



The Reverend Robert W. Fisher
Rector

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

The Reverend Doug Kirby
Interim Associate Rector

Kaye Edwards
Assistant for Church Growth

Brent Erstad
Director of Music and Organist

Samantha Scheff
Associate Organist

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

*All worshippers in the church and those in the Parish House
over the age of two years must wear masks,
except when receiving the bread and wine.*

THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 19, 2021

7:45 A.M.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The Word of God, page 355, Book of Common Prayer

The First Reading: Jeremiah 11:18-20

Psalm 54

The Second Reading: James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

The Gospel: Mark 9:30-37

The Sermon: The Rev. Doug Kirby

Nicene Creed, page 358

The Prayers of the People, Form VI, page 392

The Peace

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer A, page 361

Prayer after Communion, page 365

Blessing and Dismissal

ASSISTING AT THE SERVICE TODAY: Lauren Edwards, *Reader and Chalice Bearer*; Katherine Kyle, *Flower Guild*; Bud Harrell, *Usher*.

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH are given to the glory of God; in loving memory of **David Young**; and in thanksgiving for the birthday of **Gary Lockett**.

Collect

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Jeremiah 11:18-20

It was the Lord who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds. But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!" But you, O Lord of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

Psalm 54

- 1 Save me, O God, by your Name;
in your might, defend my cause.
- 2 Hear my prayer, O God;
give ear to the words of my mouth.
- 3 For the arrogant have risen up against me,
and the ruthless have sought my life,
those who have no regard for God.
- 4 Behold, God is my helper;
it is the Lord who sustains my life.
- 5 Render evil to those who spy on me;
in your faithfulness, destroy them.
- 6 I will offer you a freewill sacrifice
and praise your Name, O Lord, for it is good.
- 7 For you have rescued me from every trouble,
and my eye has seen the ruin of my foes.

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

Mark 9:30-37

Jesus and his disciples passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

All persons, including children, are welcome to receive Holy Communion with us. Wait for an usher to dismiss your row. A priest, who has washed his or her hands immediately prior, will place a blessed wafer into your hands. Keep your mask on and proceed to the wine.

Blessed wine in small paper cups on a tray will be offered by a lay server. After taking the wine, take a few steps and briefly remove your mask to consume the bread and the wine, then place the cup in the basket at the end of the line. ***The cups will be reverently disposed of after the service.*** 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.

EVENTS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 20–26, 2021

Thursday September 23

6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Sunday September 26

- 7:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist—Homily—The Rev. Robert W. Fisher
8:30 a.m. Nursery (Parish House Second Floor)
9:00 a.m. Choral Holy Eucharist—Sermon
The Rev. Robert W. Fisher
10:00 a.m. Bible Study (Parish House Third Floor Conference
Room or Online via Zoom | Contact Jack Reiffer at
jjreiffer@gmail.com for the link to participate.)
Church School (Parish House Second Floor)
Speaker Series—Ruth Marcus, Deputy Editorial Page
Editor at *The Washington Post*
11:00 a.m. Choral Holy Eucharist—Sermon
The Rev. Robert W. Fisher
12:15 p.m. EFM Class (Parish House Third Floor
Conference Room)

NURSERY HOURS

Sundays, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Parish House Second Floor

The nursery will meet in the Godly Play Classroom #2 on the second floor of the Parish House. Please note that infants and children are welcome at all worship services. **Nursery care will be available from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. every Sunday for infants and children up to age 3. Please register your children here: <https://bit.ly/3yDTVhy>. Reminder: Masks are required for all children over the age of two.**

BOOK GROUP

Thursday, October 7 at 6:45 p.m.

The St. John's Book group will meet on Thursday, October 7, at 6:45 p.m. via Zoom to discuss *Chesapeake Requiem: A Year with the Watermen of Vanishing Tangier Island* by Earl Swift. This book is a 2018 account of a two-hundred-year-old crabbing community in the middle of the Chesapeake Bay as it faces rising sea levels and climate change. If you love to read, please join us for an evening of discussion and socializing. **For more information and for links to participate, contact Janet Edmond at janet0817@hotmail.com.**

SPEAKER SERIES SCHEDULE

The Speaker Series will be held in-person on the following Sundays in the Church or Togo West Parlor from 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. After the discussion, there will be opportunity for Q&A. **There will be no livestream Zoom option.** An audio recording will be available in the weekly newsletter *The Word* and the Speaker Series recording page of our website (here <https://bit.ly/sjSSAud>) the week after each talk.

- **September 26: Ruth Marcus**, Deputy Editorial Page Editor at *The Washington Post*. She will speak on *Politics and Policy in Washington*.
- **October 3: Elizabeth Rule**, Director of the AT&T Center for Indigenous Politics and Policy, Washington, DC's only university-based research center dedicated to American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian issues. She is also a Professor at American University. She will speak on *Native American History and Contemporary Indigenous Experience in DC and Beyond*.
- **October 17: Mike Molina**, Head of School of the Bishop John T. Walker School for Boys, Washington's only tuition-free, Episcopal school which serves families east of the Anacostia River. He will be speaking about the urgent opportunity to make generational impact through investment in the potential of African American boys by sharing his own journey from troubled youth to Yale Law School graduate.
- **October 24: Dr. Rebecca Carter-Chand**, Director of the Programs on Ethics, Religion, and the Holocaust at United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. She will speak on *Religion and the Holocaust*.

Visit the Speaker Series webpage at bit.ly/SJSpeakerSeries for more information.

START PLANNING FOR FALL EVENTS

CONFIRMATION CLASS FOR YOUTH 2021-2022

Registration Due Today, September 19

At Confirmation, the baptized make a mature public affirmation of their faith and commitment to live out their Baptismal promises (Book of Common Prayer, page 412). Confirmands go through a period of learning, prayer, and discernment leading up to the service where a bishop will pray and lay their hands on them asking for strength from the Holy Spirit. This year, we've made a clearer and simpler path for Confirmation Classes. Confirmands are required to be in seventh grade or higher, commit to attending six classes, one retreat, and participating in one parish activity. Visit bit.ly/3wmdtpa for the Confirmation brochure. Please **register at stjohns-dc.org/confirmation by September 19** to participate. **For more information, email us at youth@stjohns-dc.org.**

THE 2021 FALL ADULT INQUIRERS' CLASS

Saturdays, October 9 and October 16 |

(NEW TIME) 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

If you would like to be baptized, confirmed, or received into membership in the Episcopal Church at St. John's, join the 2021 Fall Adult Inquirers' Class. The two-day class will meet on Saturdays, October 9 and October 16, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The Rev. Rob Fisher, Rector of St. John's, will lead the sessions. Anyone – newcomer or longtime parishioner – interested in learning more about our Christian faith and life, the Episcopal tradition, and the ministry of St. John's Church, is invited to attend. **For more information or to register, contact Kaye Edwards at 202-347-8766, ext. 317 or by email at kaye.edwards@stjohns-dc.org.** Those who participate in this class, or have completed another inquirers' class, may attend a Service of Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows at Washington National Cathedral on Saturday, November 13.

MINISTRY FAIR

(NEW DATE) Sunday, October 10,

after the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services

Celebrating Parish Committees, Organizations, and Activities.

The Ministry Fair is a festive and welcoming way to recruit new people to parish ministries, to give newcomers a chance to see the variety of ministry happening at St. John's, and to meet some of the outstanding lay leaders from our parish.

START PLANNING FOR FALL EVENTS

(Continued from previous page)

THINKING ABOUT SCIENCE AND FAITH

Tuesday, October 19 at 7:00 p.m. | Online via Zoom

Would you be interested in exploring the intersections of modern science and theology this next year? Dr. Tony Tambasco, husband of parishioner Anne Stewart and Emeritus Professor of Theology at Georgetown University, has graciously offered to facilitate a study group and discussions. We expect to meet virtually by Zoom, and an organizational meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 19 at 7:00 p.m. The text we will use is John F. Haught's *Science and Faith: A New Introduction*, Paulist Press, 2012. The church has a few copies, and it is readily available for order online. **If you are interested in joining, please email Joanne Hutton at joannerhutton@gmail.com, with Science and Theology study group in the subject line.**

SUNDAY WORSHIP PARTICIPANT RETREAT, WORKSHOP, AND TRAINING

(NEW DATE) Saturday, October 23, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

St. John's Parish House and Church

St. John's clergy and lay leaders will be hosting a morning of prayer, retreat, and training, followed by lunch, for all who currently serve or who would like to be trained to serve in the Sunday worship services. This includes crucifers, acolytes, lectors, chalice bearers, flower guild, ushers, livestream broadcasters, and greeters. If you are interested in learning more about helping with any of these roles, please join us October 23. **Register here: bit.ly/3iPjfw1. For more information, please contact Holly Sukenik at hsukenik@hotmail.com.**

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP: LUNCH ON THE PLAZA

In lieu of resuming our Sunday Parish Lunch tradition in the dining room, and in order to comply with Covid-19 safety and health guidelines, St. John's is requesting hosts for informal lunch hour receptions outside, on the plaza, after the 11:00 a.m. service. Your help is needed to offer this fellowship opportunity featuring fingerfood on the plaza. Hosts may be reimbursed for expenses or receive a tax receipt. **Please contact Holly Sukenik at hsukenik@hotmail.com to sign up, select a date, and receive guidelines.**

START PLANNING FOR FALL EVENTS

(Continued from previous page)

BUILDING COMMUNITY: OUTDOOR SOCIAL GATHERINGS

To comply with safe Covid restrictions, St. John's will sponsor outdoor community events that connect parishioners away from the church campus. Options include cocktail parties on patios, brunches or suppers outdoors, picnics at parks, happy hour at a local establishment with an outdoor area, hikes, and bird watching.

- Hosts will determine the type of activity they want to organize.
- Hosts will choose a date.
- Hosts will establish the number of guests they can accommodate.

We recommend that you set and advertise a limit (e.g., space is limited so the first 20 responses will be accepted.) **If you are interested in hosting, please contact Holly Sukenik at hsukenik@hotmail.com.**

SING WITH THE PARISH CHOIR

The Parish Choir is a group of dedicated volunteer musicians who provide choral music for the 9:00 a.m. worship service and for special events throughout the year. The choir rehearses on Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:30 p.m. with a light dinner provided at 6:30 p.m. There is a straightforward voice trial prior to joining, but the main qualifications are a commitment to the schedule and enthusiasm for serving our church through its music ministry. **Please be in touch with Brent Erstad, Director of Music and Organist, at Brent.Erstad@stjohns-dc.org to learn more.**

UPDATE FROM THE REFUGEE COMMITTEE

The Refugee Committee is eagerly awaiting the assignment of an Afghan refugee family to support through the Lutheran Social Services' Good Neighbor program. Until that time, we are supporting community-wide efforts to welcome incoming Afghani refugee families with open arms in all the ways we can. **To find out more about the ongoing work of this committee, please contact Jessica Sanchez at jesspulsifersanchez@gmail.com.**

LISTEN AGAIN TO SUNDAY SERMONS

If you missed a Sunday at St. John's Church or would like to listen again to past sermons or speaker series, you can visit the St. John's website and click on the "Media" tab at the top of the page to listen. You can also find past sermons by searching for "St. John's Church, Lafayette Square" in the Podcast app on your device.

DEDICATIONS FOR MUSIC FESTIVAL SERVICES

We invite parishioners to sponsor extra musicians for Music Festival Services and other special events in the life of the parish. These generous contributions enhance our worship life and allow us to present large-scale musical works over the course of the program year. Sponsorship is recognized by a dedication on the title page of the bulletin for the given service. A list of upcoming services that are currently available for sponsorship is below:

Monthly Choral Evensong

St. John's is excited to offer a service of Choral Evensong on the Third Thursday of most months beginning in October. This weekday offering begins a new outreach ministry to the workday crowd in our neighborhood.

Sponsorship Cost: \$1,560 per service.

Advent Lessons and Carols

December 12, 2021

Sponsor singers for one of St. John's most beloved holiday traditions, the annual service of Lessons & Carols, sung by the St. John's Choir.

Sponsorship Cost: \$1,048.

Festival Strings for Christmas Eve

December 24, 2021

Sponsor the string ensemble that enhances the beauty of our Christmas Eve music. Sponsorship Cost: \$3,000.

Epiphany Lessons and Carols

January 23, 2022

Sponsor four additional singers to join the Parish Choir in a service of Lessons & Carols

for the Season of Epiphany. Sponsorship Cost: \$500.

If you are interested in sponsoring a service, please contact Director of Music, Brent Erstad at brent.erstad@stjohns-dc.org.

ONLINE DONATIONS

If you would like to make an offering, you may do so online at <https://bit.ly/SJCLGive> or by scanning the QR code below. In the "Fund" drop down menu, please select the fund to which you would like to donate.



FLOWER DELIVERIES

Help brighten the day of parishioners who can't be with us by taking them flowers, located in the side chapel. A card is attached to each vase with contact information. Thank you for checking to see if a delivery address is convenient for you.

Flowers need to be delivered on Crayford Street, Burke, VA and Virginia Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.

PASTORAL CARE AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

Praying for the sick and those in need is an important part of our life together. We invite you to add yourself, family, or friends to the parish prayer list. Other than birthdays, anniversaries, and deaths, names added to the prayer list will appear for four consecutive weeks. If you would like the name to be on the prayer list for a shorter or longer period of time, please let us know. We are listing in parentheses the name of the person requesting prayers for family and friends who are not members of the congregation. **To add a name to the prayer list, please email us at pastoralcare@stjohns-dc.org.**

OUR PRAYERS are requested for the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially:

Those who are sick, recovering or grieving:

From our parish: Eve Atkeson, Rob Fisher, Susan Herrington, Nelda Johnson, Susan Lewis, Jimmy Lowe, and John More.

Friends and family of our parish: Barbara Virginia Abalos Branes (*Joanne Hutton*), Barton Edwards Bruce (*Kaye Edwards*), LaKeshia Bryant (*GeeGee Bryant*), Wendy Addiss Dellar (*Joanne Hutton*), Karl Dornemann (*Deb Dornemann*), Bobby Doyle (*Alex Pappas*), Reagan Eudy (*Alfred Thesmar*), Jimmy Gallagher (*Joanne Hutton*), Frances Givhan (*Gay and Bob Pasley*), Elaine Gravatt (*Margo Wiegenstein*), Linda Young Gsell (*Rick Young*), Nancy and Neil Guard (*Kate Benner*), Valerie Hart (*Emily and Jason Ornstein*), Courtney Jordan

Hillman (*Erika Northcutt*), Vera Hyncik (*Holly Sukenik*), Charles Jones (*GeeGee Bryant*), Tom Kiernan (*Joanne Hutton*), Chase Lasbury (*Garrett Russo*), Melanie Markiewicz and William Markiewicz (*Matthew Taylor*), Tammy McCleaf (*Matthew Taylor*), Kathryn McGraw (*Mary and Carl Raether*), William Scott Miller, Jr. (*Johnathan Miller*), Britt Neff (*Julie Neff-Lippman*), Judy Nicola (*Cynthia Walker*), Wendy Paeth (*Margo Wiegenstein*), John Perry (*Joanne Hutton*), Pearson Reynolds (*Kerri Stelcen*), Susan Roberts (*Kaye Edwards*), Cawley Scott (*Robyne Johnston*), Scott (*Marta Cook & Cal Trepagnier*), Mark Sissman (*Mead Sissman*), and Ann Tusa (*Will Morris*).

Those who are in rehabilitative care:

From our parish: Jeanne Grimmitt and Marcella Odom.

Friends and family of our parish: Pereda "Pete" Paty (*John Paty*).

Those who are in the hospital:

Friends and family of our parish: Julie Howell (*Cynthia Walker*) and Marsha Bonnet (*Kerri Stelcen*).

Those who are in hospice care:

Friends and family of our parish: Ora Jackson (*Wande Johnson*).

Those who died:

Friends and family of our parish: David Williams who died September 14.

Those who were born:

From our parish: James Andrew Azzarello who was born September 10.

Those in our parish celebrating a birthday this week:

Sigrid Block, Nita Blundon, Robert Craft, René Doucet, Caroline Faris, Art Fisher, Sebastian Gonzalez, Will Green, Samuel Greene, Nick Hailey, Kristy Highsmith, Mason Jeffers, Elizabeth Johnston, Emily Kallaur, Christine Kennedy, Margot Kieve, Tiffany Manchester, Ivy Mason, Michael Mengel, Quin Woodward Pu, Denzel Ramirez, Lucy Smith, and Kate Walker.

Those in our parish celebrating an anniversary this week: Leo Lex and Ryan Bishop, Anne and Cliff Elmore, Tammi and Bob Hoback, Elizabeth and Bayne Johnston, and Eleanor and Peter Odom.

For those on the front lines, especially:

Friends and family of our parish: Janie Abernethy (*Elizabeth Lewis and David Abernethy*), Sandra Brown (*Becca Brown*), Nathan Cobb (*Livy and John More*), Chris Gardner (*Ann Gardner*), Yee Houston (*Quin Woodward Pu*), and Marta Kochanska (*Livy and John More*).

Please help us keep these lists updated by contacting Pastoral Care at pastoralcare@stjohns-dc.org as soon as you can with corrections, additions, and updates on status.

HONOR YOUR LOVED ONES WITH FLOWERS

You can recognize your loved ones or a special event with a dedication in our Sunday bulletin when you make a contribution to the Flower Fund. In doing so, you invite the congregation to participate in remembering a loved one, a birth or birthday, or a wedding, anniversary, graduation, or other special event.

St. John’s Flower Guild lovingly arranges flowers each week for our Sunday services. You can choose to dedicate the two main altar arrangements with a contribution of \$110, the side chapel for \$55, or the narthex for \$55. Or, you can dedicate all four arrangements in the church for \$220.

Payments can be made online at <http://bit.ly/SJCLGive> by choosing Sunday Flowers in the dropdown menu.

**Payments by check should be made payable to St. John’s Church and be mailed to
1525 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20005,
attention Finance Office.**

Please contact the Parish Office at 202-347-8766 if you have questions.

(Circle one)

In Memory of | Thanksgiving for | Celebration of:

Dedication Date (Sunday): _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____ **Email:** _____

(Circle one)

Entire Church-\$220 | Main Altar-\$110 | Side Altar-\$55 | Narthex-\$55

Thank you!

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
Carl Ward

Casey Evans,
Treasurer

Sara McGanity,
Assistant Treasurer

Allie Raether,
Secretary

Harker Rhodes
Parish Counsel

Head Usher

James H. Czerwonky

Heads of Flower Guild

Pat Dalby
Katherine Kyle

The Parish Staff

Kim Carlson
Director for Operations

Preston Cherouny
Financial Secretary

Sharlyne Griffin
Operations Assistant

Lisa Koehler
Music Administrator

R. J. Gravina
Program Coordinator

Javier Obregon, *Sexton*

GeeGee Bryant
and David Gamboa
Assistant Sextons



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 weekly calendar, the Sunday service schedule, Speaker Series speakers and topics, and newsworthy events.

Parish House

1525 H Street, NW Washington, DC 20005-1005
202-347-8766
www.stjohns-dc.org