

SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH

LAFAYETTE SQUARE • WASHINGTON, DC

CHORAL EVENSONG The Feast of Frederick Douglass February 19, 2025

*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 most months 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 Richard Ayleward (1626–1669)
Canticles by Samuel Coleridge–Taylor (1875–1912)

VOLUNTARY

Talk about a child that do love Jesus

Calvin Taylor (b. 1948)

INTROIT

There is a balm in Gilead

arr. Ken Burton (b. 1970)

*There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole.
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sinsick soul.*

Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. *Refrain*

If you can't preach like Peter, if you can't pray like Paul,
just tell the love of Jesus, and say, "He died for all." *Refrain*

—*African American spiritual*

HYMN 35

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 - dant 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: *Mighty Savior*, David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1985, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

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*

Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

—*Psalm 141:2*

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 85:7-13

Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810–1876)

Please be seated.

Show us thy mercy, O Lord *
and grant us thy salvation.
I will hearken what the Lord God will say concerning me *
for he shall speak peace unto his people, and to his saints, that they turn not again.
For his salvation is nigh them that fear him *
that glory may dwell in our land.
Mercy and truth are met together *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
Truth shall flourish out of the earth *
and righteousness hath looked down from heaven.
Yea, the Lord shall shew loving-kindness *
and our land shall give her increase.
Righteousness shall go before him *
and he shall direct his going in the way.

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.

Hebrews 2:10-13

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you." And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Here am I and the children whom God has given me."

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 Clark Ervin.

Luke 4:14-21

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

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 all on a monotone.

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 Almighty God, we bless your Name for the witness of Frederick Douglass, whose impassioned and reasonable speech moved the hearts of people to a deeper obedience to Christ: Strengthen us also to speak on behalf of those in captivity and tribulation, continuing in the way of Jesus Christ our Liberator; who with you and the Holy Spirit dwells in glory everlasting.

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. Sarah Akes-Cardwell

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

His eye is on the sparrow arr. Zanaida Stewart Robles (b. 1979)

Sung by the choir.

“Let not your heart be troubled.” His tender words, I hear.
And, resting on his goodness, I lose my doubts and fears.
Though by the path he leads me, though one thing I may see,
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows come?
Why should my heart be lonely, and long for heaven and home,
when Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is he.
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free. His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

—*Civilla D. Martin (1866–1948)*

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 28 *Sung by all.*

O blest Creator, source of light

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 - guished 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).

VOLUNTARY

His eye is on the sparrow

arr. Carl W. Haywood (b. 1949)

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

ASSISTING AT THIS SERVICE

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher, *Rector*

The Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell, *Associate Rector*

Kevin Cordova-Brookey, *Crucifer*

Bud Harrell and Anthony Pegues, *Assistant Head Ushers*

Ryan Wagner, *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



CELEBRATING DESMOND TUTU'S LEGACY

Sunday, February 23, at 11 a.m.

On Sunday, February 23, we will celebrate the legacy of Archbishop Desmond Tutu during a service that includes special music and a sermon by the Rt. Rev. Eugene Sutton, recently retired Bishop of Maryland. Archbishop Tutu was formerly primate of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa, a Nobel Peace Prize recipient for his leadership in the struggle against apartheid in South Africa, and a good friend of the Episcopal Church in Washington.

The service will include the world premiere of a newly commissioned work of sacred choral music titled *Cantata "Ubuntu"* and composed by award-winning South African composer Franco Prinsloo. The cantata reflects the values shared by St. John's Church and Archbishop Tutu: justice, peace, and unity. It draws inspiration from the painting of Archbishop Tutu that protected St. John's historic Parish House after the protests around the murder of George Floyd in 2020, shown above.

Plans are underway for several of the paintings that protected our buildings to be accessioned by the Smithsonian Museum of African American History and Culture. The painting of Archbishop Tutu will be on display at St. John's as we premiere the musical work that it inspired. The **Speaker Series presentation preceding the service** will include a Q&A with the composer, who will be joining us live via video from South Africa. Please invite your friends and plan to join us for this special morning.

N STREET VILLAGE SUPPLY DRIVE

Now through March 30

The Sisters at St. John's are partnering with N Street Village, a local group that supports D.C. women experiencing homelessness by offering a broad spectrum of services, housing, and advocacy in an atmosphere of dignity and respect. We are collecting a variety of necessities, including travel sizes of toothpaste, body wash, shampoo, lotion, and deodorant, as well as cleaning supplies, dishwashing soap, paper towels, toilet paper, women's underwear (sizes 7, 8, 11, and 12), and adult incontinence items (M-XXL). To donate, please bring any of the above items to church with you and leave them in the basket by the reception area in the Parish House. Or skip the hassle and order supplies via the online wish list found at bit.ly/sisters-supplies-2024.

FROM THE REFUGEE COMMITTEE

Changes instituted on January 24 are affecting resettlement agencies across the country, including our partners Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area (LSSNCA) and Episcopal Migration Ministries. The best way to show your support of these agencies and the refugees whom they serve is by making a financial gift via lssnca.org or episcopalmigrationministries.org. To join our Refugee Committee and learn about other opportunities to engage through St. John's, please contact Lacy Broemel via the Ministry Directory at stjohns-dc.org.

LATROBE YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Saturday, February 22, at 4 p.m. (Offsite)

Join us for a visit to Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria on Saturday, February 22. While on campus, we'll gather for prayer, followed by food and drinks at 1823, the seminary's on-campus pub. Latrobe members will carpool to the seminary from the King Street/Old Town metro. 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.

**Lent begins on
Ash Wednesday, March 5**

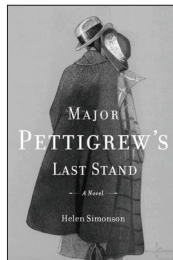
7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Ashes
12 noon Choral Holy Eucharist and Ashes
7 p.m. Choral Holy Eucharist and Ashes

**Ashes to Go
(in front of the Church on 16th Street)**

8:30–9:30 a.m. | 4–6:30 p.m.

**ST. JOHN'S BOOK GROUP
Thursday, March 6, at 7 p.m.**

Please join us via Zoom to discuss *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson. Set in England, the story depicts a retired officer who finds an unexpected romance with a Pakistani widow, challenging the prejudices of their small village. The book explores the risks one takes when pursuing happiness in the face of family obligation and tradition. The book group typically meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. For information and the link, please contact leader Janet Edmond via the online directory at stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory.



**WOMEN'S WEEKEND RETREAT
Friday, March 7, through Sunday, March 9**

The Sisters at St. John's annual retreat, this year entitled "Wilderness Blessings," will be held at the A. Felix DuPont Memorial House in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. Led by the Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell, it will feature the poetry of Pádraig Ó Tuama, Jan Richardson, and Cole Arthur Riley, three contemporary poets who explore liturgy, faith, and the power of story. Space is limited and fills quickly, so please complete the online registration at bit.ly/sjc-retreat-2025-register and submit your payment to secure your spot. The cost (\$400) includes housing and meals. For those in need of financial assistance, scholarships

are available; contact the Rev. Rob Fisher with your request. Questions? Reach out to leader Emily Lucio via the online Ministry Directory—and remember that your payment (not your email) secures your place at the retreat. Full information, including details about the venue and payment, can be found at bit.ly/sjc-wilderness-blessings.

**GRACE'S TABLE
Third Saturdays, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Upcoming Dates: March 15 and April 19**

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

**THE 2025 SPRING ADULT INQUIRERS' CLASS
Saturdays, April 5 and 12**

Would you like to be baptized, confirmed, or received into membership in the Episcopal Church? Are you curious to learn more about the Christian faith, the Episcopal tradition, and the ministry of St. John's? Consider joining the Spring Adult Inquirers' Class led by the Rev. Rob Fisher. The class will meet on Saturdays, April 5 and 12, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., and all are welcome—newcomers and longtime parishioners alike. To register, contact Lisa Koehler via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

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

Visit stjohns-dc.org/connect/newsletters to subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter (The Word) and other parish email lists.

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 Leadership & Members

Nora Rigby, *Senior Warden*

Alfred Thesmar, *Junior Warden*

Tony Anikeeff, Brian Cordova-Brookey,
Kaye Edwards, Casey Evans, Debby Hailey,
Fruzsina Harsanyi, Julia Koster,
Elizabeth Cavert Morrison,
Ucheora Onwuamaegbu, Jack Reiffer,
Matthew Taylor, and Jess Unger, *Members*

Nora Haugh, *Treasurer*

Allie Raether, *Secretary*

Harker Rhodes, *Parish Counsel*

Head Usher—James H. Czerwonky

Head Greeters—Eleanor and Peter Odom

Heads of Flower Guild

Pat Dalby and Katherine Kyle

Worship & 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*

The Rev. Dcn. 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