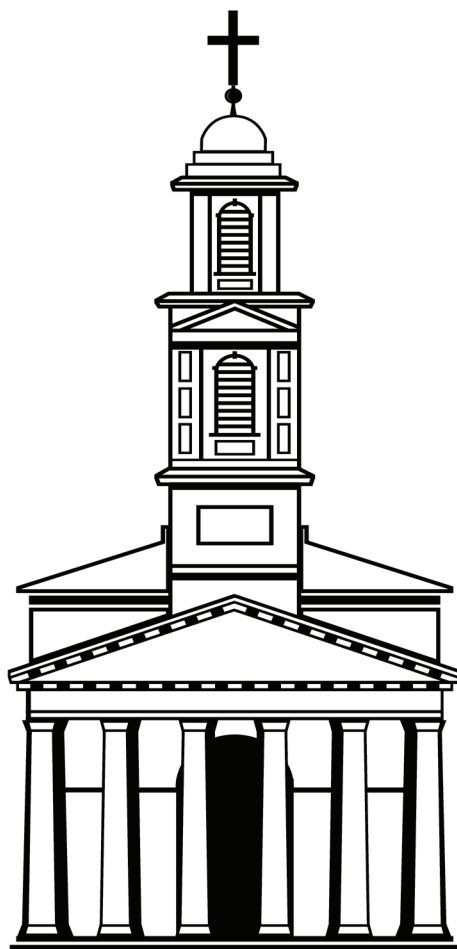


THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD: CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2023 ♦ Holy Eucharist at 7 and 10 p.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 on the second floor of the Parish House during the 7 p.m. service.

Please remember to turn off your cell phone.

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.

May the blessings and joys of Christmas be with you now and throughout the coming year.

*The music for this service is dedicated to the glory of God,
and is made possible in part by gifts from*

Adelle Simmons

&

*Wendy J. Fibison in memory of Samuel Watson III
and in thanksgiving for Peter T. Watkins*

PRELUDE MUSIC

VOLUNTARY

The Wexford Carol

Trent Johnson (b. 1963)

CAROL *Sung by the choir.*

Sans Day Carol

arr. John Rutter (b. 1945)

Now the holly bears a berry as white as the milk,
and Mary bore Jesus, all wrapped up in silk.

*And Mary bore Jesus Christ our Savior for to be,
and the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly.*

Now the holly bears a berry as green as the grass,
and Mary bore Jesus, who died on the cross. *Refrain*

Now the holly bears a berry as black as the coal,
and Mary bore Jesus, who died for us all. *Refrain*

Now the holly bears a berry, as blood is it red,
then trust we our Savior, who rose from the dead. *Refrain*

—Traditional Cornish

HYMN 105 *Sung by all from the hymnal.*

God rest you merry, gentlemen

CAROL *Sung by the choir.* Sussex Carol arr. David Willcocks (1919–2015)

On Christmas night all Christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring:
news of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should men on earth be so sad, since our Redeemer made us glad?
When from our sin he set us free, all for to gain our liberty?

When sin departs before his grace, then life and health come in its place.
Angels and men with joy may sing, all for to see the newborn King.

All out of darkness we have light which made the angels sing this night:
Glory to God and peace to men, now and for ever more. Amen!

—*Traditional English*

HYMN 101 *Sung by all from the hymnal.* Away in a manger

STRING ENSEMBLE Five Ancient Carols arr. Matthew Naughtin (b. 1947)

CAROL *Sung by the choir.* I saw three ships arr. Stuart Nicholson (b. 1975)

I saw three ships come sailing in on Christmas Day, on Christmas Day.
I saw three ships come sailing in on Christmas Day in the morning.

And what was in those ships all three on Christmas Day, on Christmas Day?
And what was in those ships all three on Christmas Day in the morning?

Our Savior Christ and his lady on Christmas Day, on Christmas Day.
Our Savior Christ and his lady on Christmas Day in the morning.

Pray, whither sailed those ships all three on Christmas Day, on Christmas Day?
Pray, whither sailed those ships all three on Christmas Day in the morning?

Oh, they sailed into Bethlehem on Christmas Day, on Christmas Day.
Oh, they sailed into Bethlehem on Christmas Day in the morning.

And all the bells on earth shall ring on Christmas Day in the morning.

And all the angels in heaven shall sing on Christmas Day, on Christmas Day.
And all the angels in heaven shall sing on Christmas Day in the morning.

And all the souls on earth shall sing on Christmas Day, on Christmas Day.
And all the souls on earth shall sing on Christmas Day in the morning.

Then let us all rejoice amain on Christmas Day, on Christmas Day.
Then let us all rejoice amain on Christmas Day in the morning.

—*Traditional English carol*

HYMN 87 *Sung by all from the hymnal.* Hark! the herald angels sing

VOLUNTARY Canonic Variations on *Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her* Johann Sebastian Bach
(From heaven above to earth I come), BWV 769 (1685–1750)

CHORAL EUCHARIST

HYMN 83

O come, all ye faithful

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

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2 God from — God, — Light from Light e - ter - nal, —
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, —
*4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle, —
*5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger, —

1 come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;
2 lo! he ab - hors — not the Vir - gin's womb;
3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
4 leav - ing their flocks, — draw — nigh to gaze;
5 we would em - brace — thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son — of the Fa - ther;
3 glo - ry to God, — glo - ry in the high - est;
4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;
5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
 Jesus, to thee be glory given;
 Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; *Refrain*

Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others. Music: *Adeste fideles*, present form of melody att. John Francis Wade (1711-1786); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

THE WORD OF GOD

Please remain standing as you are able.

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

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

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. **Amen.**

GLORIA

Missa ad praesepe (Mass at the Crib)

George Malcolm (1917–1977)

Sung by the choir.

Gloria in excelsis Deo et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis. Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te, gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam, Dómine Deus, Rex caelestis, Deus Pater omnipotens. Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe, Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis; qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram. Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis. Quoniam tu solus Sanctus, tu solus Dominus, tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe, cum Sancto Spiritu: in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

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.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

Please be seated.

7 p.m. Read by Riley Temple.

10 p.m. Read by Martha Ellison.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN 107 *Sung by all, standing as you are able.*

Good Christian friends, rejoice

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
now ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He hath o - pened hea - ven's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Words: John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: In dulci jubilo, German carol, 14th cent.; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944).

THE SECOND READING

Titus 2:11-14

Please be seated.

7 p.m. Read by Robyne Johnston.

10 p.m. Read by Justin Dean.

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN 96

Angels we have heard on high

Sung by all, standing as you are able. Stanzas 1 & 2 will be sung before the Gospel, stanzas 3 & 4 after.

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
 4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
 What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
 Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

Refrain

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -

- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt. Music: *Gloria*, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958).

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

Please remain standing as you are able.

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

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

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Following the Gospel, all sing stanzas 3 & 4 of the gradual hymn.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher

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

7 p.m. Led by Sandra Hackworth.

Please remain standing as you are able.

10 p.m. Led by Jack Reiffer.

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. For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Mariann, our Bishop; and for all clergy and other ministers, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For Joseph, 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, 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, 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, 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 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. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

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

Silence.

All 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.**

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. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

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

In the bleak midwinter

Harold Darke (1888–1976)

Sung by the choir.

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain; heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign:
In the bleak midwinter a stable-place sufficed the Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.

Enough for Him, whom cherubim worship night and day, a breast full of milk and a manger full of hay:
Enough for him, whom angels fall down before, the ox and ass and camel which adore.

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him—give my heart.

—*Christina Rossetti (1830–1894)*

HYMN 109

The first Nowell the angel did say

Sung by all, standing as you are able.

1 The first No - well the an - gel did say
 2 They look - ed up and saw a star
 3 And by the light of that same star

1 was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;
 2 shin - ing in the east be - yond them far,
 3 three wise men came from coun - try far;

1 in fields as they lay, keep - ing their sheep,
 2 and to the earth it gave great light,
 3 to seek for a king was their in - tent,

1 on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
 2 and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 3 and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.

Refrain

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

6 Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood our life hath bought.

Refrain

Words: English Carol, 18th cent. Music: *The First Nowell*, English carol, 17th cent.; harm. John Stainer (1841-1901); alt. refrain harm. and desc. Healey Willan (1880-1968). Alternative setting with descant, Copyright © 1926, by Oxford University Press,

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. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. 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:

Sung by the choir.

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, Dominus Sabaoth.

Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.

Osanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.

Osanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts.

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 as you are able. The priest continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

People **We remember his death,**

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory.

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all, presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. John and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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

AGNUS DEI

Missa ad praesepe

George Malcolm

Sung by the choir.

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.*

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, who takes away 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

O magnum mysterium Tomás Luis de Victoria (c. 1548–1611))

Sung by the choir.

*O magnum mysterium, et admirabile sacramentum,
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum, iacentem
in praesepio. O beata Virgo, cujus viscera meruerunt
portare Dominum Iesum Christum. Alleluia.*

O great mystery, and wonderful sacrament, that beasts should see the newborn Lord, lying in a manger. O Blessed Virgin, in whose unblemished womb was carried the Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia.

—*Traditional Latin*

HYMN 81 *Sung by all from the hymnal, seated.*

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming

HYMN 115 *Sung by all from the hymnal, seated.*

What child is this, who, laid to rest

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Please tip your candle into the flame to receive the light.
After receiving the light, please hold your candle upright.

HYMN 111 *Sung by all, seated or kneeling as you are able.*

Silent night, holy night

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885). Music: *Stille Nacht*, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910).

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

Priest Let us pray.

All 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. Amen.

After the blessing, please cup your hand behind the flame and extinguish your candle.

The service continues on the next page.

HYMN 100

Joy to the world! the Lord is come

Sung by all, standing as you are able.

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
 *3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: *Antioch*, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

THE DISMISSAL

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

People Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

In dulci jubilo, BWV 729

J.S. Bach

At the conclusion of the service, please place your candle in the basket near the exit.

STRING ENSEMBLE

Henry Tyszler and Mari Washington, *violin* ♦ Matthew Maffett, *viola*
Christine Lightner, *cello* ♦ Morgan Daly, *bass*

ST. JOHN'S CHOIR

Elissa Edwards, Kerry Holahan, and Tory Wood, *Sopranos*
Lisa Koehler, Charlotte Stewart, and Louisa Waycott, *Altos*
David Evans, Andrew Sauvageau, and William Watson, *Tenors*
Justin Dean, Christopher Jones, and Nathan Lofton, *Basses*

ASSISTING AT THE 7 P.M. SERVICE

Brandon Montgomery, *Crucifer*
Kevin Cordova-Brookey and Michelle Mangrum, *Chalice Bearers*
Anthony Pegues, *Assistant Head Usher* ♦ Claire Unger and Jess Unger, *Ushers*
Ryan Wagner, *Livestream Operator*

ASSISTING AT THE 10 P.M. SERVICE

Kenny Kraft, *Crucifer*
Jack Reiffer, *Chalice Bearer*
Alfred Thesmar, *Assistant Head Usher* ♦ Claire Unger and Jess Unger, *Ushers*

FLOWER GUILD

Sarah Agnes, Pat Dalby, Susan Feaster, Anne Harrington, Sarah Harrington, Joanne Hutton,
Lara Kanitra, Katherine Kyle, Elizabeth Lewis, Sherill Mason

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 on Sundays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Look for the valet sign at the corner of Black Lives Matter Plaza (16th Street) and H Street, NW. ♦ Follow us on Instagram at @stjohnschurchlafayettesquare. See photos from St. John's musical performances, special events, meetings, Sunday services, and more. Relive the moment or experience it for the first time through the touch of a button on your smartphone.
