

SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH

LAFAYETTE SQUARE • WASHINGTON, DC

CHORAL EVENSONG

The Feast of Edmund of East Anglia

November 20, 2024

St. John's is a church for people of all races, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations, and viewpoints grounded in love. Whoever you are, we welcome you.

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

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

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

SETTINGS FOR THIS EVENING

Preces and Responses by Stephen Caracciolo (b. 1962)

Canticles in E-flat by Charles Wood (1866–1926)

VOLUNTARY

K'A Mura

Fela Sowande

("Let us prepare, ye band of Christians, to meet above")

(1905–1987)

INTROIT

Vertue

Judith Weir (b. 1954)

Sweet day, so cool, so calm, so bright, the bridal of the earth and sky;
the dew shall weep thy fall tonight, for thou must die.

Sweet rose, whose hue angry and brave bids the rash gazer wipe his eye;
thy root is ever in its grave, and thou must die.

Sweet spring, full of sweet days and roses, a box where sweets compacted lie;
my music shows ye have your closes, and all must die.

Only a sweet and virtuous soul, like season'd timber, never gives;
but though the whole world turn to coal, then chiefly lives.

—George Herbert (1593–1633)

HYMN 34

Christ, mighty Savior, Light of all creation

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



1 Christ, might - y Sa - vior, Light of all cre - a - tion, you make the
2 Now comes the day's end as the sun is set - ting: mir - ror of
3 There - fore we come now eve - ning rites to of - fer, joy - ful - ly
4 Give heed, we pray you, to our sup - pli - ca - tion: that you may
5 Though bo - dies slum - ber, hearts shall keep their vi - gil, for ev - er



1 day - time ra - diant with the sun - light and to the night give
2 day - break, pledge of re - sur - rec - tion; while in the hea - vens
3 chant - ing ho - ly hymns to praise you, with all cre - a - tion
4 grant us par - don for of - fens - es, strength for our weak hearts,
5 rest - ing in the peace of Je - sus, in light or dark - ness



1 glit - ter - ing a - dorn - ment, stars in the hea - vens.
2 choirs of stars ap - pear - ing hal - low the night - fall.
3 join - ing hearts and voic - es sing - ing your glo - ry.
4 rest for ach - ing bo - dies, sooth - ing the wear - y.
5 wor - ship - ing our Sa - vior now and for ev - er.

Words: Mozarabic, 10th cent.; tr. Alan G. McDougall (1895-1964); rev. Anne K. LeCroy (b. 1930). Copyright © 1982, Anne LeCroy. Music: *Innisfree Farm*, Richard Wayne Dirksen (b. 1921). Copyright © 1984, Richard W. Dirksen.

WELCOME

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher

THE OPENING SENTENCES

Please remain standing.

I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night.

I have set the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall. —*Psalm 16:7, 8*

Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth tremble before him. —*Psalm 96:9*

THE PRECES AND RESPONSES

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips;
Choir And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

Officiant O God, make speed to save us;
Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.

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

Officiant Praise ye the Lord.
Choir The Lord's Name be praised.

PSALM 7:1-10

Robert Cooke (1768–1856)

Please be seated.

O LORD my God, in thee have I put my trust *
save me from all them that persecute me, and deliver me;
Lest he devour my soul, like a lion, and tear it in pieces *
while there is none to help.
O LORD my God, if I have done any such thing *
or if there be any wickedness in my hands;
If I have rewarded evil unto him that dealt friendly with me *
yea, I have delivered him that without any cause is mine enemy;
Then let mine enemy persecute my soul, and take me *
yea, let him tread my life down upon the earth, and lay mine honour in the dust.
Stand up, O LORD, in thy wrath, and lift up thyself, because of the indignation of mine enemies *
arise up for me in the judgement that thou hast commanded.
And so shall the congregation of the people come about thee *
for their sakes therefore lift up thyself again.
The LORD shall judge the people; give sentence with me, O LORD *
according to my righteousness, and according to the innocency that is in me.
O let the wickedness of the ungodly come to an end *
but guide thou the just.
For the righteous God *
trieth the very hearts and reins.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Read by Brian Cordova-Brookey.

2 Kings 11:1-8

When Athaliah, Ahaziah's mother, saw that her son was dead, she set about to destroy all the royal family. But Jehosheba, King Joram's daughter, Ahaziah's sister, took Joash son of Ahaziah, and stole him away from among the king's children who were about to be killed; she put him and his nurse in a bedroom. Thus she hid him from Athaliah, so that he was not killed; he remained with her six years, hidden in the house of the Lord, while Athaliah reigned over the land.

But in the seventh year Jehoiada summoned the captains of the Carites and of the guards and had them come to him in the house of the Lord. He made a covenant with them and put them under oath in the house of the Lord; then he showed them the king's son. He commanded them, "This is what you are to do: one-third of you, those who go off duty on the sabbath and guard the king's house (another third being at the gate Sur and a third at the gate behind the guards), shall guard the palace; and your two divisions that come on duty in force on the sabbath and guard the house of the Lord shall surround the king, each with weapons in hand; and whoever approaches the ranks is to be killed. Be with the king in his comings and goings."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE MAGNIFICAT

Sung by the choir.

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

—*Luke 1:46-55*

THE SECOND READING

Read by Jack Reiffer.

Matthew 10:16-22

Jesus said to the twelve apostles, "See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE NUNC DIMITTIS *Sung by the choir.*

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

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

—*Luke 2:29-32*

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

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

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

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

THE PRAYERS

Officiant The Lord be with you.

Choir And with thy spirit.

Officiant Let us pray.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Sung by the choir.

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

THE SUFFRAGES

Officiant O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

Choir And grant us thy salvation.

Officiant O Lord, save the State;

Choir And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Officiant Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

Choir And make thy chosen people joyful.

Officiant O Lord, save thy people;

Choir And bless thine inheritance.

Officiant Give peace in our time, O Lord;

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

Officiant O God, make clean our hearts within us;

Choir And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

THE COLLECTS

Officiant Merciful God, who gave grace and fortitude to Edmund to die nobly for your Name: Bestow on us your servants the shield of faith, with which we can withstand the assaults of our ancient enemy; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Choir Amen.

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

Choir Amen.

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

Choir Amen.

REMARKS *Please be seated.*

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher

An offering to support the ministry of St. John's Church will be collected during the singing of the anthem. You may make an offering by placing your donation in the plate or using this QR code to pay electronically. A donation via this code can go only to offerings and not to pledges or any other specific funds.



THE ANTHEM

There is an old belief

Hubert Hastings Parry (1848–1918)

Sung by the choir.

There is an old belief, that on some solemn shore,
beyond the sphere of grief dear friends shall meet once more.

Beyond the sphere of Time and Sin and Fate's control,
serene in changeless prime of body and of soul.

That creed I fain would keep that hope I'll ne'er forgo,
eternal be the sleep, if not to waken so.

—John Gibson Lockhart (1794–1854)

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Said by all, standing as you are able.

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

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

Choir Thanks be to God.

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

People Amen.

HYMN 623

O what their joy and their glory must be

Sung by all.

1 O what their joy and their glo - ry must be,
2 Tru - ly "Je - ru - sa - lem" name we that shore,
3 There, where no trou - bles dis - trac - tion can bring,
4 Now, in the mean - while, with hearts raised on high,
5 Low be - fore him with our prais - es we fall,

1 those end - less Sab - baths the bless - ed ones see;
2 ci - ty of peace that brings joy ev - er - more;
3 we the sweet an - thems of Zi - on shall sing;
4 we for that coun - try must yearn and must sigh,
5 of whom, and in whom, and through whom are all;

1 crown for the val - iant, to wea - ry ones rest:
2 wish and ful - fill - ment are not sev - ered there,
3 while for thy grace, Lord, their voic - es of praise
4 seek - ing Je - ru - sa - lem, dear na - tive land,
5 of whom, the Fa - ther; and in whom, the Son;

1 God shall be all, and in all ev - er blest.
 2 nor do things prayed for come short of the prayer.
 3 thy bless - ed peo - ple e - ter - nal - ly raise.
 4 through our long ex - ile on Bab - y - lon's strand.
 5 through whom, the Spi - rit, with them ev - er One.

Words: Peter Abelard (1079-1142); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: *Q quanta qualia*, melody from *Antiphoner*, 1681; harm. John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876).

VOLUNTARY

Passacaglia

David Hurd (b. 1950)

All are invited to a reception in Togo West Parlor immediately following the service.

ASSISTING AT THIS SERVICE

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher, *Rector*

Kevin Cordova-Brookey, *Crucifer*

Anthony Pegues, *Assistant Head Usher*

Jeremy Sheeler, *Livestream Technician*

St. John's Choir and Choristers

Brent Erstad, *Director of Music and Organist*

Lyn Loewi, *Associate Organist*

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.**

Readings: 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. ♦ 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.

TWO WAYS TO PURCHASE GIFTS:

- Visit the tree in the Parish House and select an angel with a wish list, then procure it at a store of your choosing and return it (unwrapped) to the church by Monday, December 9.
- 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. Question? Please contact Kevin Cordova-Brookey via the online Ministry Directory at stjohns-dc.org.

ST. JOHN'S PRIDE EVENTS UPCOMING

TONIGHT AFTER EVENSONG

St. John's Pride welcomes all to enjoy **cocktails, mocktails, and community** at Off the Record at The Hay Adams (800 16th Street, NW) tonight after the service.

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, additional dates, 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.

LATROBE YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

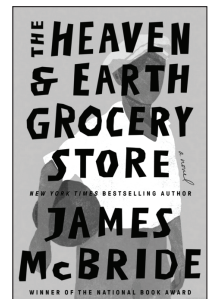
Tiki Night: Wednesday, December 4, at 6:30 p.m.

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.

You 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 us for an evening of holiday merriment. Prizes will be awarded for the most festive attire and the ugliest Christmas sweater! 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.



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. All children who wish to participate should attend the 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. Come 30 minutes early to enjoy a prelude of anthems and carols before the start of the service.

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