



# THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 21, 2021 · 9:00 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST

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

**PRELUDE:** *Preludio 'Sine Nomine'*

Herbert Howells  
(1892-1983)

## RECTOR'S WELCOME

### HYMN 143

*The glory of these forty days*

*Please stand as the procession enters. Sung by the choir.*



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we  
 2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the  
 3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de -  
 4 Then grant us, Lord, like them to be full  
 \*5 O Fa - ther, Son, and Spi - rit blest, to



1 ce - le - brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all  
 2 lov - ing God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,  
 3 liv - ered from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's  
 4 oft in fast and prayer with thee; our spi - rits strength - en  
 5 thee be ev - ery prayer ad - dressed, who art in three - fold



1 things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.  
 2 fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.  
 3 friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.  
 4 with thy grace, and give us joy to see thy face.  
 5 Name a - dored, from age to age, the on - ly Lord.

Words: Latin, 6th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell (1862-1947), alt.

Music: *Erhalt uns, Herr*, melody from *Geistliche Leiden*, 1543; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

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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*

## THE WORD OF GOD

*Please continue to stand.*

**Priest:** Blessed be the God of our salvation:

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

**Priest:** Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

*Please remain standing.*

**People:** **God eternal, giver of light and grace, we have sinned against you and against our neighbors, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We have wounded your love and marred your image in us. We are sorry and ashamed and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light. Amen.**

## ABSOLUTION

**Priest:** May the God of all healing and forgiveness cleanse us from all our sins that we may behold the glory of his Son and Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord."

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

## KYRIE (S-91)

*Sung by the quartet.*

Healey Willan  
(1880-1968)

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

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

**Priest:** Let us pray.

**Priest:** Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

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

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

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

**PSALM 25:1-9**

*Read by Julia Koster.*

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
my God, I put my trust in you;  
let me not be humiliated,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O Lord,  
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;  
remember me according to your love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord;  
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right  
and teaches his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness  
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

*Please stand.*

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

**Mark 1:9-15**

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

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

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

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

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

## THE SERMON

**The Rev. Robert W. Fisher**

*Please be seated.*

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (FORM IV)

*Led by Riley Temple.*

*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.**

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

**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 *Meg Beasley, Krista Bradley, Jamil Bussie, Pat Czerwonky, Christine Davies, Callie Ervin, William Generous, Alma Paty, Molly Raab, Charlotte Rhodes, Wiley Simonds, Stephen Smith, Tripp Whitbeck,* and *Kris Zeller*; for those celebrating an anniversary this week, especially *Alyssa and Will Ackerly, Anita and George Diliberto, and Amanda and Eric Eversole*. 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.**

**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.**

## THE PEACE

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

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

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks*

Herbert Howells  
(1892-1983)

Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks,  
so longeth my soul after thee, O God.  
My soul is athirst for God: yea, even for the living God.  
When shall I come to appear before the presence of God?  
My tears have been my meat day and night,  
while they daily say unto me: Where is now thy God?

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer C)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SANCTUS (from *Missa de Sancte Maria Magdalena*)

Healey Willan  
(1880–1986)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*Please stand or kneel.*

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

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

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

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

**Priest and People:**

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

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

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

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

**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:** Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

**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

**Anthem**     *Jesus walked this lonesome valley*     Spiritual, arr. Jerome Lenk

Jesus walked this lonesome valley,  
he had to walk it by himself,  
Oh, nobody else could walk it for him;  
he had to walk it by himself

We must walk this lonesome valley,  
we have to walk it by ourselves.  
Oh, nobody else can walk it for us;  
we have to walk it by ourselves.

You must go and stand your trial,  
you have to stand it by yourself.  
Oh, nobody else can stand it for you,  
you have to stand it by yourself.

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

**People:** Amen.

## THE DISMISSAL

**Priest:** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**VOLUNTARY:** *Partita on "St. Flavian"*

Healey Willan  
(1880-1968)

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**ASSISTING AT THE 9:00 A.M. SERVICE TODAY:** Carl Ward, *Crucifer*; Laurie Adams, *Lay Minister*; Pat Dalby, *Flower Guild*; and Matt Bode and William Duthe, *Ushers*.

**THE GREENS 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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