

SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH

LAFAYETTE SQUARE • WASHINGTON, DC

CHORAL EVENSONG

January 17, 2024 ♦ Confession of Saint Peter the Apostle

*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

Whether you are a longtime member or a visitor, we are happy to welcome you this evening. If you would like to learn more about St. John's and our presence in this city, we invite you to fill out a "Welcome" card that can be placed in the offering plate or handed to an usher. Choral Evensong is offered on the third Wednesday of each month from September through May. To see a schedule of upcoming services and events, visit our website: www.stjohns-dc.org.

Steeped in the beauty of the Anglican tradition, Evensong meets us at the even point between the active day and the restful night. It draws on the richness of monastic worship by inviting us to reflect upon scripture, to sing praises to God, and to pray. In its cadence, Evensong speaks to many of our deepest 21st-century needs, providing space for peace and for contemplation. We hope that this service, in the midst of this busy city, refreshes and restores you this evening.

SETTINGS FOR THIS EVENING

Preces and Responses by William Smith (1603–1645)

Canticles by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875–1912)

VOLUNTARY "A Pleasant Thought" and "In Quiet Mood" Florence Price (1887–1953)

INTROIT My eyes for beauty pine Herbert Howells (1892–1983)

My eyes for beauty pine, my soul for Goddës grace:
No other care nor hope is mine; to heaven I turn my face.

One splendour thence is shed from all the stars above:
'Tis named when Goddës name is said; 'tis Love, 'tis heavenly Love.

And every gentle heart that burns with true desire
is lit from eyes that mirror part of that celestial fire.

—Robert Bridges (1844–1930)

HYMN 28

O blest Creator, source of light

Please stand as the procession enters and remain standing to sing the hymn.

1 O blest Cre - a - tor, source of light, you gave the
 2 You joined the morn and eve - ning ray; you found it
 3 Lest we, be - set by doubt and strife, for - get your
 4 E - te - rnal Fa - ther, help us rise and strive to
 *5 De - fend us, Fa - ther, through the night, and with your

1 day with splen - dor bright, when on the new and
 2 good and called it 'day.' But now the threat - ening
 3 bless - ed gift of life, and an - gushed and in
 4 gain the heav - en - ly prize; for you a - lone can
 5 Son, and Spi - rit bright— the Tri - ni - ty whom

1 liv - ing earth you brought all things to glo - rious birth.
 2 dark - ness nears— we pray you, Fa - ther, calm our fears.
 3 mind dis - tressed, be crushed by guilt, by sin op - pressed.
 4 make us strong to turn from sin and cease from wrong.
 5 we a - dore— be with us now and ev - er - more.

Words: Latin, 6th cent.; tr. Anne K. LeCroy (b. 1930), alt. Copyright © 1982, Anne LeCroy. Music: Bromley, Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809).

WELCOME

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher

THE OPENING SENTENCES

Please remain standing.

Yours is the day, O God, yours also the night; you established the moon and the sun.

You fixed all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter. —*Psalm 74:15, 16*

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” —*John 8:12*

THE PRECES AND RESPONSES

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips;

Choir And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

Officiant O God, make speed to save us;

Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

Choir As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.
Praise ye the Lord.

PSALM 23

Dominus regit me

Henry Walford Davies (1869–1941)

Please be seated.

The LORD is my shepherd; *
therefore can I lack nothing.

He shall feed me in a green pasture *
and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.

He shall convert my soul *
and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; *
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.

Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me; *
thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.

But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Read by Riley Temple.

Acts 4:8-13

Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is ‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.’ There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.” Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John and realized that they were uneducated and ordinary men, they were amazed and recognized them as companions of Jesus.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE MAGNIFICAT

Sung by the choir.

My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me,
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm;
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat,
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel,
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE SECOND READING

Read by Andrew Clarke.

Matthew 16:13-19

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE NUNC DIMITTIS

Sung by the choir.

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,
according to thy word,
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles,
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Sung by all on a monotone, standing as you are able.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

Officiant The Lord be with you.

Choir And with thy spirit.

Officiant Let us pray.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Robert Stone (1516–1613)

Sung by the choir.

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. Amen.

THE SUFFRAGES

Officiant O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

Choir And grant us thy salvation.

Officiant O Lord, save the State;

Choir And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Officiant Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

Choir And make thy chosen people joyful.

Officiant O Lord, save thy people;

Choir And bless thine inheritance.

Officiant Give peace in our time, O Lord;

Choir Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

Officiant O God, make clean our hearts within us;

Choir And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

THE COLLECTS

Officiant Almighty Father, who inspired Simon Peter, first among the apostles, to confess Jesus as Messiah and Son of the living God: Keep your Church steadfast upon the rock of this faith, so that in unity and peace we may proclaim the one truth and follow the one Lord, our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Choir Amen.

Officiant Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior.

Choir Amen.

Officiant Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

Choir Amen.

REMARKS

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher

Please be seated.

An offering to support the ministry of St. John's Church will be collected during the singing of the anthem. You may make an offering by placing your donation in the plate or using 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.



THE ANTHEM

Tu es Petrus Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525–1594)

Sung by the choir.

*Tu es Petrus et super hanc petram aedificabo ecclesiam meam
et portae inferi non praevalent adversus eam.
Et tibi dabo claves regni caelorum.*

*Quodcumque ligaveris super terram, erit ligatum et in caelis,
et quodcumque solveris super terram, erit solutum et in caelis.
Et tibi dabo claves regni caelorum.*

You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church:
and the gates of hell shall not overcome it.
And I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven.

Whatever you bind upon earth shall be bound in heaven,
and whatever you release upon earth shall be released in heaven,
and I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven.

—*Matthew 16:18-19*

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Said by all, standing as you are able.

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

Choir Thanks be to God.

Officiant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost,
be with us all evermore.

People Amen.

HYMN 482 *Sung by all.*

Lord of all hopefulness



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace,
whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm,



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our lab - ors, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Words: Jan Struther (1901-1953). By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927; harm. *Hymnal* 1982.

VOLUNTARY

Tu es Petrus

Jeanne Demessieux (1921–1968)

ASSISTING AT THIS SERVICE

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher, *Rector* ♦ Kevin Cordova-Brookey, *Crucifer*

David Gallalee and Richard Young, *Ushers*

Jeremy Sheeler, *Livestream Technician*

St. John's Choir and Choristers ♦ Brent Erstad, *Director of Music*

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.**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. JOHN'S

MIDWEEK MEN'S GROUP

Thursday, January 18, at noon

This lectionary-based Bible study for men of all ages is convened by parishioner Carter Keithley, who holds a master's degree from Virginia Theological Seminary. The group meets on the third Thursday of every month for a brown-bag lunch with fellowship and a wide-ranging, scripture-based conversation. Questions? Contact us via the Ministry Directory at stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory.



SPEAKER SERIES

Sunday, January 21, at 10 a.m.

The Speaker Series is held most Sundays from September through May. This Sunday, Rustin Lewis, Monique Baker, and Yohanna M'Bedgue of **Communities in Schools (CIS)** will describe challenges facing many DC students and the support offered to them by CIS, a nationwide initiative to surround students with a community of support and empower them to stay in school and achieve in life.

THE 2024 SPRING ADULT INQUIRERS' CLASS

Saturdays, March 16 and 23

Would you like to be baptized, confirmed, or received into membership in the Episcopal Church at St. John's? If so, please join the Spring Adult Inquirers' Class. This two-day class will meet on Saturdays, March 16 and 23, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Rev. Rob Fisher, Rector of St. John's, will lead the sessions.

All are welcome, whether you are a newcomer or a longtime parishioner. This is an opportunity to learn more about our Christian faith, the Episcopal tradition, and the ministry of St. John's Church. To register, please contact Lisa Koehler via the About: Leadership tab on our website. Those who participate or who have completed another inquirers' class are invited to celebrate with a Service of Confirmation,

Reception, and Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows during the bishop's visit to St. John's on Sunday, April 14.

WOMEN IN THE ARTS

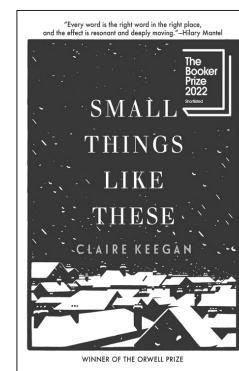
Sunday, February 25, at 2 p.m.

The Sisters at St. John's is a group of women who support each other throughout the year in friendship, fellowship, and ministry. Join us this February for a docent-led tour of the National Museum of Women in the Arts. All St. John's women are welcome. Tickets will be available at the door (\$16), and we hope to gather beforehand for lunch. Please let us know if you plan to attend the lunch and/or the tour. And if you are a woman at St. John's—or if you know of one—who is in need of support for reasons such as a birth, death, or illness, please reach out as well. You can find us through the online Ministry Directory at stjohns-dc.org.

ST. JOHN'S BOOK GROUP

Thursday, February 1, at 7 p.m.

Join us in person at the church or via Zoom to discuss *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan. Set in Ireland, this novel tells the story of Bill Furlong, a coal merchant and family man who faces a surprising discovery while delivering an order to the local convent. Bill is forced to confront his past and the complicit silences of the church. The book group meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. For information, contact us via the online Ministry Directory at stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory.



MIDWEEK MUSIC

Wednesday, February 7, at 12:15 p.m.

Our monthly Midweek Music concerts continue with "The Plague of Love," a performance by the DC Singers Collective of music by Claudio Monteverdi and Barbara Strozzi, two composers who focused much of their artistic energy on themes of love in times of hardship. Midweek Music performances take place during the lunch hour on the first Wednesday of each month from October through May and are open to the public free of charge.

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

Vestry

Clark Ervin, *Senior Warden*

Nora Rigby, *Junior Warden*

Laurie Adams, Tony Anikeeff, Krista Rimple Bradley,

Casey Evans, Wendy J. Fibison, David Gallalee,

Fruzsina Harsanyi, Ucheora Onwuamaegbu,

Anthony Pegues, Matthew Taylor, Alfred Thesmar,

and Carl Ward, *Members*

Sara McGanity, *Treasurer*

Jeremy Skog, *Assistant Treasurer*

Allie Raether, *Secretary*

Harker Rhodes, *Parish Counsel*

Head Usher

James H. Czerwonky

Heads of Flower Guild

Pat Dalby and Katherine Kyle

Head Greeters

Eleanor and Peter Odom

Worship and Program Staff

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher, *Rector*

The Rev. Sarah Akers-Cardwell, *Associate
for Children and Family Ministries*

The Rev. Shawn Evelyn, *Associate for Parish Life*

The Rev. William Morris, *Assisting Priest
for Engaging Local Communities*

Brent Erstad, *Director of Music and Organist*

Lyn Loewi, *Associate Organist*

Staff

Charley Griffin, *Interim Parish Administrator*

Lisa Koehler, *Program Associate and
Executive Assistant to the Rector*

David Evans, *Hospitality, Administration,
and Program Assistant*

Obi Onwuamaegbu, *Front Desk Support*

Javier Obregon, *Sexton*

GeeGee Bryant and David Gamboa, *Assistant Sextons*

Anne Stone, *Publications*

ST. JOHN'S MISSION STATEMENT

St. John's shines as a beacon of God's love through faith, worship, care, and community, and offers a place of grace at our historic corner in the nation's capital.

Parish House

1525 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005-1005

(202) 347-8766 ♦ www.stjohns-dc.org