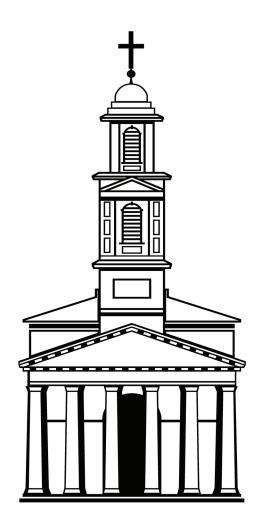
## THANKSGIVING DAY

November 28, 2024 ◆ Holy Eucharist at 10 a.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**.

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.

**VOLUNTARY** 

Let us break bread together

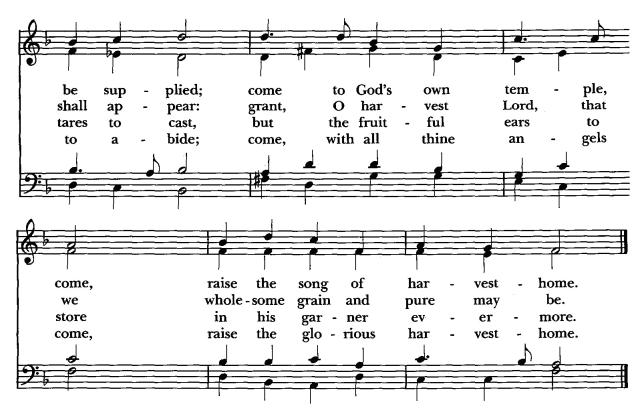
Martha Sobaje (b. 1948)

#### **HYMN 290**

Come, ye thankful people, come

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





Words: Henry Alford (1810–1871), alt. Music: St. George's, Windsor, George Job Elvey (1816–1893).

## 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.** 

## **JUBILATE DEO**

in B-flat

Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)

Sung by the choir.

O be joyful in the LORD, all ye lands:

serve the LORD with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the LORD he is God;

it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.

For the LORD is gracious, his mercy is everlasting;

and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Glory 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.

—Psalm 100

#### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Let us pray.

Almighty and gracious Father, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we pray, faithful stewards of your great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

#### THE FIRST READING

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Please be seated.

Read by Sandra Hackworth.

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all—this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

#### **PSALM 126**

George Mursell Garrett (1834–1897)

Sung by the choir.

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, \* then were we like those who dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \* and our tongue with shouts of joy.

Then they said among the nations, \*

"The LORD has done great things for them."

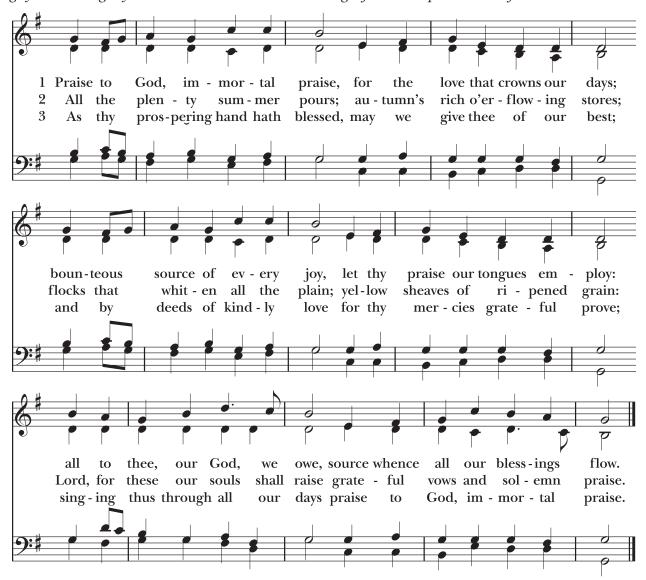
The LORD has done great things for us, \* and we are glad indeed.

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, \* like the watercourses of the Negev.

Those who sowed with tears \* will reap with songs of joy.

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \* will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

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



Words: Anna Laetitia Barbauld (1743-1825). Music: *Dix*, melody Conrad Kocher (1786-1872); arr. William Henry Monk (1823-1889); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1916.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 6:25-33

Please remain standing as you are able.

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Following the Gospel, all sing stanza 3 of the gradual hymn.

THE SERMON

### A LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Led by Jack Reiffer.

The Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell

Please stand as you are able.

*Intercessor* Let us give thanks to God for all the gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea,

We thank you, Lord.

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,

We thank you, Lord.

For setting us at tasks that demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments that satisfy and delight us,

We thank you, Lord.

For those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone,

We thank you, Lord.

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,

We thank you, Lord.

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,

We thank you, Lord.

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,

We thank you, Lord.

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,

We thank you, Lord.

For the communion of saints, in all times and places,

We thank you, Lord.

Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord; To Christ be praise and glory, with you, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

#### **CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION**

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

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**

Simple gifts

arr. Robert Lehman (b. 1960)

Sung by the choir.

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free, 'tis the gift to come down where we ought to be, and when we find ourselves in the place just right, 'twill be in the valley of love and delight.

When true simplicity is gain'd, to bow and to bend we shan't be asham'd, to turn, turn will be our delight, till by turning, turning we come 'round right.

—Anonymous, 18th century

Standing as you are able.



Words: Robert Robinson (1735-1790), alt. Music: *Nettleton*, melody from *A Repository of Sacred Music*, *Part II*, 1813; harm. Gerre Hancock (b. 1934).

#### A PRAYER FOR STEWARDSHIP

Said by all.

Gracious and everlasting God, the giver of all good gifts, you have blessed us and our parish abundantly. Grant us the hope to dream and the courage to live into our possibilities. Make us faithful stewards, both for the provision of our necessities and for the relief of those who are in need. Bless the efforts of our annual giving this year to extend the work of spiritual renewal in our church and community of faith. Through Jesus Christ, who gave all of himself, we offer this prayer. Amen.

#### 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.

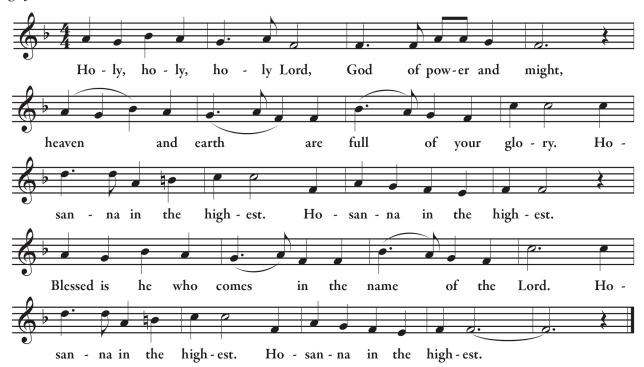
The priest continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## SANCTUS (S-125)

From A Community Mass; Richard Proulx (1937–2010)

Sung by all.



Please stand or kneel as you are able. The priest continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

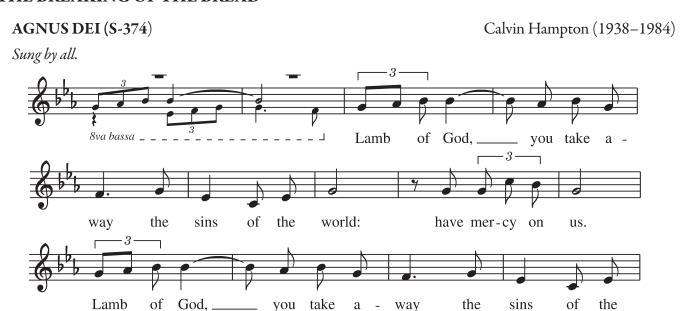
All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN**.

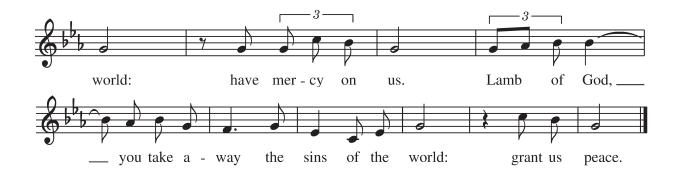
#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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





## **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**

Sing, my soul, his wondrous love

Sarah MacDonald (b. 1968)

Sung by the choir.

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

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

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

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

—Anonymous, ca. 1800

#### THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

*Priest* Let us pray.

All Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. 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.

HYMN 397 Now thank we all our God

Sung by all, standing as you are able.



Words: Martin Rinkart (1586-1649); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: *Nun danket alle Gott*, melody Johann Cruger (1598-1662); harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), after Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1947).

#### THE DISMISSAL

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

People Thanks be to God.

**VOLUNTARY** 

Now thank we all our God Op. 65, No. 59

Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877–1933)

# THE ALTAR ARRANGEMENTS IN THE CHURCH ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD.

#### **ASSISTING AT THIS SERVICE**

Jack Reiffer, Crucifer
Annie Simonds, Chalice Bearer
Richard Young, Assistant Head Usher
Martha Ellison and Julia Koster, Ushers
Pat Dalby and Katherine Kyle, Flower Guild
Jeremy Skog, Livestream Technician

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.

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.

# **NEWS AND EVENTS AT ST. JOHN'S**

#### 2024 ANGEL TREE CHRISTMAS GIFT DRIVE

The annual Christmas gift drive is here! We are partnering with the Bishop Walker School, Advocates for Justice and Education, and Cardozo Education Campus to bring joy to children and adults in need this holiday season. Each recipient has provided a wish list of toys, books, or clothes that they are hoping to find underneath the Christmas tree this year.

#### **PURCHASING GIFTS:**

- Thank you to those who picked up an angel from our tree! Please remember to deliver all gifts (unwrapped) to the church by Monday, December 9.
- You still have time to purchase from our Amazon Wish List (bit.ly/sjc-angel-tree-2024). Gifts will ship directly to the church.

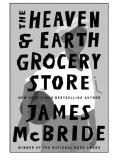
Thank you in advance for your generosity and for helping us bring holiday cheer to those in need. Questions? Please contact Kevin Cordova-Brookey via the online Ministry Directory at stjohns-dc.org.

# LATROBE YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP Tiki Night: Wednesday, December 4, at 6:30 p.m.

The Latrobe Fellowship is an active and engaged group of adults, primarily in their 20s and 30s. We typically gather 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. Please join us on December 4 for evening prayer followed by fellowship and a light dinner. We will usher in the bright spirit of the season with tiki cocktail/mocktail mixology with the Rev. Rob Fisher. For details, contact Eric Bailey, our minister for youth and young adults, via the About: Leadership tab of our website.

## ST. JOHN'S BOOK GROUP Thursday, December 5, at 7 p.m.

Join us via Zoom to discuss *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride, about the Black and Jewish residents of Chicken Hill, a neighborhood of Pottstown, Pennsylvania. Taking place in the 1920s and '30s, the novel explores



relationships, racism, redemption, and the American Dream. 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.

#### **ADVENT PARTY**

#### Sunday, December 8, at 5 p.m.

All are cordially invited to join us in the Togo West Parlor for an evening of holiday revelry, including decorations, food, music, and a carol sing-along. Special activities and food will be provided for children.

#### LAFAYETTE FELLOWSHIP

Holiday Dinner & Festive Game Night Tuesday, December 10, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

The Lafayette Fellowship invites all adults who are looking to be part of and build social community at St. John's to join in an evening of holiday merriment. Prizes will be awarded for the most festive attire and the ugliest Christmas sweater! Please sign up at bit.ly/lafayette-fellowship-events so we can plan for enough food. Questions? Contact Hilary West via the Ministry Directory at stjohns-dc.org.

#### ST. JOHN'S PRIDE EVENTS UPCOMING

#### ANGEL TREE WRAPPING PARTY & BRUNCH

On Saturday, December 14, at 10 a.m., come celebrate the season of service by wrapping angel tree donations with us in Togo West Parlor. The quicker we wrap, the sooner we can gather nearby for brunch!

### GAY MEN'S CHORUS HOLIDAY SHOW

Our very own Jack Reiffer will be on stage sharing a holiday extravaganza with the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, D.C., as they celebrate holidays around the world. A group from St. John's plans to attend the performance on **Sunday**, **December 15**, at 5 p.m. Information and tickets can be found at www.gmcw.org/the-holiday-show.

**QUESTIONS?** Contact leaders Brian Cordova-Brookey and John Schutz via the Ministry Directory found on the Connect tab at stjohns-dc.org.

# CHRISTMAS AT ST. JOHN'S



Visit our website for more news and the full calendar of upcoming services, events, and holiday office closures.

www.stjohns-dc.org

#### LESSONS & CAROLS

Sunday, December 22, 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 the singing of "Once in royal David's city," followed by nine lessons interspersed with carols and choral anthems, and a reception afterward in the Togo West Parlor. Complimentary valet parking will be available starting at 4:30 p.m. Invite your friends and family for this special holiday offering. The service will also be livestreamed.

### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24**

Arrive 30 minutes early (at all three Christmas Eve services) to enjoy a prelude of carols and music before worship begins.

4:30 p.m. Pageant & Choral Eucharist with Choir

7 p.m. Festal Choral Eucharist

Sermon—The Rev. Rob Fisher

10 p.m. Festal Choral Eucharist

Sermon—The Rev. Rob Fisher

## **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25**

11 a.m. Choral Holy Eucharist Sermon—The Rev. Will Morris

# THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT December 24 at 4:30 p.m.

The annual Christmas Pageant will take place on Christmas Eve beginning at 4:30 p.m. Children ages three and up are invited to participate in the pageant as an Angel, Shepherd, or Friendly Beast. Come 30 minutes early to enjoy a prelude of anthems and carols before the start of the service. All children who wish to participate should attend rehearsal on Saturday, December 21, at 10 a.m. Contact the Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell via the About: Leadership tab of our website for more information.

# CHRISTMAS EVE FESTAL EUCHARIST December 24 at 7 and 10 p.m.

Join with family, friends, and neighbors as we gather at St. John's to celebrate the birth of our Savior. The St. John's Choir and Choristers will be joined by strings and organ in offering George Malcolm's charming "Mass at the Crib," along with many favorite carols. The service will conclude with the traditional singing of "Silent night" by candlelight.

### **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

Nora Rigby, Senior Warden Alfred Thesmar, Junior Warden

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

Sara McGanity, *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 Queen,
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