamberlain, Marcella Odom, and Becky Schergens.

Friends and family of our parish: David Brown (Lisa Koehler), Bob Chrystal, Sr. (Chris Jones), Veronica Jones (Chris Jones), Lori LaPoint (Brent Erstad), 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); and Tony VanZanten (Jack Reiffer).

THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN BORN

From our parish: Caroline Jane Holder, November 28 (Katie and Paul Holder, and big brother, Peter).

THOSE IN OUR PARISH CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY

Christopher Alora, Charles Bader, Cecily Cutshall, Linda Gaines, Debby Hailey, Joanne Hutton, Emmanuel Lagera, Grant Lucio, RJ Lyerly, Randall Roe, Marie Sadqi, Sandy Sierck, and Leeza Wheeler.

THOSE IN OUR PARISH CELEBRATING AN ANNIVERSARY

Clayton and Lauren Crawford, Jim and Pat Czerwonky, Jim and Lisa Kirchenbauer, and Michael and Nayla Mengel.

THOSE ON THE FRONT LINES

Friends and family of our parish: Janie Abernethy (Elizabeth Lewis and David Abernethy), Philip L. Faris (Caroline and Steve Faris), and Charles Lewis, Jr. (Charles Lewis, Sr.).

LIST OF 2026 PLEDGERS

On behalf of the rector, wardens, vestry, and all who share in the grace of God through the worship, ministries, programs, and outreach of St. John's Church, we thank the following for their pledges for the year 2026:

(As of December 9, 2025)

Anonymous (10)
Alison Adkins
Kingsley Afemikhe
Sarah & Amanda Akes-Cardwell
Tony Anikeeff & Tung-lin Wu
Douglas & Margo Arnold
Gale Arnold
Eric Bailey
Jordan & Angelle Baugh
Robert Beizer
Murray J. Belman
Kathleen Benner
William & Martha Birdseye
Diane Bitsberger
Marion Blakey & Bill Dooley
Paul Bledsoe & Celia Boddington
Matthew Bode & Laurie Adams

Jeff Bozman
Krista & Larry Bradley
Sydney Brooks
Craig & Barbara Burkhardt
Meghan & Douglas Burt
Rick Busch
Carolyn Buser
Susan Cardwell
Mark Cardwell & Paul Ramos
Andrea Charters
Virginia Chew
Carlye Christianson & Pascal Joly
Andrew Clarke & Chip Sherrill
Gwinneth Ann Clarkson
Ann Compton Hughes
Brian & Kevin Cordova-Brookey
Margaret J. Craft

Joseph Creech
Nicole & Stephen Crochet
Garry & Patricia Dalby
Betsy Danello
William E. Davis
Justin Dean
Mark Dennis & Katherine Bliss
Clayton & Margaret Depue
John Derrick
Anita & George Diliberto
Deb Dornemann
Joan & Jim Doty
Mike & Beth DuMond
Diana Duke Duncan
James Eastwood
Janet Edmond
Kaye Edwards

Lauren Edwards
 Rob & Anna Ehrich
 Martha Ellison
 Clark Ervin & Carolyn Harris
 Le & Casey Evans
 Allison Herron Eydt
 Caroline & Steve Faris
 Wendy J. Fibison
 Hyman Field
 Elizabeth Field
 Rob Fisher & Sarah Wood
 Art & Louise Fisher
 Alex Frye
 Deborah & Jay Fuller
 Ellie Fullerton
 Linda Gaines
 Elizabeth Gallalee
 David Gallalee
 John & Ann Gardner
 Chris & Elizabeth Gardner
 Carrie & Jim Garland
 Kay Gilley
 Seth Gilmore
 Donald & Ronnie Goodheart
 Ginny Griggs
 Richard & Jeanne Grimmett
 Stephanie & Greg Guyett
 Sandra Hackworth
 Deborah Hailey
 Peter Hailey
 Budd & Susan Jess Hallberg
 Christina Hannah
 Peter & Summer Hardinge
 Robert & Anne Harrington
 Fruzsina Harsanyi
 Diane Hauslein
 Caleb Hays & James Reilly
 Tim & Susan Heil
 Laura & John Herzog
 Robert & Tammi Hoback
 Pamela Howard
 Powell & Joanne Hutton
 Marlene Ikeda
 John Peters Irelan
 Cindy Jiang
 Bruce & Georgia Johnson
 Ethan Johnson
 Wande Johnson
 Austin Johnson
 Katie Johnson & Nate Rawlings
 Robyne Johnston
 Felton Johnston
 Bill & Sara Josey
 Bill & Ann Kaye

Carter & Fran Keithley
 Graham & Robin Keithley
 William T. Kendall
 Tracy Lee Kendall
 Kim Kennedy & Beverly Roberts
 Anne & Loren Kieve
 David Kieve & Kate Bedingfield
 Claire Kim & Jess Unger
 Lisa & James Kirchenbauer
 Anya Kleyменова
 Frank & Nancy Klotz
 Elizabeth Koehler
 Liz & Jon Kosobucki
 Julia Koster
 Kevin Kozlowski & Lara Kanitra
 Kenny Kraft
 Grant Kraus
 Patricia Leslie
 Grace Limoncelli & Philip Kuhn
 James Longley
 John & Emily Lucio
 Jan Lupton
 Chip & RJ Lyerly
 Middleton Martin
 Sherill Mason
 Abbott McCartney & Sigi Block
 Clayton McCleskey
 Saunders & Joan McElroy
 Judson McIntire
 Sylvia McKinley
 Andy McKinnon
 Matthew McMurray & Christine Kennedy
 Richard Metzger
 Nathan & Kelly Miller
 Johnathan S. Miller
 Livy More
 John & Catherine Morefield
 Gregory & Elizabeth Morrison
 Rob Mosbacher, Jr.
 Michele & Jim Mullins
 Jack Musso
 Dick & Joy Nathan
 Chris Northrup
 Peter & Eleanor Odom
 Lydia & Ralph Olson
 Ucheora & Nkem Onwuamaegbu
 Owen & Felicia Owunwanne
 Matthew L. Paeffgen
 Robert D. Pahnke
 Sharon Park
 Cami Pease & Matt Martone
 Raymond & Susan Petniunas
 Larry Pettinger
 Natalie Popovic

Richard Price & Yung Chang
 William Priest
 Philip Priest
 Kelly & Tricia Pulsifer
 Will Rabbe & Brittany Prime
 Carl & Mary Raether
 Allie Raether Ganjian & Ali Ganjian
 Luis J. Ramos-Chacon
 Hwa Cha Redman
 Sarah & Avo Reid
 Jack Reiffer
 Harker & Geraldine Rhodes
 Hap & Nora Rigby
 Steve & Susan Roehrich
 Chase Rynd
 Jessica & Alex Sanchez
 KayAnn & Brian Schoeneman
 John & Zachary Schutz
 Susan & Sandy Sierck
 Will & Annie Simonds
 Jeremy Skog
 Alex Smith
 Peter Spaulding
 John Staples & Scott Raspa
 Ken & Susan Starling
 Anne D. Stewart
 Toby Stock & Margy Slattery
 Alex Stolar
 Desirée Davis Stolar
 Catherine Stolar
 Hillary & Tim Stuart
 Holly & John Sukenik
 Matthew Taylor
 Riley Temple
 Alfred & Hilary Thesmar
 Marianne Thomas
 Cal Trepagnier & Marta Cook
 Kyle Trombley & Ryan Bash
 Frances Stevenson Tyler
 Susan Valaskovic
 Ryan Wagner
 Christopher Wall
 Alis Wang & Amy Stulman
 Susan Welch
 Gail Berry West
 Hilary West
 Trey & Amy Whitworth
 Emma Wilson
 Anita Woehler
 William Yale
 Zhijun Yang
 Karen Zachary
 JoAnn Zuercher & Glenn Reichardt

WELCOME!

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

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

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

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

Vestry Leadership & Members

Nora Rigby, *Senior Warden*

Alfred Thesmar, *Junior Warden*

Tony Anikeeff, Brian Cordova-Brookey,
Kaye Edwards, Casey Evans, Debby Hailey,
Fruzsina Harsanyi, Julia Koster,
Ucheora Onwuamaegbu, Jack Reiffer,
Matthew Taylor, and Jess Unger, *Members*

Nora Haugh, *Treasurer*

Anya Kleymenova, *Assistant Treasurer*

Allie Raether, *Secretary*

Harker Rhodes, *Parish Counsel*

Head Usher—James H. Czerwonky

Head Greeters—Eleanor and Peter Odom

Heads of Flower Guild

Pat Dalby and Katherine Kyle

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher, *Rector*

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

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

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

Brent Erstad, *Director of Music and Organist*

Linda Morgan Stowe and John Chappell Stowe,
Interim Assistant Organists

Preston Cherouny, *Chief Operating Officer*

Charley Griffin, *Parish Administrator*

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

Javier Obregon, *Sexton*

GeeGee Bryant, David Gamboa, and John Queen,
Assistant Sextons

Anne Stone, *Publications*

ST. JOHN'S MISSION STATEMENT

St. John's shines as a beacon of God's love through faith, worship, care, and community,
and offers a place of grace at our historic corner in the nation's capital.

Parish House

1525 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005-1005
(202) 347-8766 ♦ www.stjohns-dc.org