



# THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 14, 2021 · 9:00 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST

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

## PRELUDE: *Vater unser im Himmelreich*

J.S. Bach  
(1685–1750)

## RECTOR'S WELCOME

## HYMN 618

*Ye watchers and ye holy ones*

*Please stand as the procession enters.*

*Unison*

1 Ye watch - ers and ye ho - ly ones, bright ser - aphs, cher - u -  
 2 O high - er than the cher - u - bim, more glo - rious than the  
 3 Re - spond, ye souls in end - less rest, ye pa - tri - archs and  
 4 O friends, in glad - ness let us sing, su - per - nal an - thems

*Harmony* *Unison*

bim, and thrones, raise the glad strain, Al - le - lu - ia! Cry  
 ser - a - phim, lead their prais - es, Al - le - lu - ia! Thou  
 pro - phets blest, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Ye  
 ech - o - ing, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! To

out, do - min - ions, prince - doms, powers, vir - tues, arch - an - gels, an - gels'  
 bear - er of the e - ter - nal Word, most gra - cious, mag - ni - fy the  
 ho - ly twelve, ye mar - tyrs strong, all saints tri - um - phant, raise the  
 God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spi - rit, Three in

*Harmony*

choirs, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 Lord, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 song, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 One, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

The Reverend Robert W. Fisher  
*Rector*

The Reverend Savannah Ponder  
*Associate Rector*

The Reverend William Morris  
*Assisting Priest for Engaging  
Faith and the Workplace*

Kaye Edwards  
*Assistant for  
Church Growth*

Brent Erstad  
*Director of Music and Organist*

Samantha Scheff  
*Associate Organist*

*Unison*

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Words: John Athelstan Laurie Riley (1858-1945)  
 Music: *Lasst uns erfreuen*, melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, 1623;  
 adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)  
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## THE WORD OF GOD

*Please continue to stand.*

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

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

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

**People:** **Amen.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

**Priest:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Priest:** Let us pray.

**Priest:** O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**People:** **Amen.**

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 50:1-6**

*Read by Chris Danello.*

- 1 The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken;  
he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- 2 Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,  
God reveals himself in glory.
- 3 Our God will come and will not keep silence;  
before him there is a consuming flame,  
and round about him a raging storm.
- 4 He calls the heavens and the earth from above  
to witness the judgment of his people.
- 5 "Gather before me my loyal followers,  
those who have made a covenant with me  
and sealed it with sacrifice."
- 6 Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause;  
for God himself is judge.

*Please stand.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Tone VI*

Alleluia.  
O sing unto the Lord a new song:  
for he hath done marvellous things.  
Alleluia.

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

**Mark 9:2-9**

**Gospeller:** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

**Gospeller:** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Rev. Will Morris**

*Please be seated.*

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (FORM IV)

*Led by Powell Hutton.*

*Please stand.*

**Leader:** Let us pray for the Church and for the world, responding with the words  
“Hear our prayer.”

**Leader:** Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Lord, in your mercy.

**People:** **Hear our prayer.**

**Leader:** For the communities of St. John’s and our companion relationships with the *Anglican Church of Southern Africa\** and *the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem*. For *Michael*, our Presiding Bishop, for our Bishops, *Mariann* and *Chilton*, and for all bishops and other ministers. Lord, in your mercy.

**People:** **Hear our prayer.**

**Leader:** Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. For *Joseph*, our President, the leaders of *Congress*, the *Supreme Court*, and for all who serve our country. Lord, in your mercy.

**People:** **Hear our prayer.**

**Leader:** Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord, in your mercy.

**People:** **Hear our prayer.**

**Leader:** Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. For those celebrating a birthday this week, especially *Tom Abernethy, John Aschieris, Steve Coppinger, Brady Demarest, Susan Lewis, Claire Marshall, Ariana Paslar, Jean Schepers, Desirée Stolar, and Teddy Tierney*; for those celebrating an anniversary this week, especially *Barbara and Craig Burkhardt* and *Diane and Peter Spaulding*. Lord, in your mercy.

**People:** **Hear our prayer.**

**Leader:** Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially *Jimmy Lowe* who is in hospice care; and those who are sick and who are shut-ins. For *all affected by the coronavirus*. Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy.

**People:** **Hear our prayer.**

*\* In particular, the Kwasa Centre in the Diocese of the Highveld.*

**Leader:** We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy.

**People:** **Hear our prayer.**

**Priest:** Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People:** **Amen.**

## CONFESSION OF SIN

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

**Priest and People:**

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

## ABSOLUTION

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

**People:** **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

**Priest:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Christ, whose glory fills the skies*

Brad Nix  
(b. 1975)

Christopher Jones, *cantor*

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,  
Christ, the true, the only light,  
Sun of Righteousness, arise,  
triumph o'er the shades of night;  
Dayspring from on high, be near;  
Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn  
unaccompanied by thee;  
joyless is the day's return,  
till thy mercy's beams I see;  
till they inward light impart,  
cheer my eyes and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine;  
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
fill me, Radiancy divine,  
scatter all my unbelief;  
more and more thyself display,  
shining to the perfect day.

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*Please remain standing.*

**Priest:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Priest:** Lift up your hearts.

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

**Priest:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

**Priest:** It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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-125)



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

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*Please stand or kneel.*

**Priest:** 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:

**Priest and People:**

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

**Priest:** 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 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.

**People:** Amen.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**Priest and People:**

**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

**Celebrant:** Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**People:** Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

**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. During this time, our practice will be to offer the bread and the wine following health guidelines. An usher will provide communicants with hand sanitizer before the priest (who has washed his or her hands immediately prior) places a blessed wafer into your hands. Take a few steps, remove your mask, and consume the wafer. Blessed wine in small paper cups on a tray will be offered by a lay server.

After drinking the wine, place the cup in the basket at the end of the line.

Receiving the bread only is a valid way to share in Holy Communion. Parents may decide if their children receive the bread and/or wine. Children may instead signal their desire to be blessed by the priest by crossing their arms over their chest.

# MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION

## Hymn 137

*O wondrous type! O vision fair*

1 O won - drous type! O vi - sion fair of glo - ry  
2 With Mo - ses and E - li - jah nigh the in - car - nate  
3 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray, Christ deigns to  
4 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high by this great  
5 O Fa - ther, with the e - ter - nal Son, and Ho - ly

1 that the Church may share, which Christ up - on the  
2 Lord holds con - verse high; and from the cloud, the  
3 man - i - fest to - day what glo - ry shall be  
4 vi - sion's mys - ter - y; for which in joy - ful  
5 Spi - rit, ev - er One, vouch - safe to bring us

1 moun - tain shows, where bright - er than the sun he glows!  
2 Ho - ly One bears re - cord to the on - ly Son.  
3 theirs a - bove who joy in God with per - fect love.  
4 strains we raise the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.  
5 by thy grace to see thy glo - ry face to face.

Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, after John Mason Neale (1848-1866), alt.  
Music: Wareham, melody William Knapp (1698-1768); alt.; harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875,  
after James Turle (1802-1882); desc. Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947)  
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## THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*Please stand.*

**Priest:** Let us pray.

**Priest and People:**

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

## 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, saint be upon you and remain with you always.

**People:** Amen.

## THE DISMISSAL

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

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE:** *Pièce d' Orgue, BWV 572*

J.S. Bach

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**ASSISTING AT THE 9:00 A.M. SERVICE TODAY:** Eric Peters, *Crucifer*; Sylvia Estes, *Lay Minister*; Pat Dalby, *Flower Guild*; and Robert Carroll and Alfred Thesmar, *Ushers*.

**THE FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH** are given to the glory of God.



## *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.

BROCHURES DESCRIBING PARISH LIFE, the history of St. John's, and the Episcopal denomination can be found in the church entrance. 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](http://WWW.STJOHNS-DC.ORG) has up-to-date information about the Church including the weekly calendar, the Sunday service schedule, Speaker Series speakers and topics, the music calendar and newsworthy events.

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### *Vestry*

Paul Barkett, *Senior Warden*

Clark Ervin, *Junior Warden*

Laurie Adams, Krista Rimple  
Bradley, Carolyn Crouch, Lauren  
Edwards, Wendy Fibison, David  
Gallalee, Peter Odom, Anthony  
Pegues, Scott Raab, Nora Rigby,  
Desirée Stolar, and Carl Ward.

Casey Evans, *Treasurer*

Sara McGanity, *Assistant Treasurer*

Allie Raether, *Secretary*

Harker Rhodes, *Parish Counsel*

### *Head Usher*

James H. Czerwonky

### *Staff*

Kim Carlson  
*Director for Operations*

Preston Cherouny  
*Financial Secretary*

Sharlyne Griffin  
*Receptionist*

R. J. Gravina  
*Program Coordinator*

Javier Obregon, *Sexton*

GeeGee Bryant and David Gamboa,  
*Assistant Sextons*

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### **Parish House**

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*Telephone* 202-347-8766

*Website* [www.stjohns-dc.org](http://www.stjohns-dc.org)