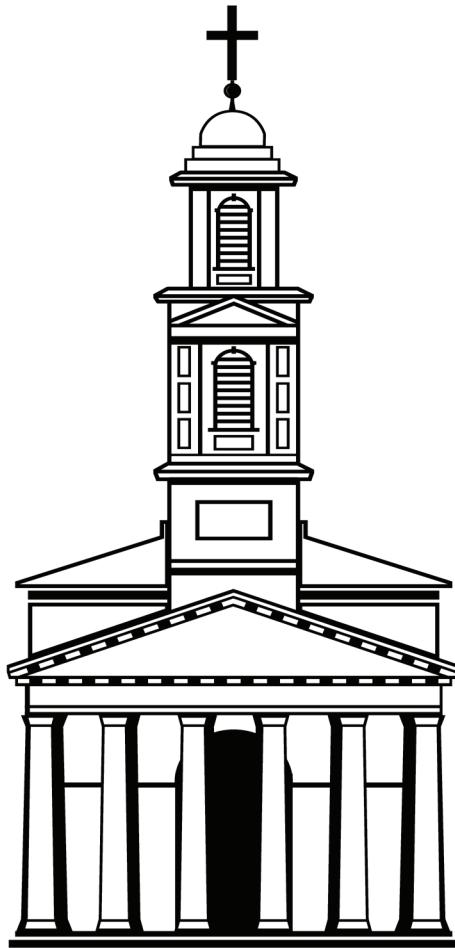


A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR EPIPHANYTIDE

January 18, 2026 ♦ 5:30 p.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**.*

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.

VOLUNTARY

Two settings of *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*

Georg Philipp Telemann
(1681–1767)

Niels Gade (1817–1890)

INTROIT

Please remain seated. Sung by the choir.

Surge, illuminare, Jerusalem

Adapted from a Magnificat by
G.P. da Palestrina (1525–1594)

V. Arise, shine, O Jerusalem:
R. For thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

V. We have seen his star in the East:
R. And are come with gifts to worship him.

V. The kings of Tharsis and the isles shall give presents:
R. The kings of Arabia and Saba shall bring gifts.

V. All kings shall fall down before him:
R. All nations shall do him service.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

V. Arise, shine, O Jerusalem:
R. For the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

—*Matin Responsory for the Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ*

HYMN

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!

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

1. O wor - ship the Lord in the beau - ty of ho - li - ness!
 2. Low at his feet lay the bur - den of care - ful - ness,
 3. Fear not to en - ter his courts in the slen - der - ness
 4. These, though we bring them in trem - bling and fear - ful - ness,
 5. O wor - ship the Lord in the beau - ty of ho - li - ness!

Bow down be - fore him, his glo - ry pro - claim;
 High on his heart he will bear it for thee,
 of the poor wealth thou wouldst reck - on as thine:
 he will ac - cept for the name that is dear;
 Bow down be - fore him, his glo - ry pro - claim;

With gold of o - be - dience, and in - cense of low - li - ness,
 Com - fort thy sor - rows, and an - swer thy prayer - ful - ness,
 Truth in its beau - ty, and love in its ten - der - ness,
 morn - ings of joy give for eve - nings of tear - ful - ness,
 With gold of o - be - dience, and in - cense of low - li - ness,

kneel and a - dore him, the Lord is his name!
 Guid - ing thy steps as may best for thee be.
 These are the offer - ings to lay on his shrine.
 trust for our trem - bling and hope for our fear.
 kneel and a - dore him, the Lord is his name!

Words: John Samuel Bewley Monsell (1811–1875). Music: *Was lebet*, melody from *Choral-Buch vor Johann Heinrich Reinhardt*, 1754; harm Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958).

BIDDING PRAYER

Read by the Rev. Robert W. Fisher.

Please remain standing as you are able.

Priest Beloved, in this Epiphanytide, let it be our care and delight to celebrate with joy the appearance of God's glory in the world through the birth of Christ Jesus, who is Emmanuel, God with us. Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the words of the prophet Isaiah unto the glorious Redemption brought us by his holy Child; from the visit of the Magi, who offered gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, unto the Transfiguration on the holy mount, through which he revealed to chosen witnesses his well-beloved Son; and let us rejoice in the Word made flesh, who called us out of darkness into light, with hymns and songs of praise. But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which Christ died, and especially in this country and within this city. And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless; the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love. Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself taught us.

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.

Priest The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. Amen.

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 60:1-6

The prophet foretells the revelation of God's glory to diverse peoples.

Read by Debbie Nichols.

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

CAROL

O radiant dawn

James MacMillan (b. 1959)

Sung by the choir.

O radiant dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: Come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. Isaiah had prophesied, “The people who walked in darkness have seen the great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.” Amen.

—*Antiphon for Advent*

THE SECOND LESSON

Luke 2:1-17

*Angels reveal news of Christ's birth to shepherds abiding in the field.**Read by Riley Temple.*

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

HYMN 117

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning

Sung by all, standing as you are able.

1 Bright - est and best of the stars of the stars of the morn - ing,
 2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing,
 3 Shall we then yield him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion,
 4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple o - bla - tion,
 5 Bright - est and best of the stars of the stars of the morn - ing,

1 dawn on our dark - ness, and lend us thine aid;
 2 low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
 3 o - dors of E - dom, and of - ferings di - vine,
 4 vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure,
 5 dawn on our dark - ness, and lend us thine aid;

1 star of the east, the hor - i - zon a - dorn - ing,
 2 an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,
 3 gems of the moun - tain, and pearls of the o - cean,
 4 rich - er by far is the heart's a - dor - a - tion,
 5 star of the east, the hor - i - zon a - dorn - ing,

1 guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.
 2 Ma - ker and Mon - arch and Sa - vior of all.
 3 myrrh from the for - est, and gold from the mine?
 4 dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.
 5 guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.

Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826), alt. Music: *Morning Star*, James Proctor Harding (1850-1911).

Please be seated.

THE THIRD LESSON

A star reveals news of Christ's birth to wise men from the East.

Matthew 2:1-12

Read by David Straut.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’” Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

CAROL

Sung by the choir.

*Videntes stellam Magi
gavisi sunt gaudio magno:
et intrantes domum
obtulerunt Domino aurum,
thus et myrrham.*

Videntes stellam

Francis Poulenc (1899–1963)

Seeing the star, the wise men
were overwhelmed with great joy;
and entering the dwelling,
they offered to the Lord
gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

—*Ambrosian Chant*

THE FOURTH LESSON

Matthew 2:13-18

The Holy Family takes refuge in Egypt.

Read by the Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell.

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.” When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: “A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

CAROL

The Magi's Dream

James Whitbourn (1963–2024)

Sung by the choir.

Night has come to Bethlehem, the family is asleep
exhausted by the wonders seen, the news outrageous, deep.
“That I may come and worship him.”

Ox and ass have closed their eyes, their ears now hear no sound.
Shepherds have gone back to their flocks, the mouse still noses around.
“That I may come and worship him.”

Kings have left for their distant lands, fractious camels moan.
At a desert spring they make their farewells. “It's a mighty way to home!”
“That I may come and worship him.”

Later that night their heads are filled with a dream-drenched holy ray.
“Do not return to Herod the king. Go back another way.”
“That I may come and worship him.”

And so our Christ is saved from death, his mission to complete,
to change the world by selfless love, Satan's legions to beat.

—Robert Tear (1939–2011)

THE FIFTH LESSON

Read by Andrew Sigler.

A passage from “For the Time Being: A Christmas Oratorio” by W. H. Auden.

Fly, Holy Family, from our immediate rage, that our future may be freed from our past; retrace the footsteps of law-giving Moses, back through the sterile waste, down to the rotten kingdom of Egypt, the damp tired delta where in her season of glory our forefathers sighed in bondage; abscond with the Child to the place that their children dare not revisit, to the time they do not care to remember; hide from our pride in our humiliation; fly from our death with our new life.

He is the Way. Follow him through the Land of Unlikeness; you will see rare beasts and have unique adventures. He is the Truth. Seek him in the Kingdom of Anxiety: you will come to a great city that has expected your return for years. He is the Life. Love him in the World of the Flesh: and at your marriage all its occasions shall dance for joy.

Here endeth the reading.

HYMN 463

He is the Way

Sung by all, standing as you are able.

Words: W. H. Auden (1907-1973). Reprinted by permission of Faber and Faber, Ltd. from *Collected Poems* by W.H. Auden.
Music: *Hall*, David Hurd, (b. 1950). Copyright © 1985, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

Please be seated.

THE SIXTH LESSON

The Lord returns to his temple and is recognized by the aged Simeon.

Luke 2:22-32

Read by Debby Hailey.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.” Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

CAROL

Nunc dimittis, from *Third Service*

Thomas Tomkins (1572–1656)

Sung by the choir.

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

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

—*The Song of Simeon, Luke 2:29-32*

THE SEVENTH LESSON

Christ’s identity is revealed at his baptism in the river Jordan.

Matthew 3:13-17

Read by the Rev. Andrew Stump.

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

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

CAROL

Joys Seven

arr. Stephen Cleobury (1948–2019)

Sung by the choir.

The first good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of one,
to see the blessed Jesus Christ, when he was first her son,
when he was first her son, good man, and blessed may he be,
both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, through all eternity.

The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of two,
to see her own son, Jesus Christ, to make the lame to go,
to make the lame to go, good man, and blessed may he be,
both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, through all eternity.

The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of three,
to see her own son Jesus Christ to make the blind to see,
to make the blind to see, good man, and blessed may he be,
both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, through all eternity.

The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of four,
to see her own son Jesus Christ to read the bible o'er,
to read the bible o'er, good man, and blessed may he be,
both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, through all eternity.

The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of five,
to see her own son Jesus Christ to bring the dead alive,
to bring the dead alive, good man, and blessed may he be,
both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, through all eternity.

The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of six,
to see her own son Jesus Christ upon the crucifix,
upon the crucifix, good man, and blessed may he be,
both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, through all eternity.

The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of seven,
to see her own son Jesus Christ to wear the Crown of Heaven,
to wear the Crown of Heaven, good man, and blessed may he be,
both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, through all eternity.

—Traditional English carol

THE EIGHTH LESSON

John 2:1-11

*Christ's power is revealed through his first
sign at a marriage in Cana of Galilee.*

Read by the Rev. Eric Bailey.

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out,

and take it to the chief steward.” So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

HYMN 138

All praise to you, O Lord

Sung by all, standing as you are able.

1 All praise to you, O Lord, who by your might - y power did
2 You speak, and it is done; o - be-dient to your word, the
3 Oh, may this grace be ours: in you al - ways to live and
4 So, led from strength to strength, grant us, O Lord, to see the

man - i - fest your glo - ry forth in Ca - na's mar - riage hour.
wa - ter red - dening in - to wine pro - claims the pres - ent Lord.
drink of those re - fresh - ing streams which you a - lone can give.
mar - riage sup - per of the Lamb, the great e - piph - a - ny.

Words: Hyde W. Beeson (1812-1891), alt. Music: *Carlisle*, Charles Lockhart (1745-1815).

Please be seated.

THE NINTH LESSON

Matthew 17:1-9

Christ's glory is revealed on the Mount of Transfiguration.

Read by the Rev. Timothy A.R. Cole.

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to

him!” When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

CAROL

Beautiful Savior

arr. F. Melius Christiansen (1871–1955)

Sung by the choir:

Fair are the meadows, fairer the woodlands,
robed in flow’rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the Nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
now and for evermore be thine!

—*Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677*



RECTOR’S WELCOME

An offering will be collected during the singing of the anthem. You may make an offering by placing your donation in the plate or using this QR code to pay electronically. A donation via this code can go only to offerings and not to pledges or any other specific funds.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Lo! star-led chiefs

William Crotch (1775–1847)

Sung by the choir:

Lo! star-led chiefs Assyrian odors bring,
and bending Magi seek their infant King!
Mark’d ye, where, hovering o’er his head,
the dove’s white wings celestial glory shed?

—*From the oratorio “Palestine,” words by Reginald Heber (1783–1826)*

COLLECTS

Please stand as you are able.

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Let us pray.

O God, who by the leading of a star didst manifest thy only-begotten Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know thee now by faith, to thy presence, where we may behold thy glory face to face; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Almighty God, who by the hand of Moses thy servant didst lead thy people out of slavery, and didst make them free at last: Grant that thy Church, following the example of thy prophet Martin Luther King, may resist oppression in the name of thy love, and may strive to secure for all thy children the blessed liberty of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

VESPER RESPONSORY

Ecce advenit dominator Dominus

Please remain standing as able. Sung by the choir.

Adapted from a Magnificat
by G.P. da Palestrina

- V.* Behold the Lord, the ruler is come:
- R.* In his hands are the Kingdom, dominion, and power.
- V.* Give the King thy judgements, O God:
- R.* And thy righteousness unto the King's Son.
- V.* All they from Saba shall come:
- R.* They shall bring gold and incense, and they shall shew forth the praises of the Lord.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
- V.* Behold the Lord, the ruler is come:
- R.* In his hands are the Kingdom, dominion, and power.

—*Vesper Responsory for the Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ*

BLESSING

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen.

HYMN 135 *Sung by all.*

Songs of thankfulness and praise

1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Jes - us, Lord, to thee we raise,
 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Pro - phet, Priest, and King su - preme;
 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul;
 4 Man - i - fest on moun - tain height, shin - ing in re - splen-dent light,

man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far;
 and at Ca - na, wed - ding - guest, in thy God - head man - i - fest;
 man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell - ing all the dev - il's might;
 where dis - ci - ples filled with awe thy trans - fi - gured glo - ry saw.

branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem;
 man - i - fest in power di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
 man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring - ing good from ill;
 When from there thou led - dest them stead - fast to Je - ru - sa - lem,
 an - thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
 an - thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
 an - thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
 cross and Eas - ter Day at - test God in man made man - i - fest.

Words: Sts. 1-3, Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885); st. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984). St. 4, Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Salzburg*, melody Jakob Hintze (1622-1702); harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

THE DISMISSAL

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

People Thanks be to God.

Please remain standing as you are able until the procession exits.

VOLUNTARY

Epilogue on Dix

William H. Harris (1883-1973)

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

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.

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THE FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD.

THE CHOIR OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

Amanda Densmoor, Elissa Edwards, Kerry Holahan, and Victoria Wood, *sopranos*

Adrin Akins, Bonnie Alger, Lisa Koehler, Jennifer Mathews, *altos*

David Evans, John Mullan, Nathaniel Roper, and Will Watson, *tenors*

Justin Dean, Christopher Jones, Nathan Lofton, and Tom Rust, *basses*

Brent Erstad, *Director of Music and Organist*

THE CHOIR OF CHRIST CHURCH

Susan Kavinski, Laura Petersen, Katherine Surine, Maud Taber-Thomas, *sopranos*

Rachel Barham, Emily Howell, and Anya Trudeau, *altos*

Adam von Almen, Andrew Brown, and Dennys Moura, *tenors*

Daniel Gostin-Yong, John Murton, and James Rogers, *basses*

Thomas P. Smith, *Organist and Choirmaster*

ORGANIST

Dr. Karl Robson, *Director of Music, St. John's Parish, McLean, Va.*

ASSISTING AT THE SERVICE TODAY

Paul Barkett, *Crucifer* | Jack Reiffer and Helena Upshaw, *Acolytes*

Paul Barkett and Anne Harrington, *Flower Guild*

Jeremy Skog, *Livestream Operator*

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.

NEWS AND EVENTS

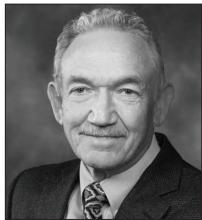
THE SPEAKER SERIES | Most Sundays at 10 a.m.

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

3-Part Series: The Presidency of John Quincy Adams



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.



February 15: Randall B. Woods, author, biographer, and Distinguished Professor of History at the University of Arkansas, will share insights gained from the writing of his book *John Quincy Adams: A Man for the Whole People*.



February 22: Jane Hudiburg, noted Congressional historian, will talk about the post-presidency of John Quincy Adams, who went on to become a highly influential member of Congress and legal advocate.



March 1: Michael Guy, historian, will give an update to the parish on our new history project researching St. John's history in light of race and slavery.



March 8: Richard Grimmett, longtime parish historian, will speak about the work of the famed American architect Benjamin Henry Latrobe, including his design of St. John's.



March 15: Matt Dallek, noted historian and Professor of Political Management at George Washington University, will trace the history of political violence in America up to the present day.

CHORAL EVENSONG

Wednesday, January 28, at 5:30 p.m.

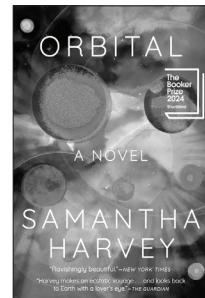
Steeped in the beauty of the Anglican tradition, Evensong meets us at the even point between the active day and the restful night. Evensong is sung by the St. John's Choir and Choristers on the last Wednesday of most months from September through May, beginning at 5:30 p.m. and followed by a reception in Togo West Parlor. Parking validation is available in the Colonial parking garage at 818 Connecticut Avenue, NW; obtain a validation ticket from an usher before or after the service. The service will also be available via livestream on our website.

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

ST. JOHN'S BOOK GROUP

Thursday, February 5, at 7 p.m.

Please join us via Zoom to discuss *Orbital: A Novel* by Samantha Harvey. This slender work of fiction depicts the lives of six men and women traveling through space over the course of one day. These astronauts and cosmonauts—from America, Russia, Italy, Britain, and Japan—have left their lives behind to travel at a speed of over seventeen thousand miles an hour as the earth reels below. 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.



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

LATROBE FELLOWSHIP

Saturday, February 7, at 2:50 p.m.

St. John's Latrobe Young Adult Fellowship will visit the Bishop Payne Library at Virginia Theological Seminary on Saturday, February 7. While on campus, we will see the African American Episcopal Historical Collection (AAEHC) and learn about famous Episcopalians such as Pauli Murray and Thurgood Marshall. After the tour, we will gather at the campus chapel for prayer, followed by food and fellowship. The group will carpool to the seminary from the King Street—Old Town metro station and should plan to be at the library no later than 2:50 p.m. for the start of the tour.

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.

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Saturday, February 7, 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, February 2, to bit.ly/sjc-pno. Questions? Contact the Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell via our website.



GRACE'S TABLE

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

Upcoming dates: February 21 and March 21

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.

WOMEN'S WEEKEND RETREAT

Friday, March 6, through Sunday, March 8

Registration closes Monday, February 23

This year's Sisters at St. John's annual women's retreat, entitled "Listening with the Ears of Our Hearts," will be led by the Dr. Terri Lynn Simpson, Manager of the Center for Prayer and Pilgrimage at Washington National Cathedral, and will be held at the A. Felix DuPont Memorial House in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. Please complete your online registration at bit.ly/sjc-retreat-2026-register and submit your payment to secure your spot. The cost (\$425) includes housing and meals. For those in need of financial assistance, scholarships are available; contact the Rev. Rob Fisher with your request. Questions? Reach out to leader Emily Lucio via the online Ministry Directory. Full information, including details about the venue and payment, can be found at bit.ly/sjc-listening-hearts-2026.



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.

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.

PARISH LUNCH

Most Sundays after the 11 a.m. service

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.



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, 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.

Sunday, May 24, at 9 a.m.

Class: Saturday, May 23, at 10 a.m.

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.



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.

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.

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 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 stjohns-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.

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-Brooke, Kaye Edwards, Casey Evans, Debby Hailey, Fruzsina Harsanyi, Julia Koster, Ucheora Onwuamaegbu, Jack Reiffer, Matthew Taylor, and Jess Unger, *Members*

Anya Kleymenova, *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 Akes-Cardwell, *Associate Rector*

for Family Ministry and Pastoral Care

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

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

Brent Erstad, *Director of Music and Organist*

Linda Morgan Stowe and John Chappell Stowe, *Interim Assistant Organists*

John Stowe, *Chief Operating Officer*

Charley Griffin, *Parish Administrator*

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

Javier Obregon, *Sexton*

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

Anne Stone, *Publications*

ST. JOHN'S MISSION STATEMENT

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

Parish House

1525 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005-1005

(202) 347-8766 ♦ www.stjohns-dc.org