



THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 2, 2021 · 9:00 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST

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

All who seek God are welcome at God's table.

PRELUDE: *Allegretto* from Sonata No. 4 in B-flat Major

Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

RECTOR'S WELCOME

HYMN 296

*We know that Christ is raised and dies no more
Please stand as the procession enters. Sung by the choir.*

We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows

Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold;
Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life
The Spi - rit's pow - er shakes the Church of God.
as Christ's new bo - dy takes on flesh and blood.

and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ. Al - le -
Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One.
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:

Final Ending

lu - ial — Al - le - lu - ial A - men.

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

Words: John Brownlow Geyer (b. 1932), alt.
Music: Engelberg, Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)
Copyright: Reprinted under Onelicense.net # A-701275.

THE WORD OF GOD

Please continue to stand.

Priest: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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.**

GLORIA (from *Mass in E*)

Sung by the quartet.

Jeffrey Smith

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Let us pray.

Priest: Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People: **Amen.**

THE READING*Please be seated.***Acts 8:26-40****9:00 a.m.***Read by Michelle Mangrum.***11:00 a.m.***Read by David Gallalee.*

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 22:24-30**9:00 a.m.** *Read by Martha Ellison.***11:00 a.m.** *Read by Laurie Adams.*

- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him:
"May your heart live for ever!"
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the Lord;
he rules over the nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him;
they shall be known as the Lord'S for ever.

30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn
the saving deeds that he has done.

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Tone VI

Alleluia.
The right hand of the Lord hath the preeminence:
the right hand of the Lord bringeth mighty things to pass.
Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 15:1-8

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

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. William Morris

Please be seated.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

9:00 a.m. Led by Scott Raab.

Please stand.

11:00 a.m. Led by Justin Dean.

Leader: Gracious God, we thank you for giving us power through your Holy Spirit to reveal your life to the world; strengthen, bless, and guide us to make you known by word and example. For our companion relationships with the **Anglican Church of Southern Africa*** and **the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem**. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, for **St. Monica and St. James Church, Washington**. We pray especially for **Michael**, our Presiding Bishop, for **Mariann and Chilton**, Bishops of Washington, and for all bishops and other ministers.

People: **We are your Church, O God. Guide us in your grace.**

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

Leader: We thank you for your creation, and pray for the earth which you have given us to cherish and protect; nourish in us your love for all you have made.

People: **We are your stewards, O God. Guide us in your grace.**

Leader: Guide and bless us in our work and play, and shape the patterns of our political and economic life; we pray for *Joseph*, our President, the leaders of *Congress*, the *Supreme Court*, and for all who serve our country; that all people may be fulfilled through the bounty of your creation.

People: **We are your servants, O God. Guide us in your grace.**

Leader: Awaken our hearts to your presence in all people: those we love easily and those with whom we struggle, those different from us and those similar to us, those familiar to us and those unfamiliar to us.

People: **We are made in your image, O God. Guide us in your grace.**

Leader: We thank you for calling us to the glorious heritage of your holy people. Free us from lack of vision, and from inertia of will and spirit. By your life-giving Spirit, lead us out of isolation and oppression, redeem and restore us.

People: **You are the life within us, O God. Guide us in your grace.**

Leader: We thank you for the gift of life, with all its blessings and sorrows. Shield the joyous, especially those who are celebrating a birthday this week, especially *Nikki Allen, William Bader, Grace Cherouny, Preston Cherouny, Joe Daniel, Joan Doty, Laura Doucet, Lee Folger, Anne Formanek, Ann Gardner, Carter Keithley, Daniel Kroese, Stewart Lillard, Jed Sadqi, Robert Schwartz, Sienna Siu, and Tatyana Williams*; for those celebrating an anniversary this week, especially *Christine and Thomas Arrasmith, Betsy and Daniel Danello, Carrie and Jim Garland, Caroline and Judd Littleton, and Emily and Jason Ornstein*; and in thanksgiving for the baptism yesterday of *Katherine Doyle Pappas*. Comfort and strengthen those in any need or trouble, especially those who are sick and who are shut-ins. Bless those who will be born today and bless those who have died, especially *Wayne Crochet* who died April 26, that by joining with the company of all your saints we may rejoice in one unending song of praise.

People: **In you alone we have eternal life, O God. Guide us in your grace.**

Priest: O God our strength and salvation, hear all our prayers this day, and grant that we may live in the joy of the Resurrection, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION

Priest: Let us confess our sins to Almighty God.

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

Sing my soul, his wondrous love

Ned Rorem
(b. 1923)

Sing, my soul, his wondrous love,
who from yon bright throne above,
ever watchful o'er our race,
still to us extends his grace.

Heaven and earth by him were made;
all is by his scepter swayed;
what are we that he should show
so much love to us below?

God, the merciful and good,
bought us with the Savior's blood,
and, to make our safety sure,
guides us by his Spirit pure.

Sing, my soul, adore his Name!
Let his glory be thy theme:
praise him till he calls thee home;
truth his love for all to come.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand.

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 him 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.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious Resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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 AND BENEDICTUS (from *Mass in E*)

Jeffrey Smith

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 remain standing.

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 many 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

Priest: 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

Anthem *Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life*

Harold Friedell
(1905–1958)

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
Such a Way, as gives us breath:
Such a Truth, as ends all strife:
Such a Life, as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:
Such a Light, as shows a feast:
Such a Feast, as mends in length:
Such a Strength, as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
Such a Joy, as none can move:
Such a Love, as none can part:
Such a Heart, as joyes in love.

– George Herbert

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: Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Please remain standing until the procession departs, then please be seated for the rest of the postlude.

POSTLUDE: *Prelude in F Major*

Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel
(1805-1847)

ST. JOHN'S QUARTET: Tory Wood, *Soprano*; Charlotte Stewart, *Alto*; Ned Sieverts, *Tenor*;
and Christopher Jones, *Bass*.

ASSISTING AT THE 9:00 A.M. SERVICE TODAY: Thom Sinclair, *Crucifer*; Hilary West, *Lay Minister*;
Katherine Kyle, *Flower Guild*; Eleanor and Peter Odom, *Greeters*; Rick Young, *Usher*.

ASSISTING AT THE 11:00 A.M. SERVICE TODAY: Matt Bode, *Crucifer*; Joanne Hutton, *Lay Minister*;
Katherine Kyle, *Flower Guild*; Patricia Leslie, *Greeter*; David Gallalee and Patricia Leslie, *Ushers*.

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for the baptism yesterday
of **Katherine Doyle Pappas**.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, LAFAYETTE SQUARE
COVENANT FOR REGATHERING IN WORSHIP

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, I promise, with God's help and to the best of my ability, to abide by the guidelines of the Diocese of Washington for participation in the life of my congregation according to the regathering phase in which my congregation is authorized to carry out its mission and ministry. I understand that the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19 is highly contagious, and there is a risk of infection that is beyond the control of the church in spite of precautions that are being taken. I will make my own decision as to my safety attending services, and for the safety of children and others in my care.

In fulfillment of our Baptismal Covenant, I will:

Love my neighbor as myself

- Wear a mask or scarf over my nose and mouth at all times in church buildings, except momentarily to receive the sacrament or lead worship through an assigned speaking part.
- Only attend worship and receive communion if I am healthy and non-symptomatic with the novel coronavirus or any other transmittable disease that could compromise the health of another congregant;

Respect the dignity of every human being

- Make no physical contact with people beyond the members of my own household.
- Maintain a six foot or more distance from others in the congregation. Respect any requests for distance, masking, cleaning, to ensure the safety and comfort level of others, even as restrictions are reduced.
- Immediately notify Church officials if I become symptomatic, if I am diagnosed as positive for the coronavirus, or if I believe I was at risk of infection when I attended the church.

Seek and serve Christ in all people

- Trust and support the decisions of our congregational leaders.
- Stay connected with others in my community by telephone, email, video chat, or mail.

I understand that although St. John's Church is taking precautions to avoid the spread of the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19, attending services nevertheless involves some risk of infection by the novel coronavirus and resulting injury. I voluntarily and knowingly accept that risk and waive any claims that I might have as a result.



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.

ST JOHN'S WEBSITE 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.

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
Lisa Koehler
Music Administrator
R. J. Gravina
Program Coordinator
Javier Obregon, *Sexton*
GeeGee Bryant and David Gamboa,
Assistant Sextons

Parish House

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