

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS  
FOR CHRISTMAS

December 22, 2024 ♦ 5:30 p.m.



# SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH

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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**.

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.

The special music for this service is given to the glory of God, by Bill and Sara Josey.

## VOLUNTARIES

Auprès de la Crèche	Hedwige Chrétien (1859–1944)
Berceuse de l'Enfant Jésus	Hedwige Chrétien
In dulci júbilo, BWV 608	J.S. Bach (1685–1750)
La Nativité	Jean Langlais (1907–1971)
Chorale Prelude on <i>Das neugeborne Kindelein</i>	Roger Dickerson (b. 1934)
Pastorale, BWV 590	J.S. Bach
Noël X	Louis-Claude Daquin (1694–1772)

Please stand as you are able at the tolling of the bell.

## HYMN 102

Once in royal David's city

Stanza 1 sung by a chorister. Stanza 2 sung by the choir. Please join in singing stanzas 3–6.

*Solo* Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

*Choir* He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all,  
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;  
with the poor, the scorned, the lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

3 We, like Ma - ry, rest con - found - ed that a  
4 For he is our life - long pat - tern; dai - ly,  
5 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his  
6 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the

3 sta - ble should dis - play hea - ven's Word, the world's cre -  
4 when on earth he grew, he was tempt - ed, scorned, re -  
5 own re - deem - ing love; for that child who seemed so  
6 ox - en stand - ing round, we shall see him; but in

3 a - tor, cra - dled there on Christ - mas Day, yet this  
 4 ject - ed, tears and smiles like us he knew. Thus he  
 5 help - less is our Lord in heaven a - bove; and he  
 6 hea - ven, where his saints his throne sur - round: Christ, re -

3 child, our Lord and bro - ther, brought us love for one an - oth - er.  
 4 feels for all our sad - ness, and he shares in all our glad - ness.  
 5 leads his chil - dren on \_\_\_\_\_ to the place where he is gone. \_\_\_\_\_  
 6 vealed to faith - ful eye, \_\_\_\_\_ set at God's right hand on high. \_\_\_\_\_

Words: St. 1, 2, and 4–6, Cecil Frances Alexander (1818–1895), alt.; st. 3, James Waring McCrady (b. 1938).  
 Music: *Irby*, melody Henry John Gauntlett (1805–1876); harm. Arthur Henry Mann (1850–1929).

## BIDDING PRAYER

*Read by the Rev. William Morris,*

*Please remain standing as you are able.*

*Assisting Priest for Engaging Local Communities.*

*Priest* Beloved in Christ, as we draw near to Christmastide, let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger. Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this holy Child; and let us make this place glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this city. And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love. Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in the Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one. These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself taught us:

*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.

*Priest* The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

*God tells Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.*

*Read by Scout Fairbanks, Chorister.*

They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel." And to the man he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

## CAROL

This is the truth sent from above

Ralph Vaughan Williams

*Sung by the choir.*

(1872–1958)

This is the truth sent from above, the truth of God, the God of love:  
Therefore don't turn me from your door, but hearken all, both rich and poor.

The first thing which I do relate is that God did man create,  
the next thing which to you I'll tell, woman was made with man to dwell.

And we were heirs to endless woes, till God the Lord did interpose,  
and so a promise soon did run, that he would redeem us by his Son.

And at this season of the year our blest Redeemer did appear,  
and here did live, and here did preach, and many thousands he did teach.

Thus he in love to us behaved, to show us how we must be saved;  
and if you want to know the way, be pleased to hear what he did say.

—*Traditional Herefordshire carol*

## THE SECOND LESSON

Genesis 22:15-18

*God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.*

*Read by Angelina Arrington,  
Head of Bishop John T. Walker School for Boys.*

The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, “By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.”

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

## CAROL

Christ the apple tree

Stanford E. Scriven (b. 1988)

*Sung by the choir.*

The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit and always green:  
The trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ the apple tree.

This beauty doth all things excel, by faith I know, but ne'er can tell  
the glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought;  
I missed of all, but now I see 'tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil, here I will sit and rest awhile:  
Under the shadow I will be, of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive;  
which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.

—*New Hampshire, 1784*

## THE THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 9:2; 6-7

*The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.*

*Read by Jack Reiffer, Leadership for Pastoral Care.*

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. 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 105

God rest you merry, gentlemen

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



1 God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may;  
 2 From God our heaven - ly Fa - ther a bless - ed an - gel came  
 3 "Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "Let noth - ing you af - fright;  
 4 Now to the Lord sing prais - es, all you with - in this place,



re - mem - ber Christ our Sa - vior was born on Christ - mas Day,  
 and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings of the same:  
 this day is born a Sa - vior of a pure vir - gin bright,  
 and with true love and char - i - ty each o - ther now em - brace;



to save us all from Sa - tan's power when we were gone a - stray.  
 how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.  
 to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's power and might."  
 this ho - ly tide of Christ - mas doth bring re - deem - ing grace.



O tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and



joy; O tid - ings of com - fort and joy!

Words: London carol, 18th cent. Music: *God Rest You Merry*, melody from *Little Book of Christmas Carols*, ca. 1850; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.

*Please be seated.*

## THE FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-3a; 4a; 6-9

*The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.*

*Read by Eleanor Odom, Leadership for Greeters.*

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. With righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; the wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its

hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

## CAROL

In dulci jubilo

Matthew Culloton (b. 1976)

*Sung by the choir.*

*In dulci jubilo*, let us our homage show.  
Our heart's joy reclineth *in praesepio*,  
and like a bright star shineth *matris in gremio*.  
*Alpha es et O.*

*O Jesu parvule!* I yearn for thee alway!  
Hear me, I beseech thee, *O Puer optime!*  
My pray'r let it reach thee, *O Princeps gloriae*.  
*Traheme post te.*

*O Patris caritas! O Nati lenitas!*  
Deeply were we stained, *per nostra crimina*;  
but thou hast for us gained *coelorum gaudia!*  
O that we were there!

*Ubi sunt gaudia*, where, if they be not there?  
There were angels singing *nova cantica!*  
And there the bells are ringing *in Regis curia*.  
O that we were there!

—*Traditional German carol*

In sweet jubilation  
in the manger  
in the mother's lap  
thou art Alpha and Omega

O tiny Jesus!  
O best of children!  
O Prince of glory  
Draw me after thee.

O love of the father! O gentleness of the son!  
through our crimes  
the joys of heaven

Where are joys  
new songs  
in the courts of the King

## THE FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-35; 38

*The Angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

*Read by the Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell,  
Associate for Parish Life and Family Ministry.*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

## CAROL

Angelus ad virginum

Andrew Carter (b. 1939)

*Sung by the choir.*

*Angelus ad virginem subintrans in conclave,  
virginis formidinem demulcens inquit Ave.  
Ave regina virginum: celi terræque Dominum  
concipies et paries intacta salutem hominum:  
Tu porta celi facta, medela criminum.*

*Quomodo conciperem quæ virum non cognovi?  
Qualiter infringerem quod firma mente vovi?  
Spiritus Sancti gratia perficiet hæc omnia;  
ne timeas, sed gaudeas, secura quod castimonia  
manebit in te pura Dei potentia.*

*Ad hæc virgo nobilis respondens inquit ei:  
Ancilla sum humilis omnipotentis Dei.  
Tibi caelesti nuntio, tanti secreti conscio,  
consentiens, et cupiens videre factum quod audio,  
parata sum parere Dei consilio.*

*Eia Mater Domini, quæ pacem reddidisti  
angelis et homini cum Christum genuisti:  
Tuum exora Filium ut se nobis propitium  
exhibeat et deleat peccata, præstans auxilium  
vita frui beata post hoc exsilium. Deo gratias.*

The angel, coming secretly to the virgin in her room, soothing the virgin's fear, said: "Hail! Hail, Queen of virgins. The Lord of heaven and earth you shall conceive and, a virgin, bear the saviour of mankind. You made the gate of heaven, a remedy for sins."

"How shall I conceive, since I have not known a man? How can I break the vow that I made with firm intent?" "The grace of the Holy Spirit shall perform all this. Fear not, but rejoice, confident that chastity shall remain pure in you through the power of God."

To this the noble virgin replied, saying to him: "I am the humble handmaid of almighty God. To you, heavenly messenger, who knows so great a secret, I give my assent, and desiring to see accomplished what I hear, I am ready to obey God's decision."

Therefore, mother of the Lord, who restored peace to angels and mankind when you bore Christ, pray to your Son that he may show himself gracious to us and wipe away our sins, granting us help to enjoy the blessed life after this exile. Thanks be to God.

—13th-century English carol

## THE SIXTH LESSON

Luke 2:1; 3-7

*St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.*

*Read by Kevin Cordova-Brookey,  
Leadership for the Angel Tree Gift Drive.*

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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



## HYMN 101

Away in a manger

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



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,  
2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,  
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.  
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus no cry - ing he makes.  
close by me for ev - er, and love me I pray.

The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
I love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,  
Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.  
and fit us for hea - ven to live with thee there.

Words: Traditional carol. Music: *Cradle Song*, melody William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

*Please be seated.*

## THE SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 2:8-16

*The shepherds go to the manger.*

*Read by Julia Koster,  
Chair of the Bell Tower Restoration Committee.*

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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

**CAROL**

Hush, my dear, lie still and slumber

Stephen Caracciolo (b. 1962)

*Sung by the St. Cecilia Choir and Choristers.*

Hush, my dear, lie still and slumber; holy angels guard thy bed,  
 heav'nly blessings without number gently falling on thy head.

How much better thou'rt attended than the Son of God could be,  
 when from heaven he descended, he became a child like thee.

Mayst thou live to know and fear him, trust and love him all thy days:  
 Then in heaven dwell thou near him, see his face and sing his praise.

—Isaac Watts (1674–1748)

**THE EIGHTH LESSON**

Matthew 2:1-12

*The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.**Read by Alfred Thesmar, Junior Warden.*

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’” Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

**CAROL** *Sung by the choir.*

Brightest and best

Will Todd (b. 1970)

*Commissioned for the bicentennial of St. John's Church in 2016.*

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;  
 Star of the East, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Cold on his cradle the dew-drops are shining, low lies his head with the beasts of the stall:  
 Angels adore him in slumber reclining, Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.

Say, shall we yield him in costly devotion, odors of Edom and offerings divine?  
 Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean, myrrh from the forest, and gold from the mine?

Vainly we offer each ample oblation, vainly with gifts would his favor secure;  
 richer by far is the heart's adoration, dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

—Reginald Heber (1783–1826)

## THE NINTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

*St. John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation.*

*Read by the Rev. Robert W. Fisher, Rector.*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.


*People* Thanks be to God.

## HYMN 92

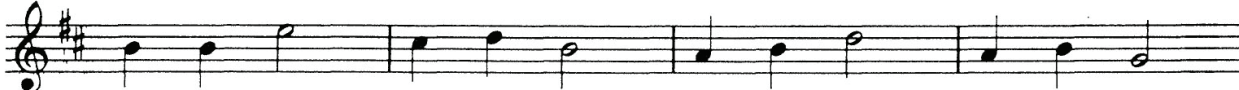
On this day earth shall ring

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

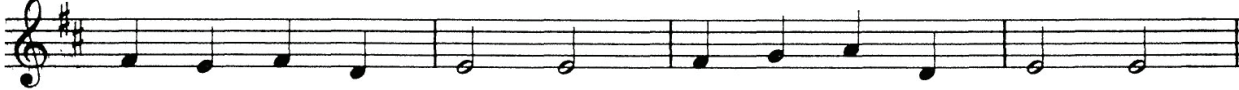
*Introduction*



1 On this day earth shall ring  
2 His the doom, ours the mirth;  
3 God's bright star, o'er his head,  
4 On this day an - gels sing;



with the song chil - dren sing to the Lord, Christ our King,  
when he came down to earth Beth - le - hem saw his birth;  
Wise Men three to him led; kneel they low by his bed,  
with their song earth shall ring, prais - ing Christ, hea - ven's King,

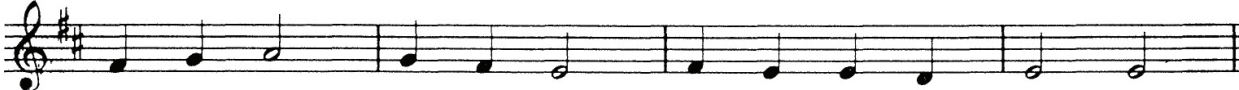


born on earth to save us; him the Fa - ther gave us.  
ox and ass be - side him from the cold would hide him.  
lay their gifts be - fore him, praise him and a - dore him.  
born on earth to save us; peace and love he gave us.

*Refrain*



Id - e - o - o - o, Id - e - o - o - o,



Id - e - o glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Words: *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; tr. Jane M. Joseph (1894–1929). Music: *Personent hodie*, melody from *Piae Cantiones*, 1582.

## RECTOR'S WELCOME

*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.*



## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Sussex Carol

arr. June Nixon (b. 1942)

*Sung by the choir.*

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 evermore. Amen!

*—Traditional English carol*

## COLLECT AND BLESSING

*Please stand as you are able.*

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

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

*Priest* Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your only son, Jesus Christ: Grant that as we prepare to joyfully receive him for our Redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him, when he shall come to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

May he who by his Incarnation gathered into one, things earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you, with all those you love and all those for whom you pray, this coming Christmastide and always. **Amen.**

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!  
 2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;  
 3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!  
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.  
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;  
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.  
 Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!  
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
 hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven - born Prince of Peace!

*Refrain*

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: Mendelssohn, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915).

## THE DISMISSAL

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

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

*Please remain standing as you are able until the procession exits.*

## VOLUNTARY

Noël I

Louis-Claude Daquin (1694–1772)

*All are invited to join in a festive reception in the Togo West Parlor following the service.*

## THE ORIGIN OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

The traditional service of Lessons and Carols was popularized in the Chapel of King's College, Cambridge, where it was first observed on Christmas Eve in 1918. The Armistice agreement that ended World War I had been signed just a month earlier, and England was gradually emerging from the trauma of that long conflict. The newly appointed Dean of King's College, Eric Milner-White, had served as an army chaplain during the war and sought to lift the spirits of his parishioners by offering a new worship service for Christmas Eve. He borrowed from an older service that had been created by Bishop E.W. Benson for Truro Cathedral in 1880. The service alternated scripture with carols and told the story of our salvation from humankind's fall from grace in the Garden of Eden to our redemption in the birth of Jesus Christ. The service was first broadcast from King's College on Christmas Eve in 1929 and, with the exception of 1930, it has been broadcast annually, even during the Second World War, when the ancient glass (and also all heat) had been removed from the Chapel.

Sometime in the early 1930s, the BBC began broadcasting the service on overseas radio programs, capturing the imagination of millions of listeners around the world. One correspondent reported listening to the service from a tent on the foothills of Mt. Everest; another, in the desert. Since the first broadcast, churches, cathedrals, and schools around the world have joined in the tradition of presenting this special liturgy during the Advent and Christmas seasons. So it is that we at St. John's join the throngs of pilgrims on our journey to the manger as we prepare again for the coming of the Messiah through the reading of scripture and the singing of carols.

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Reading and Gospel: From the New Revised Standard Version Bible © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. All rights reserved. Used by permission. ♦ Collect and Psalm: From the Book of Common Prayer, 1979. ♦ Music images reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701275.

**THE GREENS IN THE CHURCH ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD.**

**ST. CECILIA CHOIR**

Liam Agnew-Molokken, Sander Agnew-Molokken, James Dudley, Vincent Gaziano, Ariavne Gordienko, Peter Gullans, Haven Flokstra-Udoewa, Grant Lucio, Cecily Stewart, and William Stewart.

**CHORISTERS**

Gloria Burkhardt, Scout Fairbanks, Nathaniel Hersey, Ailene Neal, Beatrix Neal, Eudora Neal, Audrey Schepis, and Sydney Shepherd.

**PARISH CHOIR**

Annette Anfinrud, Elissa Edwards, Ketti Jane Muschler, Nicole Vernat-Jonas, Christina Wilson, Tory Wood, Molly Young, and Kitty Zhou, *Sopranos*

Alison Adkins, Bonnie Alger, Barbara Burkhardt, Cay Buser, Wendy J. Fibison, Sara Josey, Lisa Koehler, Katherine McClintic, LaFleur Paysour, Charlotte Stewart, Louisa Waycott, and Margo Wiegenstein, *Altos*

Philip Anfinrud, Craig Burkhardt, David Evans, John Mullan, Carlos Reyes, Andrew Sauvageau, and William Watson, *Tenors*

Jeff Bozman, Justin Dean, Christopher Jones, Bill Josey, Nathan Lofton, and James Rogers, *Basses*

**ASSISTING AT THE SERVICE TODAY**

Jack Reiffer, *Crucifer*

Alfred Thesmar, *Assistant Head Usher*

Doug Estes, Julia Koster, and Anne Stewart, *Ushers*

Anne Harrington, Joanne Hutton, and Julia Koster, *Flower Guild*

Jeremy Sheeler, *Livestream Operator*

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.**

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## **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.*

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## Announcements for the Week of December 22

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### TODAY AT ST. JOHN'S

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- 8 a.m. Eucharist—Sermon by the Rev. Will Morris  
Parish Choir (Parish House Fourth Floor)
- 8:30 a.m. Nursery—available until 12:30 p.m.  
(Parish House Second Floor)
- 9 a.m. Choral Eucharist—Sermon by the Rev.  
Will Morris
- 10 a.m. Coffee Hour (Plaza, weather permitting,  
or Parish House First Floor)  
Christmas Cards and Cookies (Togo West  
Parlor; see next column)  
Youth Group (Parish House Second Floor)  
Bible Study (Parish House Third Floor)  
St. John's Choir (Parish House Fourth Floor)
- 11 a.m. Choral Eucharist—Sermon by the Rev.  
Will Morris  
Children's Chapel (children begin in church)
- Noon Coffee Hour (Plaza, weather permitting,  
or Parish House First Floor)  
Church Tour (see next column)
- 5:30 p.m. Lessons and Carols for Christmas  
(see next column)



#### HELP DELIVER CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

##### Today after all services

Please plan to deliver at least one Christmas poinsettia to fellow parishioners who cannot be present with us at worship at this time. The plants are in the Parish House parlors, paired with cards addressed to parishioners who live near you in Virginia, Maryland, or Washington, D.C.

#### FAMILY SERVICE ACTIVITY: CHRISTMAS CARDS AND COOKIES

Today at 10 a.m.

Help us spread comfort and joy this holiday season by decorating cookies and making Christmas cards for those who could use some extra cheer. Materials provided. This activity takes the place of Church School. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to join the fun.

#### TOUR OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

Today at noon

For more than 200 years our church has served as a place of worship for a growing and everchanging city and country. Its structure is a lasting testament to Benjamin Henry Latrobe, who, because of his training in both architecture and engineering, is considered by the American Institute of Architects as our country's first architect. If you are interested in an in-person tour of St. John's Church, meet at the front of the church near the baptismal font after the 11 a.m. service. Today's guide is Richard Busch.



#### LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS

Today at 5:30 p.m.

Join the combined choirs of St. John's for one of our most beloved holiday traditions. Sung in the beauty of a candlelit church, the service begins with "Once in royal David's city," followed by nine lessons interspersed with carols and choral anthems. Complimentary valet parking will be available starting at 4:30 p.m. The service will be followed by a reception in the Togo West Parlor. Invite your friends and family to join us for this special holiday offering. The service will also be livestreamed on our website. Please note: We are unable to offer nursery care for this service.

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## SERVICE SCHEDULE

*December 23–29*

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**Monday**—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist

**Tuesday**—4:30 p.m.—Pageant and Choral Eucharist

7 p.m.—Christmas Eve Festal Eucharist

10 p.m.—Christmas Eve Festal Eucharist

*No noontime service on Tuesday: Christmas Eve.*

**Wednesday**—11 a.m.—Christmas Day Eucharist

*No noontime services on Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday:*

*Office closed for Christmas.*

**Sunday**—The Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell, Preacher

8 a.m. Eucharist with Sermon

9 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon

11 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon  
and Children's Chapel

*No Adult Bible Study. No nursery, Church School, or Youth Group. Children's Chapel will be offered at the 11 a.m. service.*



## THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

**December 24 at 4:30 p.m. (Prelude starts at 4 p.m.)**

The annual Christmas Pageant featuring children of the parish, carols, and hymns will take place on Christmas Eve at 4:30 p.m. Walk-ons are welcome. Contact the Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell via the About: Leadership tab of our website for more information.

## DECEMBER 24—CHRISTMAS EVE

**4:30 p.m.**—Pageant & Eucharist with Choir & Harp  
*Nursery care available. Musical prelude starts at 4 p.m.*

**7 p.m.**—Festal Choral Eucharist with Strings—  
Sermon by the Rev. Rob Fisher

*Nursery care available. Musical prelude starts at 6:30 p.m.*

**10 p.m.**—Festal Choral Eucharist with Strings—  
Sermon by the Rev. Rob Fisher

*Musical prelude starts at 9:30 p.m.*

## DECEMBER 25—CHRISTMAS DAY

**11 a.m.**—Holy Eucharist—Sermon by the Rev. Will Morris  
*No valet parking available on Christmas Day.*

*The Church and Parish Office will close after the service  
and remain closed through Friday, December 27.*

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## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

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**Monday, December 23**

6:15 p.m. Lawyers' AA (Togo West Parlor)

**Tuesday, December 24—Christmas Eve**

1 p.m. Staff Meeting (Togo West Parlor)

**Wednesday, December 25—Parish office closed**

**Thursday, December 26—Parish office closed**

**Friday, December 27—Parish office closed**

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## COMING UP IN THE NEW YEAR

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### EPIPHANY PARTY FOR KIDS

**Sunday, January 5, at 10 a.m.**

During the Church School hour, which begins at 10 a.m., infants, toddlers, and elementary aged kids are invited to the second floor of the Parish House, where we'll decorate stars, enjoy King Cake, and reflect on the story of the magi. Then, stay to watch the Three Kings' procession during the 11 a.m. service.

### THREE KINGS' PROCESSION

**Sunday, January 5, at 11 a.m.**

We will celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany on January 5 with our annual, costumed procession to "We three kings of Orient are." Members of the choir will play the kings, and young people from our congregation will accompany them as the star and pages. Join us for this special offering during the 11 a.m. service.

### LATROBE YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

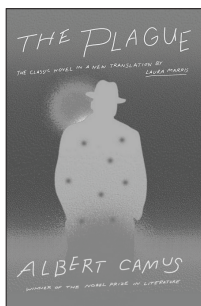
**Wednesday, January 8, at 6:30 p.m.**

The Latrobe Young Adult Fellowship will host a Three Kings celebration on Wednesday, January 8. We'll kick things off at 6:30 p.m. with Evening Prayer, followed by a presentation on the history of Three Kings' Day, its connection to Epiphany, and how the tradition is celebrated today. Food and drinks will be served. If you're in your 20s and 30s, please come! The Latrobe Fellowship typically gathers at St. John's at 6:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month for a short worship service followed by an activity. Questions? Contact Eric Bailey, St. John's minister for youth and young adults, via the About: Leadership page of our website.

### ST. JOHN'S BOOK GROUP

**Thursday, January 9, at 7 p.m.**

Join us via Zoom to discuss *The Plague* by Albert Camus, translated by Laura Marris. Marris's translation brings new insight into Camus' story of the townspeople of Oran, who are in the grip of a deadly plague, condemning its victims to a swift and horrifying death. Forced into quarantine, the town is gripped by fear, isolation, and claustrophobia. Each



person responds in their own way to the lethal disease: Some resign themselves to fate, some seek to blame, and a few, like Dr. Rieux, resist the terror. The book group typically meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. For information and the link, contact us online at [stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory](http://stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory).



### ERIC BAILEY ORDINATION

**Saturday, January 11, at 10 a.m.,  
Washington National Cathedral**

All are invited to the diaconal ordination of Eric Bailey, St. John's Minister for Youth and Young Adults. The service will take place at Washington National Cathedral on Saturday, January 11, beginning at 10 a.m.

Eric has been serving at St. John's since the summer of 2024. He is in his senior year at Virginia Theological Seminary, graduating with his M.Div. in May 2025. During his short time at St. John's, Eric has made a meaningful impact in our parish community, especially among our youth and young adults. This ordination for Eric is to the transitional diaconate; after a minimum of six months, he will then be ordained to the priesthood.

Deacons play an important role in keeping the gathered community connected to the needs of the world outside our church walls. This period of the transitional diaconate gives all those seeking ordination to the priesthood a unique period of practical experience rooted in servanthood. We are grateful that Eric will be able to live into this call in our midst.

On Sunday, January 12, Eric will serve as a deacon at our 9 and 11 a.m. services. Liturgically this means he will proclaim the gospel, bid the confession of sins, help prepare the altar for Communion, and offer the dismissal. Please keep Eric in your prayers, and join us in celebrating this joyous occasion.

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## SPEAKER SERIES

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The Speaker Series is held most Sundays from September through May at 10 a.m. in the Togo West Parlor on the first floor of the Parish House. An audio recording will be available on our website the week after each talk.



**January 12: David Marchick**, Dean of the Kogod School of Business at American University, and former Director of the Center for Presidential Transition at the Partnership for Public Service, will speak about the presidential transition process.



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### GRACE'S TABLE

**Third Saturdays, from 10:30 a.m to 12:30 p.m.**

*Upcoming Dates: January 18 and February 15*

Grace's Table is an outreach partnership between St. John's and Grace Episcopal Church in Georgetown. Every third Saturday of the month, a group from St. John's prepares and serves a meal at Grace to folks who are unhoused or at risk of losing their housing. Volunteers purchase and prepare food (including casseroles, rolls, salad, and dessert) and/or serve the guests. Typically, as many as 60 or 70 guests come seeking food and fellowship. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know other St. John's parishioners and to spread God's loving kindness in our community. Contact leader Elizabeth Field using the Connect: Ministry Directory tab of our website with questions, or visit [bit.ly/sjc-graces-table-1224](https://bit.ly/sjc-graces-table-1224) to volunteer.

## EPIPHANYTIDE LESSONS AND CAROLS

**Sunday, January 19, at 5:30 p.m.,**

**at Christ Church, Georgetown**

The combined professional choirs of St. John's, Lafayette Square, and Christ Church, Georgetown, will offer a joint service of Epiphanytide Lessons and Carols on Sunday, January 19. The service includes readings interspersed with seasonal hymns and choral anthems. A reception follows. Note that this year the service will be held at Christ Church (3116 O Street, NW). We hope you'll join us for this annual collaboration with a neighboring parish as we observe the joyous season of Epiphany.

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## STEWARDSHIP

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### 2025 PLEDGE TO ST. JOHN'S

Thank you to all who have already pledged for 2025. As of **Wednesday, December 18**, we had received **243 pledges for a total of \$996,040**. Pledging today, if you have not yet done so, will help determine what the budget will be in the coming year. All pledges are welcome, no matter how big or small. If you are able to increase your pledge this year, it will greatly impact the growth of our programs to better serve our entire parish community. You can pledge either with a physical pledge card, available at the front desk or in the narthex of the church, or by visiting [stjohns-dc.org/give/pledge](https://stjohns-dc.org/give/pledge) to complete an online pledge form. Thank you!

### DID YOU KNOW?

**Required Minimum Distributions can be directed from an IRA to St. John's—something to keep in mind as the year's end approaches!**

We are grateful for all the ways that members support the church. If you are in a position to give from your retirement account, now may be a good time to consider directing some or all of your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) to a charity, including St. John's as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) as part of your annual giving or as a one-time gift.

If you are interested, please talk to your tax advisor and financial advisor regarding your obligations and options. Questions? Contact Lisa Kirchenbauer, Chair of the 1816 Society, via the Ministry Directory on our website.

## A WORD ABOUT MATCHING GIFTS

### Here's how to make your gift to St. John's do a bit more

Many employers in the area want to make a positive impact in the community by offering matching gifts for various charitable programs. Matches are mostly focused around community support, education, and other 501(c)(3) entities, with gifts handled through portals such as Benevity, DoubleTheDonation, Global Giving, and YourCause.

To find out whether your organization has a matching gift program, please contact your company's corporate giving officer, who can help you navigate the gift portal and make sure that St. John's is listed as a verified recipient. (You can also contact the Parish Office for assistance.) Using your company's matching gifts program is a wonderful, easy way to make a meaningful difference at and through St. John's.

## THE 1816 SOCIETY

Planned giving is another way to sustain the mission and ministry of St. John's. The 1816 Society honors those who remember St. John's through a planned gift, such as a bequest in their will, a life-income gift, or a gift of real estate and life insurance. Check out the Episcopal Church Foundation ([episcopalgifts.org](http://episcopalgifts.org)) to learn more about various options for planned giving. Contact Lisa Kirchenbauer via the Ministry Directory at [stjohns-dc.org](http://stjohns-dc.org) with questions or to join the 1816 Society.

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## NEWS AND NOTEWORTHY

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### SPEAKING OF ORDINATIONS . . .

We are delighted to report that on December 14, Teboho Molefe (below left) was ordained by Bishop Charles May as a deacon in the Diocese of the Highveld, South Africa. St. John's supported Teboho in seminary as part of our link with the Anglican Church of South Africa.



## BAPTISMS

If you are interested in baptism for yourself or for a child, please contact Lisa Koehler via the About: Leadership tab on our website. Please note that the parents or grandparents of children being baptized must be active, pledging members of St. John's. Adults interested in baptism must also attend an Adult Inquirers' Class, offered twice a year, and be active, pledging participants in the life of the parish. Upcoming dates for baptism and required pre-baptismal classes with the clergy at St. John's include:

**Sunday, January 12, 2025, at 9 a.m.**

*Class: Saturday, January 11, at 10 a.m.*

**Sunday, February 9, at 9 a.m.**

*Class: Saturday, February 8, at 10 a.m.*

**Sunday, April 27, at 9 a.m.**

*Class: Saturday, April 26, at 10 a.m.*

## HELP US RING IN THE NEW YEAR

**Sunday, January 5, at noon**

On Sunday, January 5, after the 11 a.m. service, we are hosting a special Three Kings-themed parish potluck. You are invited to bring your favorite New Year's or Epiphany dish—or any other favorite food—to share as we celebrate the arrival of the magi and the year 2025.

## SUNDAY PARISH LUNCH

**Most Sundays after the 11 a.m. service**

Sunday lunch at St. John's is a longtime tradition in which every member and every visitor can participate. It's a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new ones—a time for fellowship and for hearing another's story. The lunch is held most Sundays in the Parish House. Contributions of \$5 for adults and young people 13 and over and \$2 for children under 13 are requested to help defray the costs of the lunch. All are welcome. Valet parking hours are extended to 2 p.m. any Sunday with a parish lunch.

The Sunday lunch tradition relies on volunteers to prepare and serve the meal—which is why we encourage individuals, families, groups, or ministries to host at least once before the end of May. Hosts may be reimbursed for expenses or receive a tax receipt. Not sure what's involved? Want to claim an open date? Contact Parish Lunch coordinator Holly Sukenik at [stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory](http://stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory).

*December 22 No Lunch*

*December 29 No Lunch*

*January 5 Three Kings' Day Potluck with King Cake*

January 12 Refugee Committee  
**January 19**  
January 26 Susan Cardwell  
February 2 Annual Meeting and Reception  
**February 9**  
**February 16**  
February 23 Laurie Adams, Matthew Bode,  
David and Liz Gallalee

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## FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

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### NURSERY HOURS

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

Infants and children are welcome at all worship services, Nursery care is also available most Sundays for infants and children up to age three. The nursery meets in the Godly Play Classroom #2 on the second floor of the Parish House.

### CHURCH SCHOOL CLASSES

**Sundays, 10–10:50 a.m.**

Children in pre-K through fifth grade may participate in Church School on the second floor of the Parish House. The Godly Play class is for children in pre-K through first grade, while kids in second through fifth grade gather in the Spark class. For information, contact the Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

### YOUTH GROUP

**Sundays, 10–10:50 a.m.**

All middle and high school youth are invited to the second floor of the Parish House for an exploration of life and faith with their peers. Questions? Contact Eric Bailey via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

### CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

**Sundays during 11 a.m. worship**

Children from birth through grade 5 are invited to participate in a special liturgy just for them during the sermon at the 11 a.m. service. Children gather by the pulpit during the gradual hymn and process to the Parish House for a song, homily, and prayer time, returning to the sanctuary at the Peace. Parents may accompany their children, and are encouraged to do so for those younger than three. Children are also welcome to stay and worship in the main sanctuary. Questions? Contact the Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

### THE ACOLYTE MINISTRY

**Sundays during 11 a.m. worship**

Youth in 6th grade and above are welcome to participate during the 11 a.m. service, serving as torch bearers or crucifers and helping set the altar for communion. To learn more, contact us via [stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory](http://stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory).

### CHORISTER PROGRAM

The St. John's Chorister Program offers children and youth exceptional choral training, music theory education, and leadership development. We have a preparatory choir for children in grades 3–6, and an advanced (auditioned) program for young singers with unchanged voices. To learn more or express interest, contact Brent Erstad via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

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## REMINDERS

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### ADULT BIBLE STUDY

**Sundays at 10 a.m.**

This group gathers most Sunday mornings, using a hybrid approach, with some joining via Zoom and others in person. Conversations explore the connections with the Sunday lectionary lessons and sermons. During Year C we are focusing on the structure, audience, and themes of the Gospel of Luke. For class notes and Zoom login information, please connect with leader Jack Reiffer via our online Ministry Directory found at [stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory](http://stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory).

### JOIN A MINISTRY GROUP

Explore our many ministry groups at [www.stjohns-dc.org](http://www.stjohns-dc.org), and contact the leaders via our online Ministry Directory for details or to sign up.

### FLOWER MEMORIALS AND THANKSGIVINGS

The flowers that enhance the beauty of the Church and Parish House are made possible by gifts from our community and are often dedicated to the memory of a loved one or to mark a birth or birthday, a wedding, an anniversary, a graduation, or another special event. To make a dedication, pick up a flower card at the entrance to the Church.

## MAKE A PLEDGE TO ST. JOHN'S

A pledge is a commitment of financial support over the course of a year, to be paid weekly, monthly, or on another schedule. By making a pledge to St. John's, you enable us to plan for the work we undertake in mission and ministry. It's easy to make a pledge commitment online using this QR code or by visiting the **Give** tab on our website.



## ONLINE OFFERINGS TO DESIGNATED FUNDS

If you want to make a monetary offering toward your pledge or a specific fund, you may do so on our website or by scanning the QR code on the right. In the "Fund" drop-down menu, select the fund to which you wish to donate.



## LISTEN AGAIN TO SUNDAY SERMONS

To listen to past sermons or speaker series, visit our website, scan this QR code, or search for "St. John's Church, Lafayette Square" in the Podcast app on your device.



## LIVESTREAMED SERVICES

The weekly 11 a.m. Sunday service (10:30 a.m. in summer) is broadcast and available for replay on our website, as are the monthly evensong and occasional other special services and events.

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## PRAYER & PASTORAL CARE

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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. **Contact Pastoral Care through the Connect: Ministry Directory tab at [stjohns-dc.org](http://stjohns-dc.org).** Birthdays, anniversaries, births, and deaths are listed for a week. Other names added to the prayer list will be reviewed twice a year to help keep prayer requests current. If you would like a name to be on the prayer list for a specific period of time, please let us know. For family and friends who are not members of the congregation, we list in parentheses the name of the person requesting prayers.

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*Contact Pastoral Care at **Connect: Ministry Directory** on our website to add, remove, or change a status on the prayer list.*

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Our prayers are requested for the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially:

### THOSE WHO ARE SICK, RECOVERING, OR GRIEVING

**From our parish:** Margo Arnold, Yung Chang, Anne Field, Andy McKinnon, and David Springer.

**Friends and family of our parish:** Susan Baxter (Rob Fisher), Kiesha Carroll (GeeGee Bryant), Billy Beardsley Conderman (Margo Arnold), Gisela Block (Sigi Block), Mary Leche Delong (Margo Wiegenstein), Jim DeBello (Grace Barrett), Ed Eder (Joanne and Powell Hutton), Linda Young Gsell (Rick Young), Morgan Hickenlooper (Livy More), Doug Holy (Joanne Hutton), Jack (Marta Cook and Cal Trepagnier), Latithia and Charles Jones (GeeGee Bryant), Charlotte Crowley Junilla (Margo Arnold), Olivia Kehoe (Kat Kehoe), Elizabeth Lee (Clayton Crawford), William Markiewicz (Matthew Taylor), Jim Martella (Livy More), Tammy McCleaf (Matthew Taylor), Nell Montgomery (Brandon Montgomery), Christopher More (Sarah Akes-Cardwell), Bruce Mortimer (Nancy Mathis), Lisa Nestor (Sarah Wood), Patrick Christopher O'Donnell (Wendy J. Fibison), Sophie Panagi (Brian and KayAnn Schoeneman), Paul Peralta (Debby Hailey), Ann Petrosky (Johnathan Miller), Alan Schutz (John and Zachary Schutz), Nancy Stephenson (Ann and John Gardner), Scott (Marta Cook and Cal Trepagnier), Louise Shaughnessy (Sarah Wood), Pam Snyder (Sarah Agnew), Patsy Swain (Margo Arnold), Sallie and William Wilkie Thompson (Cecelia Thompson), Mackenzie Toland (Wendy J. Fibison), John Walsten (Emily and John Lucio), Richard Waycott (Louisa Waycott), Edward Leland Williams II (Virginia Bader), and Linda Woolley (Blount and Charlotte Stewart).

### THOSE WHO ARE IN ASSISTED LIVING

**From our parish:** Eve Atkeson, Milton Chamberlain, Jack Kinsey, Barney Malloy, Marcella Odom, Becky Schergens, and Paul and Susan Van Nice.

**Friends and family of our parish:** Wilma Daubs (Kay Gilley), Lori LaPoint (Brent Erstad), Pat Morris (Will Morris), Deanne Scanlon (Wendy J. Fibison), Cawley Scott (Robyne Johnston), and Carl Wright (Frank and Nancy Klotz).

**THOSE WHO ARE IN HOSPICE CARE**

**Friends and family of our parish:** Ann (Frances Tyler), Henry Farrington (Wendy J. Fibison), and Ian Paton (Frances Tyler).

**THOSE IN OUR PARISH CELEBRATING  
A BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK**

Margo Arnold, Robert Carroll, Virginia Chew, Matthew Ford, Matt Gaziano, Katherine Green, Margaret Hampe, James Kreger, Molly Lyons, and Nancy Mathis.

**THOSE IN OUR PARISH CELEBRATING  
AN ANNIVERSARY THIS WEEK**

Carlos and Lourdes Arriaga.

**THOSE ON THE FRONT LINES**

**Friends and family of our parish:** Janie Abernethy (Elizabeth Lewis and David Abernethy), Anna Broadbent-Evelyn (Shawn Evelyn), and Philip L. Faris (Caroline and Steve Faris).

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## LIST OF 2025 PLEDGERS

**On behalf of the rector, wardens, vestry, and all who share in the grace of God through the worship, ministries, programs, and outreach of St. John's Church, we thank the following for their pledges for the year 2025:**

*(As of December 18, 2024)*

Anonymous (11)  
David Abernethy & Elizabeth Lewis  
Alison Adkins  
Sarah & Amanda Akes-Cardwell  
John & Renate Alison  
Anthony H. Anikeeff & Tung-lin Wu  
Douglas & Margo Arnold  
Eric Bailey  
Harvey E. & Carolyn L. Bale  
Paul Barkett  
Chandler Battaile  
Jordan & Angelle Baugh  
Robert Beizer  
Laura Belman  
Coleman Bird  
Martha L. & William S. Birdseye  
Diane Bitsberger  
Mary Ellen Bittner  
Marion Blakey & William Dooley  
Paul Bledsoe & Celia Boddington  
Thomas Bleha & Natasha Simes  
Katherine Bliss & Mark Dennis  
Matt Bode & Laurie Adams  
Jeff Bozman  
Krista & Larry Bradley  
Lacy Broemel  
Sydney Brooks  
Autumn Brown  
Craig & Barbara Burkhardt  
Richard T. Busch  
Susan Cardwell  
Mark Cardwell & Paul Ramos  
Andrea Charters  
Mary Jane Checchi

Preston Cherouny  
Virginia Chew  
Carlye Christianson & Pascal Joly  
Andrew Clarke & Chip Sherrill  
Gwinneth Ann Clarkson  
Carly & Collier Connell  
Brian & Kevin Cordova-Brookey  
Pamela Covington  
Jamison Craft  
Joe Creech & Stephanie DeLong  
Garry & Patricia Dalby  
Betsy Danello  
Christine Davies  
LaFawn C. Davis  
William E. Davis  
Justin B. Dean  
Clayton & Margaret Depue  
John Derrick  
Charles & Bonnie DeWitt  
Deb & Jeff Dornemann  
James Doyle  
Mike & Beth DuMond  
Diana Duke Duncan  
James Eastwood  
Janet Edmond  
Kaye Edwards  
Brandon & Elizabeth Elliott  
Martha Ellison  
Anne & Cliff Elmore  
Clark Ervin & Carolyn Harris  
Sylvia Martin-Estes & Doug Estes  
Le & Casey Evans  
Amanda & Eric Eversole  
Allison Herron Eydt

Caroline & Steve Faris  
Wendy J. Fibison  
Hyman & Anne Field  
Elizabeth Field  
Dr. Art & Louise Fisher  
Rob Fisher & Sarah Wood  
Molly & Matthew Ford  
Linda Gaines  
Elizabeth Gallalee  
David Gallalee  
John & Ann Gardner  
Elizabeth & Christopher Gardner  
Kay Gilley  
Donnie & Ronald Goodheart  
Richard & Jeanne Grimmett  
Michael Gullans  
Sandra Hackworth  
Dierdre & JD Hague  
Deborah Hailey  
Budd & Susan Hallberg  
Peter & Summer Hardinge  
Barbara Harper  
Robert & Anne Harrington  
Fruzsina Harsanyi  
Dolph Hatfield & Mary Wilson  
Diane Hauslein  
Tim & Susan Heil  
Whitley Herndon  
Laura & John Herzog  
Ann Compton Hughes  
Joanne & Powell Hutton  
Marlene Ikeda  
John Peters Irelan  
Nancy James



Wande Johnson  
Ethan Johnson  
Felton Johnson  
Robert & Whitney Johnston  
Bill & Sara Josey  
Carter & Fran Keithley  
William T. Kendall  
Kim Kennedy & Beverly Roberts  
Loren & Anne Kieve  
David Kieve & Kate Bedingfield  
James & Lisa Kirchenbauer  
Anya Kleyменова  
Frank & Nancy Klotz  
Elizabeth P. Koehler  
Elizabeth & Jonathan Kosobucki  
Julia Koster  
Kenny Kraft  
Grant Kraus  
Albert S. & Katherine C. Kyle  
Patricia Leslie  
Julie Neff Lippman  
James Longley  
Jeffrey Lovelace  
Emily & John Lucio  
Jan Lupton  
Chip & RJ Lyerly  
Sandy & Nancy Martin  
Paolo Mastrangelo & Perri Warren  
Caroline Mazzocchi  
Abbott McCartney & Sigrid Block  
Clayton McCleskey  
Saunders McElroy  
Thomas McKinnon  
George McLendon & Carol Quillen  
Matthew McMurray & Christine Kennedy  
Jacob McNeill  
Ellen McPeake  
Anna Lee & PJ Melnick  
Richard Metzger  
Johnathan S. Miller  
Nathan & Kelly Miller  
Joseph D. Mitchell  
Livy More  
Greg & Elizabeth Cavert Morrison

Rob Mosbacher, Jr.  
Jim & Michele Mullins  
Dick & Joy Nathan  
Dixie & John Noonan  
John C. Northrup  
Peter & Eleanor Odom  
Ralph & Lydia Olson  
Ucheora & Nkem Onwuamaegbu  
Owen & Felicia Owunwanne  
Matthew L. Paeffgen  
Robert Pahnke  
Robert & Sharon Park  
Cami Pease  
Anthony Pegues  
Robin Pennington  
Raymond & Susan Petniunas  
Larry & Connie Pettinger  
Natalie Popovic  
Richard Price & Yung Chang  
William Priest  
Kelly & Tricia Pulsifer  
Will Rabbe & Brittany Prime  
Carl & Mary Raether  
Allie Raether Ganijan  
Garret & Gigi Rasmussen  
Larry Redway  
Glenn Reichardt & JoAnn Zuercher  
Sarah & Avo Reid  
Jack Reiffer  
James Reilly & Caleb Hays  
Geraldine & Harker Rhodes  
Hap & Nora Rigby  
Steve & Susan Roehrich  
Damion Rose  
Chase Rynd  
Alex & Jessica Sanchez  
KayAnn & Brian Schoeneman  
John & Zachary Schutz  
Sandy & Susan Sierck  
Adelle Simmons  
Thom Sinclair & James Kreger  
Jeremy Skog  
Patrick & Cameron Smith  
Diane & Peter Spaulding

John Staples & Scott Raspa  
Kenneth & Susan Starling  
Anne Stewart  
Charlotte & Blount Stewart  
Toby Stock & Margy Slattery  
Desirée Stolar  
Catherine Stolar  
Alex Stolar  
John & Holly Sukenik  
Patrick J. Summers  
Matthew Taylor  
Veronica Tejera  
Hilary & Alfred Thesmar  
Jocelyn Tichenor  
Laurel & Andrew Tierney  
Roderick & Rebecca Todd  
David Trebing  
Cal Trepagnier & Marta Cook  
Anthony G. Turner  
Frances Tyler  
Susan Valaskovic  
Paul & Susan Van Nice  
Pamela & Patrick Venzke  
Ryan Wagner  
Christopher Wall  
Alis Wang & Amy Stulman  
Carl & Kristin Ward  
Louisa Waycott  
Susan Welch  
Gail West  
Hilary West  
Brainerd H. Whitbeck III  
Suzanne Whitmore  
Trey & Amy Whitworth  
Margaret E. Wiegenstein  
Elena & Marty Williams  
Rev. Dr. Wesley S. Williams, Jr.  
Emma Wilson  
Anita Woehler  
Bill Wright  
Renee Yancey  
Nicole Zehfuss & Neil Gutterman  
Paul & Sitta Zehfuss





# 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](http://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.

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## Vestry

Nora Rigby, *Senior Warden*

Alfred Thesmar, *Junior Warden*

Tony Anikeeff, Krista Rimple Bradley, Kaye Edwards,  
Wendy J. Fibison, David Gallalee, Fruzsina Harsanyi,  
Elizabeth Cavert Morrison, Ucheora Onwuamaegbu,  
Jack Reiffer, Matthew Taylor, and Jess Unger,  
*Members*

Casey Evans, *Treasurer*

Nora Haugh, *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 Akes-Cardwell, *Associate Rector*

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

Brent Erstad, *Director of Music and Organist*

Lyn Loewi, *Associate Organist*

Eric Bailey, *Minister for Youth and Young Adults*

## Staff

Preston Cherouny, *Chief Operating Officer*

Charley Griffin, *Operations Manager*

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

Javier Obregon, *Sexton*

GeeGee Bryant, David Gamboa, and John Queer  
*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](http://www.stjohns-dc.org)