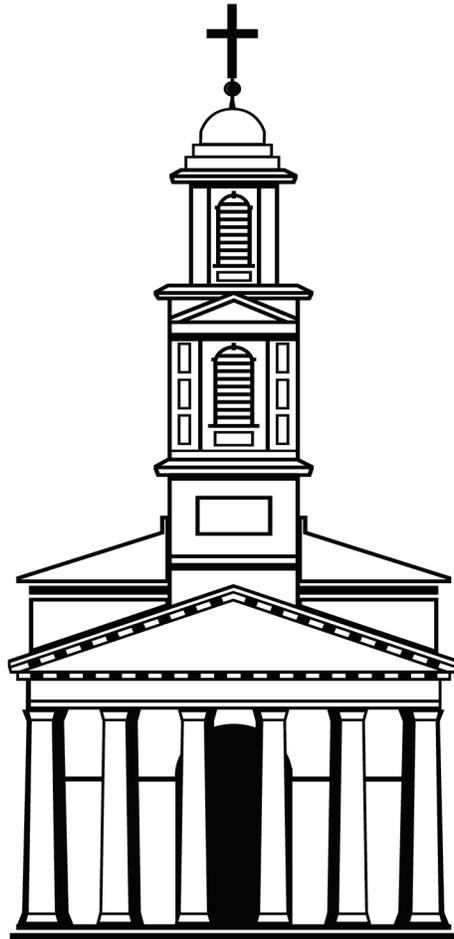


THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
March 15, 2026 ♦ Holy Eucharist at 9 and 11 a.m.



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.

VOLUNTARY

Prelude in E flat

Alexandre P.F. Boëly (1785–1858)

HYMN 690

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

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

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun-tain, whence the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y;
stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar
fears sub - side; death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with thy power - ful hand; bread of hea - ven,
lead me all my jour - ney through; strong de - liv - erer,
land me safe on Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es,

bread of hea - ven, feed me now and ev - er -
 strong de - liv - erer, be thou still my strength and
 songs of prais - es, I will ev - er give to

more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
 shield, be thou still my strength and shield.
 thee, I will ev - er give to thee.

Words: William Williams (1717-1791); tr. Peter Williams (1722-1796), alt. Music: *Cwm Rhondda*, John Hughes (1873-1932).

THE WORD OF GOD

Please remain standing as you are able.

Priest Blessed be the God of our salvation:

People **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

Priest Let us confess our sins to God.

Please remain standing, or kneel as you are able.

All **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

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

KYRIE (S-91) *Sung by all.*

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Ephesians 5:8-14

Please be seated.

9 a.m. Read by Amy Whitworth.

11 a.m. Read by Holly Sukenik.

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 23

9 a.m. Said responsively by half verse.

11 a.m. Chanted by the choir.

The LORD is my shepherd; * **I shall not be in want.**

He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul * **and guides me along right pathways for his Name’s sake.**

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; *
 for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
 you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
 and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

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

GRADUAL HYMN 671

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound

Sung by all, standing as you are able. Stanzas 1 & 2 will be sung before the Gospel, stanzas 4 & 5 after.

1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
 2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
 5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

1 now am found, was blind but now I see.
 2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Words: John Newton (1725-1807), alt.; st. 5, from *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790; compiled by Richard Broaddus and Andrew Broaddus. Music: *New Britain*, from *Virginia Harmony* 1831; adapt. att. Edwin Othello Excell (1851-1921); harm. Austin Cole Lovelace (b. 1919). Harmonization Copyright © 1974 by Abingdon Press.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 9:1-14, 24b-25, 28-41

Please remain standing as you are able.

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

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

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. And they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Following the Gospel, all sing stanzas 4 & 5 of the gradual hymn.

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 Jack Reiffer.

Please remain standing or kneel as you are able.

11 a.m. Led by Brian Schoeneman.

Intercessor With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

Silence.

Intercessor For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For the communities of St. John’s and our companion relationships with the Anglican Church of Southern Africa* and the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, for St. Patrick’s Church and St. Patrick’s Episcopal Day School, DC. For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Mariann, our Bishop; Eugene, our Assistant Bishop; and for all clergy and other ministers, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For Donald, our President, for the leaders of Congress and the nations, for the Supreme Court, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For this city of Washington, for every city and community, and for those who live in them. For those in our parish celebrating a birthday this week . . . ; and for those in our parish celebrating an anniversary this week . . . , let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering. For those who are in assisted living . . . , let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, for refugees and migrants throughout the world, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, especially . . . , let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor In the communion of St. John and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

People **To thee, O Lord our God.**

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.**

THE PEACE

Please stand as you are able.

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

Come, renew us

Eleanor Daley (b. 1955)

Sung by the choir.

Come, Lord, come to us. Enter our darkness with your light,
fill our emptiness with your presence, come, refresh, restore, renew us.

In our sadness, come as joy, in our troubles, come as peace,
in our fearfulness, come as hope, in our darkness, come as light,
in our frailty, come as strength, in our loneliness, come as love.

Come, refresh, restore, renew us.

—David Adam (1936–2020)

HYMN 685 *Standing as you are able.*

Rock of ages, cleft for me

1 Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;
2 Should my tears for ev - er flow, should my zeal no lan - guor know,
3 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,

let the wa - ter and the blood from thy wound - ed side that flowed,
all for sin could not a - tone: thou must save, and thou a - lone;
when I rise to worlds un - known and be - hold thee on thy throne,

be of sin the dou - ble cure, cleanse me from its guilt and power.
in my hand no price I bring, sim - ply to thy cross I cling.
Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

Words: Augustus Montague Toplady (1740-1778), alt. Music: *Toplady*, Thomas Hastings (1784-1872).

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.

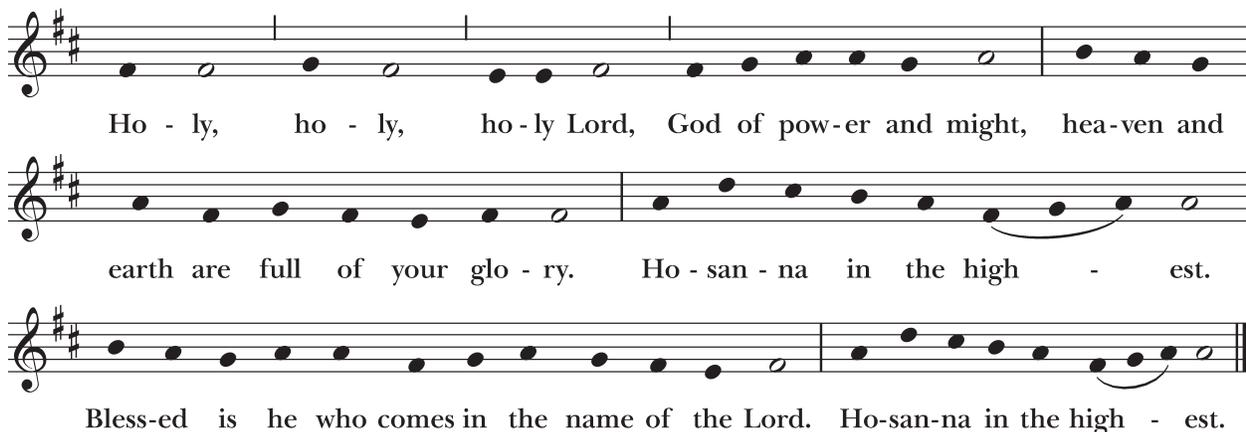
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The priest continues

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, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. 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-124) *Sung by all.*

David Hurd (b. 1950)



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

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People **Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with St. John and all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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-161) *Sung by all.*

David Hurd

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.

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

Open thou mine eyes

John Rutter (b. 1945)

Sung by the choir.

Open thou mine eyes and I shall see, incline my heart and I shall desire,
order my steps and I shall walk in the ways of thy commandments.

O Lord God, be thou to me a God,
and beside thee let there be none else,
no other, nought else with thee.

Vouchsafe to me to worship thee and serve thee according to thy commandments,
in truth of spirit, in reverence of body, in blessing of lips, in private and in public.

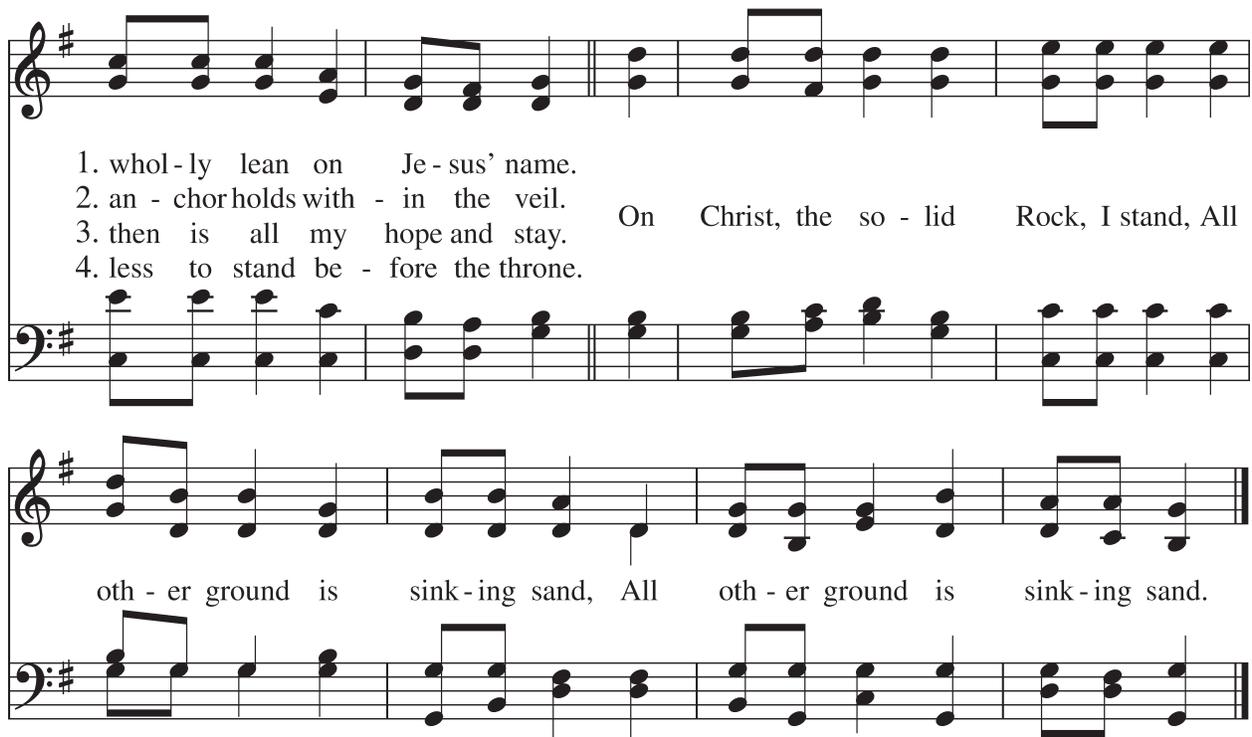
—*Lancelot Andrewes (1555–1626), trans. Alexander Whyte (1836–1921)*

HYMN LEVAS 99 *Sung by all, seated.*

My hope is built on nothing less

1. My hope is built on noth - ing less Than Je - sus' blood and
2. When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I rest on His un -
3. His oath, His cov - e - nant and blood, Sup - port me in the
4. When He shall come with trum - pet sound, O may I then in

1. right - eous - ness; I dare not trust the sweet - est frame, But
2. chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and storm - y gale, My
3. whelm - ing flood; When all a - round my soul gives way, he
4. Him be found; Dressed in His right - eous - ness a - lone, Fault -



1. whol-ly lean on Je-sus' name.
 2. an-chor holds with-in the veil. On Christ, the so-lid Rock, I stand, All
 3. then is all my hope and stay.
 4. less to stand be-fore the throne.

oth-er ground is sink-ing sand, All oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.

Words: Edward Mote (1797-1874). Music: William B. Bradbury (1816-1868).

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

Priest Let us pray.

All Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. 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.

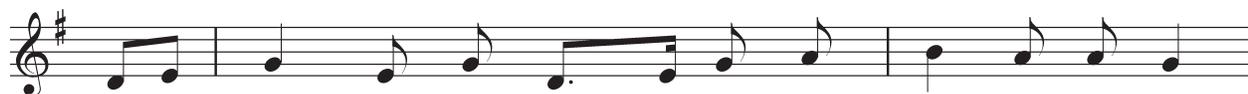
HYMN 636

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord

Sung by all, standing as you are able.



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,



1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;
4 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;



1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,
2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,



1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.
3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

Words: K. in John Rippon's *Selection*, 1787, alt. Music: *Foundation*, melody from *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; harm. Calvin Hampton (1938-1984); alt. acc. Eugene W. Hancock (b. 1929).

THE DISMISSAL

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

Allegro moderato

Alexandre P.F. Boëly

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

ASSISTING AT THE 9 A.M. SERVICE

Jack Reiffer, *Crucifer*
Robyne Johnston, *Chalice Bearer*
Alfred Thesmar, *Assistant Head Usher*
Fruzsina Harsanyi and Patricia Leslie, *Ushers*
Eleanor Odom and Susan Valascovic, *Greeters*
Pat Dalby and Adelle Simmons, *Flower Guild*

ASSISTING AT THE 11 A.M. SERVICE

Paul Barkett, *Crucifer*
Grant Lucio and Ugo Owunwanne, *Acolytes*
Sylvia Martin Estes and Matthew Taylor, *Chalice Bearers*
Claire Kim, *Assistant Head Usher*
Joe Daniels, Michele Mullins, Elizabeth Oblinger, and Jess Unger, *Ushers*
Peter Hardinge and Summer Hardinge, *Greeters*
Pat Dalby 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 March 15

TODAY AT ST. JOHN'S

N Street Village Supply Drive through April 5 (see page 4)
Children's Chapel offered during the sermon at 9 and 11 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)
Speaker Series (Togo West Parlor; see page 4)
Church School (Parish House Second Floor)
Youth Group (Parish House Second Floor)
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)

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: Byeforde Road, Kensington; and Westbard Avenue, Bethesda.

PARISH LUNCH

Today at noon | Hosted by St. John's Book Group

Sunday lunch at St. John's is a longtime tradition in which every member and every visitor can participate. It's a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new ones—a time for fellowship and for hearing another's story. The lunch is held most Sundays in the Parish House. Contributions of \$5 for adults and young people 13 and over and \$2 for children under 13 are requested to help defray the costs of the lunch. All are welcome. Valet parking hours are extended to 2 p.m. any Sunday with a parish lunch.

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 Susan Cardwell.

SERVICE SCHEDULE

March 16–22

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. Rob Fisher, Preacher

8 a.m. Eucharist with Sermon

9 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon

11 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon

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

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

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Monday, March 16

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

Tuesday, March 17

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

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

Wednesday, March 18

4:30 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal

5:15 p.m. Lenten Prayer Group (see below)

Thursday, March 19

4:30 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal

7 p.m. Parish Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, March 21

9:30 a.m. Adult Inquirers' Class (registered participants)

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

LENTEN PRAYER GROUP

Wednesdays in Lent, 5:15–6 p.m.

We are offering a time of simple, silent prayer on Wednesdays in Lent convened by the Rev. Dr. Sarah Coakley, who led a series of instruction on prayer last year at St. John's. The group will gather in person at Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, but if you do not live near the seminary you can join the group virtually. To participate, please sign up at bit.ly/sjc-lent-2026.



GRACE'S TABLE

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

Upcoming dates: March 21 and April 18

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.

YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS

Second and fourth Sundays at 10 a.m. through April

Next session: March 22

Confirmation is a sacramental rite in which candidates express a mature commitment to Christ before God, the bishop, and the gathered community. On second and fourth Sundays through April, we are preparing interested youth to take this important step in their faith journey, with confirmations to be held at Washington National Cathedral on Saturday, May 9, at 10 a.m. Youth who have already been confirmed are also encouraged to attend, to review faith topics and get to know our new candidates. Questions? Contact the Rev. Eric Bailey via our website.

HOLY WEEK PREVIEW FOR ALL AGES

Sunday, March 22, at 10 a.m.

Interactive stations will be set up to help explore and explain the significance of what happens between Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. This offering is geared toward families with infants, toddlers, and elementary aged children, although all are welcome. Come prepare to participate in the liturgies of Holy Week and discover ways you might mark these special days at church or at home.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER



PALM SUNDAY—March 29

- 8 a.m. Eucharist with Blessing of the Palms
- 9 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Blessing of the Palms and Passion Reading
- 11 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Blessing of the Palms and Passion Reading

After services on Palm Sunday, please plan to deliver at least one Easter lily to fellow parishioners who cannot be present with us at worship at this time. The plants will be in the Parish House parlors with cards addressed to parishioners who live near you in Virginia, Maryland, or the District.

WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK—April 1

5:30 p.m. Choral Evensong (see below)

MAUNDY THURSDAY—April 2

5 p.m. Family Service with Eucharist, Foot Washing, and Stripping of the Altar

7 p.m. Choral Eucharist with Foot Washing and Stripping of the Altar

GOOD FRIDAY—April 3

Noon Good Friday Service with Communion from the Reserved Sacrament

EASTER DAY—April 5

8 a.m. Eucharist with Hymns

9 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Brass and Percussion

11 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Brass and Percussion

To dedicate Easter flowers in honor of or thanksgiving for a loved one, see page 7. Flower dedications received by Sunday, March 29, will be printed in the Easter Day bulletins.

CHORAL EVENSONG | Wednesday, April 1, 5:30 p.m.

Join us for a contemplative service of Choral Evensong on Wednesday in Holy Week that centers on biblical stories of lament. The St. John's Choir and Choristers will sing William Byrd's motet *Civitas sancti tui*, a lament for the desolation of Jerusalem, and Eric Whitacre's monumental late twentieth-century anthem *When David Heard*, which sets King David's anguished cry over the death of his son Absalom. The Magnificat and Nunc dimittis from Byrd's *Second Evening Service* will be accompanied by viol consort. Come prepare for the Holy Week liturgies that follow as we lament Christ's death and await the day of Resurrection.

Validated parking is available. Ask an usher for a validation ticket before or after the service. The service is also available via livestream on our website.

St. John's Pride will gather for fellowship shortly after the service; contact the group via our online Ministry Directory with questions, or look for us on April 1.

The St. John's Choir and Choristers sing Evensong on the third Wednesday of most months from September through May, beginning at 5:30 p.m. and followed by a reception in Togo West Parlor.

COMING UP

LATROBE FELLOWSHIP

Wednesday, April 1, at 5:30 p.m.

In April, we will gather an hour earlier than usual to attend the Holy Week choral evensong and enjoy time together afterward. 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. For more information, contact the Rev. Eric Bailey via the About: Leadership tab of our website.

ST. JOHN'S BOOK GROUP

Thursday, April 9, at 7 p.m.

Please join us via Zoom to discuss *The Coming Wave* by Mustafa Suleyman. As cofounder of the pioneering company DeepMind, Suleyman highlights the unprecedented risks to global order that are posed by a wave of fast-developing technologies such as artificial intelligence and genetic engineering—powerful tools that can address complex challenges but also create upheaval at the same time. 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.



AN EVENING WITH THE CHOIR OF WESTMINSTER ABBEY

Friday, May 1, at 7 p.m., at St. John's

The White House Historical Association and St. John's, in celebration of America's 250th, will host an evening with the choir of Westminster Abbey on Friday, May 1. Westminster Abbey's choir is renowned worldwide as one of the finest of its type, with up to 30 boys and 12 professional adult singers. The choir's wide-ranging performing activities are rooted in a centuries-old tradition, and its repertoire ranges from plainsong and Tudor polyphony to 20th-century masterpieces and new commissions. Purchase tickets (\$25) at www.whitehousehistory.org/events. This event will be held at St. John's.

MUSIC SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Brass Ensemble for Trinity Sunday | May 31

Support our festive celebration of Trinity Sunday and the final Sunday of the program year with a brass ensemble accompanying choral and congregational singing. (\$1,350)

Parishioners are periodically invited to sponsor additional musicians in thanksgiving or memory of a loved one, or simply in support of the music ministry at St. John's. Such gifts enrich our worship and make it possible to present larger-scale musical works throughout the program year. Donors are acknowledged in the service bulletin. Questions? Contact Brent Erstad via the About: Leadership page of stjohns-dc.org.

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.



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.

There will be no speaker on March 22 or 29, or on April 5.



April 12: Aalok Mehta, Director of the Center for Strategic and International Studies' Wadhani AI Center, will address the promise, perils, and defining questions of artificial intelligence.



April 19: Aaron Reichlin-Melnick, a senior fellow at the American Immigration Council, will bring us up to date on the current state of U.S. immigration policies and practices.



April 26: Martha Gimbel, Executive Director and Co-Founder of the Budget Lab at Yale University, a non-partisan policy research center, will discuss the state of the U.S. economy.

NEWS & NOTICES

N STREET VILLAGE SUPPLY DRIVE

Now through Easter Day, April 5

The Sisters at St. John's are partnering with N Street Village, a local group that supports D.C. women experiencing homelessness by offering a broad spectrum of services, housing, and advocacy in an atmosphere of dignity and respect. We are collecting a variety of necessities, including toilet paper, paper towels, sanitary pads, women's underwear all sizes, and casual pants sizes medium to XL. To donate, bring any of the above items to church and leave them in the basket by the reception area in the Parish House.

BECOME A PARENT NAVIGATOR (MENTOR)

Communities in Schools (CIS) is looking for volunteers to serve as navigators, or peer mentors, for parents striving to support their children's education and their own personal and professional goals. Use your knowledge in areas such as finance, medicine, nutrition, and child advocacy to provide one-to-one guidance, support, and practical strategies that help parents build strong home-school connections and advocate for themselves and their families. Volunteers matched with a family can expect a commitment of a few hours a month. Other ways to mentor include doing a webinar or virtual workshop in your area of specialty. Orientation, training, and ongoing support will be provided. For more information, contact CIS leaders Ann Gardner and Livy More via the online Ministry Directory.

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.

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, 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.

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.

March 15	St. John's Book Group
March 22	Host needed
<i>March 29</i>	<i>No Lunch: Palm Sunday</i>
<i>April 5</i>	<i>No Lunch: Easter Day</i>
April 12	RJ Lyerly
April 19	Vestry
April 26	Sisters at St. John's

FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

NURSERY CARE | 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.

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.

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 most Sundays of the school year. 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.

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.

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.

STEWARDSHIP

PLEASE PLEDGE TO ST. JOHN'S

As of Tuesday, March 10, we had received 270 pledges, totaling commitments of \$1,096,955 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. 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!

REMINDERS

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 Gospel 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.

MAKE A PLEDGE TO ST. JOHN'S

A pledge is a commitment of financial support payable over the course of a year that enables us to plan the work that we undertake in mission and ministry. You can indicate a pledge commitment using this QR code or by visiting the Give tab on our website.



LISTEN AGAIN TO SUNDAY SERMONS

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



JOIN A MINISTRY GROUP

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

LIVESTREAMED SERVICES

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

SECURITY MEASURES AT ST. JOHN'S

St. John's identity as a congregation is shaped by our urban location in the nation's capital. We seek to welcome all to our services and activities with dignity, while ensuring the safety and well-being of those who worship in our facilities. We hire security personnel for Sundays and special services as a low-key, proactive presence prepared to respond quickly and respectfully to any needs that may arise.

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.

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

THOSE WHO ARE SICK, RECOVERING, OR GRIEVING

From our parish: Bill Josey.

Friends and family of our parish: Conor Barry (Sarah Wood), Robert Bliss (Katherine Bliss and Mark Dennis), Chad (Wendy Fibison), Jim DeBello (Grace Barrett), Dru Dowdy (Frances S. Tyler), Walt Eccard (Margaret Depue), Ed Eder (Joanne and Powell Hutton), 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), Olivia Kehoe (Kat Kehoe), Elizabeth Lee (Clayton Crawford), Jane Lee (Claire Kim and Jess Unger), William Markiewicz (Matthew Taylor), Jim Martella (Livy More), Tammy McCleaf (Matthew Taylor), Nell Montgomery (Brandon Montgomery), Teri Nelson (Lisa Koehler), Ann Petrosky (Johnathan Miller), Sunil Ramchand (Susan Cardwell), Scott (Marta Cook and Cal Trepagnier), Nancy Stephenson (Ann and John Gardner), Ashley M. Smith (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), and Judith York (Caroline Fisher).

THOSE WHO ARE IN ASSISTED LIVING

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

Continues on next page

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

THOSE WHO ARE IN HOSPICE CARE

Friends and family of our parish: Wilma Daubs (Kay Gilley).

THOSE IN OUR PARISH CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY

Jack Bailey, Matt Bode, Jamie Craft, Ellie Fullerton, Carolyn Gardner, John Goheen, Juan Gonzalez, Thomas

Hailey, Sarah Hanniford, Patrick Hanniford, Amanda Hoover, Loren Kieve, Scott Raab, Katherine Rawlings, Pete Seidlitz, Graham Singer, Amy Stulman, and Chris Tipler.

THOSE IN OUR PARISH CELEBRATING AN ANNIVERSARY

Clayton and Susan Lewis.

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.), Rod & Evonne Ludema (Jack Reiffer).

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

EASTER DAY FLOWER DEDICATIONS

The deadline for inclusion in the Easter Day order of service is Sunday, March 29.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ Amount _____

In memory of _____

In thanksgiving for _____

Please complete this form, enclose it with a check payable to St. John's Church, and place it in the offering plate on Sunday. The suggested donation is \$55 per name. You may also pay online at bit.ly/sjc-give-now. Choose "Special Flowers" in the dropdown menu. Under memo, list the name(s), and indicate whether your gift is in memory of or in thanksgiving for.

Thank you for your support of this important ministry.

WELCOME!

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

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

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

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

Vestry Leadership & Members

Alfred Thesmar, *Senior Warden*

Julia Koster, *Junior Warden*

Kate Benner, Brian Cordova-Brookey,

Kaye Edwards, Elizabeth Field,

Debby Hailey, Fruzsina Harsanyi,

Apiyo Oloya, Jack Reiffer, Brian Schoeneman,

Matthew Taylor, Trey Whitworth, and Jess Unger,

Members

Anya Kleymenova, *Treasurer*

Will Priest, *Secretary*

Harker Rhodes, *Parish Counsel*

Head Usher—James H. Czerwonky

Head Greeters—Eleanor and Peter Odom

Heads of Flower Guild

Pat Dalby and Katherine Kyle

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher, *Rector*

The Rev. 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