## GOOD FRIDAY March 29, 2024 + Holy Eucharist at Noon



# 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.

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

Wendy J. Fibison, *Crucifer* Michelle Mangrum and Jack Reiffer, *Chalice Bearers* Robyne Johnston, *Assistant Head Usher* Anne Stewart amd Richard Young, *Ushers* 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.

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.

## 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. On this day, the clergy, choir, and altar party enter in silence. All may kneel for silent prayer, after which the Priest stands and begins the liturgy.

## THE WORD OF GOD

Please stand as you are able.

*Priest* Blessed be our God.*People* For ever and ever. Amen.

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.** 

## THE FIRST READING

Please be seated.

See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. Just as there were many who were astonished at him—so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals—so he shall startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.

Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account.

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the LORD shall prosper. Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Reader The Word of the Lord. People Thanks be to God. Isaiah 52:13–53:12 *Read by Betsy Danello.* 

#### Chanted by the choir.

#### PSALM 22:1-11

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?\* and are so far from my cry and from the words of my distress?

O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; \* by night as well, but I find no rest.

Yet you are the Holy One, \* enthroned upon the praises of Israel.

Our forefathers put their trust in you; \* they trusted, and you delivered them.

They cried out to you and were delivered; \* they trusted in you and were not put to shame.

But as for me, I am a worm and no man, \* scorned by all and despised by the people.

All who see me laugh me to scorn; \* they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,

"He trusted in the LORD; let him deliver him; \* let him rescue him, if he delights in him."

Yet you are he who took me out of the womb, \* and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.

I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; \* you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.

Be not far from me, for trouble is near, \* and there is none to help.

#### THE SECOND READING

Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9 *Read by Caroline Faris.* 

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

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

#### **GRADUAL HYMN 171**

Go to dark Gethsemane

Sung by all, standing as you are able.



Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854). Music: Petra, Richard Redhead (1820-1901).

## **THE PASSION**

#### Please be seated.

Gospeller The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Jesus went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" They answered, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus replied, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they stepped back and fell to the ground. Again he asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go." This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken, "I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me." Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?"

So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. Caiaphas was the one who had advised the religious authorities that it was better to have one person die for the people.

Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. The woman said to Peter, "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself.

Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. Jesus answered, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the people come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said." When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" Jesus answered, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. So Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" They answered, "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you." Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law." The people replied, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death." (This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over in this way. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

After he had said this, he went out to the people again and told them, "I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" They shouted in reply, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a bandit.

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and striking him on the face. Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!" When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him." The people answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God."

Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. Pilate therefore said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?" Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the people cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor."

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the people, "Here is your King!" They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but the emperor." Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

## Please stand as you are able.

So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the people read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written." When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots." And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

## A period of silence is observed.

Since it was the day of Preparation, the people did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced."

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the people, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the Jewish burial custom. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

A period of silence is observed.

#### HYMN LEVAS 37

Were you there?

Sung by all, standing as you are able.



Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual; arr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944).

#### **THE SERMON**

The Rev. William Morris

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.



#### **HYMN 168**

O sacred head, sore wounded



Sung by all, standing as you are able.

Words: Paul Gerhardt (1607-1676); sts. 1-3, 5, tr. Robert Seymour Bridges (1844-1930); st. 4, tr. James Waddell Alexander (1804-1859), alt. Music: *Herzlich tut mich verlangen [Passion Chorale]*, Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612); adapt. And harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

## THE SOLEMN COLLECTS

#### Kneeling as you are able.

*Priest* Dear People of God: Our heavenly Father sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved; that all who believe in him might be delivered from the power of sin and death, and become heirs with him of everlasting life.

We pray, therefore, for people everywhere according to their needs.

Let us pray for the holy catholic Church of Christ throughout the world;

For its unity in witness and service For all bishops and other ministers and the people whom they serve For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Mariann, our Bishop; and all the people of this diocese For all Christians in this community For those about to be baptized

That God will confirm his Church in faith, increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.

#### Silence.

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.** 

Let us pray for all nations and peoples of the earth, and for those in authority among them;

For Joseph, the President of the United States For the Congress and the Supreme Court For the Members and Representatives of the United Nations For all who serve the common good

That by God's help they may seek justice and truth, and live in peace and concord.

#### Silence.

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in tranquillity your dominion may increase, until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

Let us pray for all who suffer and are afflicted in body or in mind;

For those who are hungry and homeless, destitute and oppressed For those who are ill or disabled, in body, mind, or spirit For those in loneliness, fear, and anguish For those who face temptation, doubt, and despair For those who are sorrowful and bereaved For those who are persecuted for the sake of Christ For prisoners, refugees, and captives For victims of war, genocide, and trafficking, and all those in mortal danger

That God in his mercy will comfort and relieve them, and grant them the knowledge of his love, and stir up in us the will and patience to minister to their needs.

#### Silence.

Gracious God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer: Let the cry of those in misery and need come to you, that they may find your mercy present with them in all their afflictions; and give us, we pray, the strength to serve them for the sake of him who suffered for us, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

Let us pray for those who have not embraced God's redemptive love;

For those who have never heard the word of salvation For those who have lost their faith For those hardened by sin or indifference For the contemptuous and the scornful For those who are persecutors of Christ's disciples For those who in the name of Christ have persecuted others

That God will open their hearts to the truth, and lead them to faith and obedience.

#### Silence.

Merciful God, the source of life and fountain of mercy, let the Gospel of your Son Jesus Christ be preached with grace and love; turn the hearts of the followers of Jesus who have harmed others in his name; lead all to repentance and amendment of life; and sustain by your loving grace all who lift their eyes to you. **Amen.** 

Let us commit ourselves to our God, and pray for the grace of a holy life, that, with all who have departed this world and have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to God alone, we may be accounted worthy to enter into the fullness of the joy of our Lord, and receive the crown of life in the day of resurrection.

#### Silence.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquillity the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.** 

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

*Priest* We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence.

- *All* Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.**

Please stand or kneel in silence as the reserved sacrament is brought from the side chapel to the main altar.

#### 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.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*Priest* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All persons, including children, are welcome to receive Holy Communion with us. Wait for an usher to call your pew to come forward. You will first be handed a wafer by a priest (gluten-free wafers are available by request) and then offered wine by a lay server. You may either sip the wine or dip your wafer into the wine. Receiving the bread alone is a valid way to share in the Eucharist. Parents may decide if their children receive the bread and/or wine. All may instead signal their desire to be blessed by the priest by crossing their arms over their chest.

#### **COMMUNION ANTHEM**

O vos omnes

Carlo Gesualdo (1566–1613)

Sung by the choir.

O vos omnes qui transitis per viam: attendite et videte si est dolor sicut dolor meus. O all ye that pass by the way, attend and see if there be any sorrow like to my sorrow.

-Lamentations 1:12

#### **HYMN 166**

Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle

Sung by all, standing as you are able.

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Words: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus (540?-600?); ver. Hymnal 1982, after John Mason Neale (1818-1866). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: Pange lingua, plainsong, Mode 3, Zisterzienser Hymnar, 14th cent.; acc. David Hurd (b. 1950); alt. acc. Hymnal 1940.

## THE CONCLUDING COLLECT

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

Priest Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray you to set your passion, cross, and death between your judgment and our souls, now and in the hour of our death. Give mercy and grace to the living; pardon and rest to the dead; to your holy Church peace and concord; and to us sinners everlasting life and glory; for with the Father and Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

All depart in silence. Following the service, the tower bell will be rung 33 times, once for each year of Jesus' life on earth.

### EASTER DAY—March 31

7:45 a.m. Eucharist with Hymns

- 9 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Brass and Percussion
- 11 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Brass and Percussion

The Parish Office will be closed Monday and Tuesday, April 1 and 2, and will reopen on Wednesday, April 3.

## MIDWEEK MUSIC

Join us for upcoming performances



## April 3 | 12:15 p.m. Brent Erstad, organ

St. John's Director of Music presents a recital of organ works by Bach, Böhm, Mendelssohn and Linker. Note: The Cafritz Artists, originally scheduled for this date, are unable to perform.



#### May 1 | 12:15 p.m. **U.S. Army Chorus**

A regular favorite on the Midweek Music Series, the U.S. Army Chorus provides musical support for the leadership of the United States and inspirational engagement with the American people.

All Midweek Music performances run approximately 35 minutes in length and are open to the public free of charge.

Note: Brent Erstad will offer the April 3 recital, as the Cafritz Artists, originally scheduled, are unable to perform that day.



#### 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. 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 each fall and spring, and be active, pledging participants in the life of the parish.

#### ADULT INQUIRERS' CLASS

Would you like to be baptized, confirmed, or received into membership in the Episcopal Church at St. John's? If so, please join the Spring Adult Inquirers' Class. This two-day class will meet Saturdays, dates TBD, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Rev. Rob Fisher, Rector of St. John's, will lead the sessions. All are welcome, whether you are a newcomer or a longtime parishioner. This is an opportunity to learn more about our Christian faith, the Episcopal tradition, and the ministry of St. John's Church. To register, please contact Lisa Koehler via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

#### THE SPEAKER SERIES

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.



April 14: Speaker Series Panel on St. John's Bell Tower Restoration Project. Learn about the ongoing restoration and find out how you can support the work; for more about the project, visit stjohns-dc.org/history/bell-tower.



**April 21: Nancy Stoner**, President of the Potomac Riverkeeper Network, will speak about local water quality, what Riverkeeper groups are doing to address it, and how you can help protect, defend, and enjoy the Potomac River.

#### LIVESTREAMED SERVICES

The weekly 11 a.m. Sunday service and monthly Evensong are broadcast and available for replay on our website, as are occasional other special services and events.

## 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* Jeremy Skog, *Assistant Treasurer* Allie Raether, *Secretary* Harker Rhodes, *Parish Counsel* 

Head Usher James H. Czerwonky

**Heads of Flower Guild** Pat Dalby and Katherine Kyle

Head Greeters Eleanor and Peter Odom

#### Worship and Program Staff

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher, *Rector*The Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell, *Associate for Children and Family Ministries*The Rev. Shawn Evelyn, *Associate for Parish Life*The Rev. William Morris, *Assisting Priest for Engaging Local Communities*Brent Erstad, *Director of Music and Organist*Lyn Loewi, *Associate Organist*

#### Staff

Preston Cherouny, Chief Operating Officer Charley Griffin, Operations Manager Lisa Koehler, Program Associate and Executive Assistant to the Rector David Evans, Hospitality, Administration, and Program Assistant Javier Obregon, Sexton GeeGee Bryant and David Gamboa, Assistant Sextons Anne Stone, Publications

#### **ST. JOHN'S MISSION STATEMENT**

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

#### Parish House

1525 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005-1005 (202) 347-8766 + www.stjohns-dc.org