

SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH

LAFAYETTE SQUARE • WASHINGTON, DC

CHORAL EVENSONG

September 18, 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 Margaret Burk (b. 1990)
Canticles—Collegium Regale by Herbert Howells (1892–1983)

VOLUNTARY

Lullaby that releases me from reality

Hina Sakamoto (b. 1968)

INTROIT

O gladsome light, O grace

Louis Bourgeois (c. 1510–1561)

O gladsome light, O grace of God the Father's face, the eternal splendor wearing;
celestial, holy, blest, our Savior Jesus Christ, joyful in thine appearing.

Now, as day fadeth quite, we see the evening light, our wonted hymn outpouring;
Father of might unknown, thee, his incarnate Son, and Holy Spirit adoring.

To thee of right belongs all praise of holy songs, O Son of God, Life-giver;
thee, therefore, O Most High, the world doth glorify and shall exalt forever.

—Greek, 3rd century, trans. Robert Bridges (1844–1930)

HYMN 28

O blest Creator, source of light

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

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

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

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

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

WELCOME

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher

THE OPENING SENTENCES

Please remain standing.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. —*Philippians 1:2*

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.

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

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

Officiant Praise ye the Lord.

Choir The Lord's Name be praised.

PSALM 119:73-96

Edward John Hopkins (1818–1901)

Please be seated.

Lord Mornington (1735–1781)

Thy hands have made me and fashioned me *

O give me understanding, that I may learn thy commandments.

They that fear thee will be glad when they see me *

because I have put my trust in thy word.

I know, O LORD, that thy judgements are right *

and that thou of very faithfulness hast caused me to be troubled.

O let thy merciful kindness be my comfort *

according to thy word unto thy servant.

O let thy loving mercies come unto me, that I may live *

for thy law is my delight.

Let the proud be confounded, for they go wickedly about to destroy me *

but I will be occupied in thy commandments.

Let such as fear thee, and have known thy testimonies *

be turned unto me.

O let my heart be sound in thy statutes *

that I be not ashamed.

My soul hath longed for thy salvation *

and I have a good hope because of thy word.

Mine eyes long sore for thy word *

saying, O when wilt thou comfort me?

For I am become like a bottle in the smoke *

yet do I not forget thy statutes.

How many are the days of thy servant *
 when wilt thou be avenged of them that persecute me?
 The proud have digged pits for me *
 which are not after thy law.
 All thy commandments are true *
 they persecute me falsely; O be thou my help.
 They had almost made an end of me upon earth *
 but I forsook not thy commandments.
 O quicken me after thy loving-kindness *
 and so shall I keep the testimonies of thy mouth.
 O LORD, thy word *
 endureth for ever in heaven.
 Thy truth also remaineth from one generation to another *
 thou hast laid the foundation of the earth, and it abideth.
 They continue this day according to thine ordinance *
 for all things serve thee.
 If my delight had not been in thy law *
 I should have perished in my trouble.
 I will never forget thy commandments *
 for with them thou hast quickened me.
 I am thine, O save me *
 for I have sought thy commandments.
 The ungodly laid wait for me to destroy me *
 but I will consider thy testimonies.
 I see that all things come to an end *
 but thy commandment is exceeding broad.
 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 Clark Ervin.

Acts 16:16-24

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

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 Sandra Hackworth.

John 12:20-26

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor."

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 O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Choir Amen.
Officiant Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior.
Choir Amen.
Officiant Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.
Choir Amen.

REMARKS

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher

Please be seated.

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



THE ANTHEM

Save us, O Lord

Edward Bairstow (1874–1946)

Sung by the choir.

Save us, O Lord, waking, guard us sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ,
and asleep we may rest in peace. Amen.

—*Antiphon for the Office of Compline*

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 704

O thou who camest from above

Sung by all.

1 O thou who cam - est from a - bove the fire ce -
 2 There let it for thy glo - ry burn with ev - er -
 3 Je - sus, con - firm my heart's de - sire to work, and
 4 Still let me prove thy per - fect will, my acts of

les - tial to im - part, kin - dle a flame of
 bright, un - dy - ing blaze, and trem - bling to its
 speak, and think for thee; still let me guard the
 faith and love re - peat, till death thy end - less

sa - cred love up - on the al - tar of my heart.
 source re - turn in hum - ble prayer and fer - vent praise.
 ho - ly fire and still stir up the gift in me.
 mer - cies seal, and make the sac - ri - fice com - plete.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: *Hereford*, Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876).

VOLUNTARY

Prelude in C major, BWV 545

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

ASSISTING AT THIS SERVICE

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher, *Rector*

Wendy J. Fibison, *Crucifer*

Richard Young, *Assistant Head Usher*

David Gallalee, *Usher*

Ryan Wagner, *Livestream Technician*

St. John's Choir and Choristers

Brent Erstad, *Director of Music*

Lyn Loewi, *Associate Organist*

Please help us be good stewards of the environment.

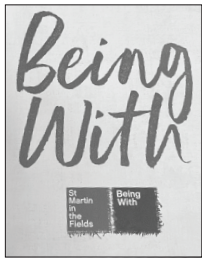
**If you do not wish to take this bulletin home after the service,
you may leave it at the end of the pew as you depart or place it in a blue recycling bin.**

NEWS AND EVENTS AT ST. JOHN'S

THE SPEAKER SERIES is held most Sundays at 10 a.m. on the first floor of the Parish House. Upcoming speakers include **Carroll Doherty**, Director of Political Research at the Pew Research Center, and **Ann Compton**, longtime ABC News White House Correspondent. Full schedule and recordings of past speakers available on our website.

BEING WITH: A COURSE EXPLORING CHRISTIAN FAITH AND LIFE

Classes begin Wednesday, September 25, at 6:30 p.m., via Zoom—Be sure to register for the link!



This fall, we are again excited to offer a 10-week class called Being With (being-with.org), developed by the Rev. Sam Wells and his colleagues at St. Martin-in-the-Fields in London. Participants may choose between online and in-person learning groups and will spend

time exploring the core ideas and practices of a Christian life. Each session lasts 90 minutes, and participants should be present for most sessions for the most meaningful small-group experience. Classes start Wednesday, September 25, and run through December 4 (no class Thanksgiving week). Please contact the Rev. Sarah Akers-Cardwell via the About: Leadership tab on our website with questions, or visit bit.ly/3WhQjiB to express interest.

TEA WITH THE SISTERS AT ST. JOHN'S Sunday, September 29, at noon

Women of all ages are invited to join the Sisters at St. John's for tea (hot and cold) served with small sandwiches and desserts. The Sisters gather socially throughout the year for fellowship and giving activities, in addition to offering an annual retreat and supporting one another in times of need. Come meet our members and learn more about this group! RSVP by Wednesday, September 25, via the online Ministry Directory on the Connect tab of our website.

LATROBE YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP Wednesday, October 2, 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.

For more, contact Eric Bailey, our minister for youth and young adults, via the About: Leadership tab of our website.

LAFAYETTE FELLOWSHIP

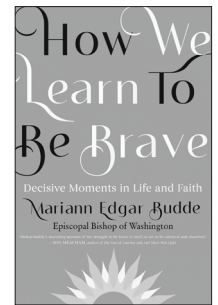
Thursday, October 3, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

The Lafayette Fellowship is excited to kick off autumn with dinner at the home of the Rev. Rob Fisher and Sarah Wood. Come for food, cocktails/mocktails, and conversation. The Lafayette Fellowship is a group of adults, primarily in their 40s and 50s, looking for community. Our events offer the time and space to build friendships, expand our hearts and minds, and have fun. We look forward to welcoming current and new members! For planning purposes, please RSVP to co-chairs Hilary West and Christine Davies via the Ministry Directory on the Connect tab of our website.

ST. JOHN'S BOOK GROUP

Thursday, October 3, at 7 p.m.

Join us via Zoom to discuss *How We Learn to Be Brave: Decisive Moments in Life and Faith* by the Rt. Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde. Bishop Mariann explores times when people are called to push past fear and act with courage and strength.



The book is heralded as perfect for those seeking answers in uncertain times. 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.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Sunday, October 6, at 9 a.m.

Humans of all ages and pets of all varieties are welcome! The Blessing of the Animals will take place during the 9 a.m. service. Leashed or crated pets are invited into the sanctuary for worship that will last less than an hour. The Blessing of the Animals is often held in early October to coincide with the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi (October 4), the patron saint of animals and the environment.

Visit our website for more news and the full calendar of upcoming events. You can find us at www.stjohns-dc.org.

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