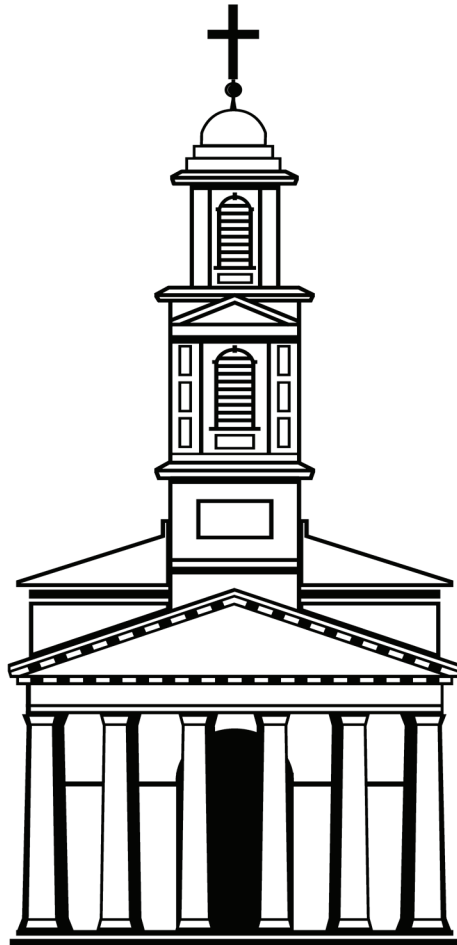


THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 15, 2024 ♦ Holy Eucharist at 9 and 11 a.m.



SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH

LAFAYETTE SQUARE • WASHINGTON, DC

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

Welcome to St. John's Church, Lafayette Square.

*All are invited to participate in the service as able. Congregational responses appear in **bold**.
Nursery care is available from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the second floor of the Parish House.*

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.

THE ADVENT WREATH

As we await Christ's Advent, or "coming," we symbolically acknowledge the role of his birth in salvation history through the lighting of our Advent wreath. In the Bible, Christ is referred to as the "Light of the World," contrasted with the darkness of sin. Each week in Advent, as the celebration of his birth draws nearer, we light another candle and dispel the darkness a little more. The candles may be said to represent hope, peace, joy, and love, just as they represent the four weeks of our wait. Thus, the Advent wreath helps us to contemplate spiritually the great drama that surrounds the birth of God Incarnate who comes to redeem the world.

VOLUNTARY

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland Dietrich Buxtehude (1637–1707)
(Savior of the nations, come)

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland Eva-Maria Houben (b. 1955)

HYMN 68

Rejoice! rejoice, believers

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

1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!
2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;
3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened sphere!

The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;
 The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.
 rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride-groom is at hand!
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt. Music: *Llangloffan*, melody from *Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru*, 1865.

THE WORD OF GOD

Please remain standing as you are able.

Priest Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

As the third candle of the Advent wreath is lit, the following prayer is said.

Holy and Gracious God, we give you thanks for the promise of Joy. As we anticipate and prepare for Joy being born in the world, may we be ever mindful of all the places in our lives, and those of others, where there seems to be little Joy. May its presence there be especially felt. Joyful, joyful we adore thee today and evermore. **Amen.**

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Priest The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Priest Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Please be seated.

Philippians 4:4-7

*9 a.m. Read by Chad Petersen.
 11 a.m. Read by Lafleur Paysour.*

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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

CANTICLE 9 The First Song of Isaiah

Isaiah 12:2-6

*9 a.m. Led by Katherine Bliss, said responsively by half verse.
 11 a.m. Chanted by the choir.*

Surely, it is God who saves me; *
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
 For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing*
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say,*
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples;*
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,*
and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,*
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

(11 a.m. only) Children's Chapel in the Parish House: All who wish may gather in front of the pulpit during the hymn and will return at the Peace. Parents are encouraged to accompany children younger than three.

GRADUAL HYMN 56

O come, O come, Emmanuel

Sung by all, standing as you are able. Stanza 5 will be sung before the Gospel, stanza 6 after.

5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us

5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of

5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y. Re - joice! Re - joice!
6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.

Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 3:7-18

Please remain standing as you are able.

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Following the Gospel, all sing stanza 6 of the gradual hymn.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher

THE NICENE CREED *Please stand as you are able.*

Let us affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

9 a.m. Led by Frank Klotz.

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

11 a.m. Led by Jessica Sanchez.

Intercessor Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

People **That we all may be one.**

Intercessor Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

Intercessor We pray for the communities of St. John's and our companion relationships with the Anglican Church of Southern Africa* and the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, for St. Thomas, DC, and St. Thomas, Upper Marlboro. For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Mariann, our Bishop; and for all bishops, priests, and deacons.

People **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

Intercessor We pray for Joseph, our President, and Donald, our President-elect; for the leaders of Congress and the nations, for the Supreme Court, and for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Intercessor Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Intercessor Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

People **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Intercessor Give to the departed eternal rest;

People **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Intercessor We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Intercessor Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. *Silence.*

Priest Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

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

Silence.

All Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. **Amen.**

Priest Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

You may make an offering by placing your donation in the plate, or use this QR code to pay electronically. A donation via this code can go only to offerings and not to pledges or any other specific funds.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Sung by the choir.

At 9 a.m.

Rejoice in the Lord alway

Anonymous, 16th century

Rejoice in the Lord alway, and again I say, rejoice. Let your softness be known unto us all: the Lord is e'en at hand. Be careful for nothing: but in all prayer and supplication, let your petitions be manifest unto God with giving of thanks. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesu. Amen.

—*Philippians 4:4-7*

At 11 a.m.

O thou the central orb

Charles Wood (1866–1926)

O thou the central orb of righteous love,
pure beam of the most high, eternal light
of this our wintry world, thy radiance bright
awakes new joy in faith, hope soars above.

Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine,
gilding our darksome heaven with rays divine;
thy saints with holy lustre 'round thee move,
as stars about thy throne, set in the height
of God's ordaining counsel, as thy sight
gives measured grace to each, thy power to prove.

Let thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin,
our nature all shall feel eternal day,
in fellowship with thee, transforming clay
to souls erewhile unclean, now pure within. Amen.

—*Henry Ramsden Bramley (1833–1917)*

HYMN 66

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Sung by all, standing as you are able.

1 Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Stuttgart*, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

A PRAYER FOR STEWARDSHIP

Said by all.

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please remain standing as you are able.

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS (S-129) *Sung by all.*

Robert Powell (b. 1932)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
 might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est._____

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

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

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

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

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

People **We remember his death,
 we proclaim his resurrection,
 we await his coming in glory.**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all, presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. John and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Priest And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

FRACTION ANTHEM (S-163) *Sung by all.*

Robert Powell

Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

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

Sung by the choir.

At 9 a.m.

The Midnight Cry

Traditional American
arr. Mark Winges (b. 1951)

When the midnight cry began, O what lamentation,
thousands sleeping in their sins, neglecting their salvation.
Lo, the bridegroom is at hand, who will kindly treat him?
Surely all the waiting band will now go forth to meet him.

Some, indeed, did wait awhile, and shone without a rival;
but they spent their seeming oil, long since the last revival.
Many souls who thought they'd light, O, when the scene was closed,
now against the Bridegroom fight, and so they stand opposed.

While the wise are passing by, with all their lamps prepared,
give us of your oil, they cry, if any can be spared.
Others trimmed their former snuff, O, is it not amazing!
Those conclude they've light enough, and think their lamps are blazing.

Foolish virgins! Do you think our Bridegroom's a deceiver?
Then may you pass your lives away, and think to sleep for ever;
but we by faith do see his face, on whom we have believed;
if there's deception in the case, 'tis you that are deceived.

The door is shut, and they within, they're freed from every danger;
they reign with Christ, for sinners slain, who once lay in a manger;
they join with saints and angels too in songs of love and favor;
glory, honor, praise, and power, to God and Lamb for ever.

Virgins wise, I pray draw near, and listen to your Savior;
he is your friend, you need not fear, O, why not seek his favor?
He speaks to you in whispers sweet, in words of consolation:
By grace in him you stand complete, he is your great salvation.

Dying sinners, will you come, the Savior now invites you;
his bleeding wounds proclaim there's room, let nothing then affright you.
Room for you, and room for me, and room for coming sinners:
Salvation pours a living stream for you and all believers.

—*From the Southern Harmony, 1835; based on Matthew 25:1-13*

At 11 a.m.

O radiant dawn

James MacMillan (b. 1959)

O radiant dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: Come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. Isaiah had prophesied, "The people who walked in darkness have seen the great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone." Amen.

—*Antiphon for Advent*

HYMN 72

Hark, the glad sound! the Savior comes

Sung by all, seated.

1 Hark, the glad sound! the Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - oners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the wound - ed
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long! Let ev - ery heart pre -
bond - age held; the gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

pare a throne, and ev - ery voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - bled poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Words: Philip Doddridge (1702–1751). Music: *Richmond*, melody Thomas Haweis (1734–1820); adapt. Samuel Webbe, Jr. (1770–1843); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

Priest Let us pray.

All Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

When scheduled, the Priest offers a communion kit to any Lay Eucharistic Minister doing a home visit, saying

On behalf of God and St. John's Church, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those whom you will visit may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Priest Life is short. And we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So be swift to love. Make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

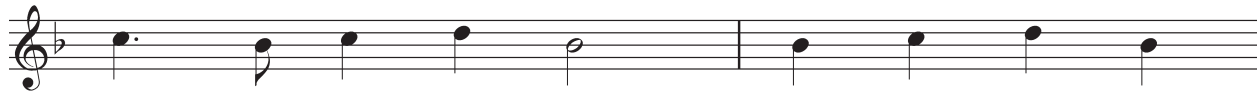
HYMN 54

Savior of the nations, come!

Sung by all, standing as you are able.



1 Sa - vior of the na - tions, come! Vir - gin's
2 Won - drous birth! Oh, won - drous child of the
3 Thus on earth the Word ap - pears, grac - ing
4 Come, O Fa - ther's sav - ing Son, who o'er



Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, both
Vir - gin un - de - filed! Might - y God and
his cre - a - ted spheres; hence to death and
sin the vic - tory won. Bound - less shall your



heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.
Ma - ry's son, ea - ger now his race to run!
hell de - scends, then the heaven - ly throne a - scends.
king - dom be; grant that we its glo - ries see.

Words: Martin Luther (1483-1546) after Ambrose of Milan (340-397); tr. William M. Reynolds (1812-1876) and James Waring McCrady (b. 1938). Sts. 3-4 Copyright © 1982, James Waring McCrady. Music: *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*, melody from *Erfurt Enchiridia*, 1524; harm. Melchior Vulpius (1560?-1616).

THE DISMISSAL

Priest Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

O come, O come, Emmanuel Evelyn Simpson Curenton (b. 1953)

THE ADVENT FRONTAL ON THE ALTAR WAS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD,
and in loving memory of Avedis Thomas Reid Jr., Joseph Browning Reid II, and Richmond Shackleton Reid.

THE GREENS IN THE CHURCH ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD.

ASSISTING AT THE 9 A.M. SERVICE

Eric Bailey, *Crucifer* ♦ Jack Reiffer and Diane Spaulding, *Chalice Bearers*
Robyne Johnston, *Assistant Head Usher* ♦ Zoe Fisher and Fruzsina Harsanyi, *Ushers*
Peter Odom and Roderick Todd, *Greeters*
Janie Jackson and Elizabeth Lewis, *Flower Guild*

ASSISTING AT THE 11 A.M. SERVICE

Beverly Roberts, *Crucifer* ♦ Lizzie Rigby and Powe Rigby, *Acolytes*
Paul Barkett and Doug Estes, *Chalice Bearers*
Hap Rigby, *Assistant Head Usher*
Tony Anikeeff, Joe Daniels, Michele Mullins, and Karen Zachary, *Ushers*
Krista Bradley and Larry Bradley, *Greeters*
Janie Jackson and Elizabeth Lewis, *Flower Guild*
Ryan Wagner, *Livestream Technician*

Please help us be good stewards of the environment.
If you do not wish to take this bulletin home after the service,
you may leave it at the end of the pew as you depart or place it in a blue recycling bin.

ARE YOU NEW TO ST. JOHN'S?

Please let us know who you are and how we can best serve you by filling out a "Welcome" card and leaving it in the offering plate or with an usher or greeter. ♦ Free valet parking is available on Sundays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Look for the valet sign at the corner of Black Lives Matter Plaza (16th Street) and H Street, NW. ♦ Follow us on Instagram at @stjohnschurchlafayettesquare. See photos from St. John's musical performances, special events, meetings, Sunday services, and more. Relive the moment or experience it for the first time through the touch of a button on your smartphone.

Reading and Gospel: From the New Revised Standard Version Bible © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. All rights reserved. Used by permission. ♦ Collect and Psalm: From the Book of Common Prayer, 1979. ♦ Music images reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701275.

Announcements for the Week of December 15

TODAY AT ST. JOHN'S

- 8 a.m. Eucharist—Sermon by the Rev. Rob Fisher
Parish Choir (Parish House Fourth Floor)
- 8:30 a.m. Nursery—available until 12:30 p.m.
(Parish House Second Floor)
- 9 a.m. Choral Eucharist—Sermon by the Rev.
Rob Fisher
- 10 a.m. Coffee Hour (Plaza, weather permitting,
or Parish House First Floor)
Speaker Series (Togo West Parlor; see page 5)
Church School (Parish House Second Floor)
Youth Group (Parish House Second Floor)
Bible Study (Parish House Third Floor)
St. John's Choir (Parish House Fourth Floor)
- 11 a.m. Choral Eucharist—Sermon by the Rev.
Rob Fisher
Children's Chapel (children begin in church)
- Noon Coffee Hour (Plaza, weather permitting,
or Parish House First Floor)
Parish Lunch (Parish House; see next column)
Church Tour (see next column)
- 8 p.m. Sisters at St. John's (Zoom; see next column)

FLOWER DELIVERIES

Help us brighten the day of parishioners by taking them flowers, located in the side chapel most Sundays of the year. A card is attached to each vase with contact information.

Today flower deliveries are needed to: N. Kenmore Street, Arlington; Stephenson Place, NW; and 48th Place, College Park.

PARISH LUNCH

Today at noon | Hosted by the Greeters

Sunday lunch at St. John's is a longtime tradition in which every member and every visitor can participate. It's a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new ones—a time for fellowship and for hearing another's story. The lunch is held most Sundays in the Parish House. Contributions of \$5 for adults and young people 13 and over and \$2 for children under 13 are requested to help defray the costs of the lunch. All are welcome. Valet parking hours are extended to 2 p.m. any Sunday with a parish lunch.



TOUR OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

Today at noon

For more than 200 years our church has served as a place of worship for a growing and everchanging city and country. Its structure is a lasting testament to Benjamin Henry Latrobe, who, because of his training in both architecture and engineering, is considered by the American Institute of Architects as our country's first architect. If you are interested in an in-person tour of St. John's Church, meet at the front of the church near the baptismal font after the 11 a.m. service. Today's guide is Kevin Cordova-Brookey.

SISTERS AT ST. JOHN'S ZOOM SOCIAL

Sunday, December 15, at 8 p.m.

The Sisters at St. John's are hosting a friendly gathering over Zoom to help usher in the holiday. Contact leader Emily Lucio via the online Ministry Directory at stjohns-dc.org for the link or any questions. Sisters at St. John's is a group of women who support each other throughout the year in fellowship, friendship, and ministry, including an annual weekend retreat generally held during Lent.

SERVICE SCHEDULE

December 16–22

Monday—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist

Tuesday—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist

Wednesday—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist

Thursday—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist

Friday—12:10 p.m.—Noonday Prayer

Sunday—The Rev. Will Morris, Preacher

8 a.m. Eucharist with Sermon

9 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon

11 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon
and Children's Chapel

5:30 p.m. Lessons and Carols for Christmas
(see next page)

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Monday, December 16

6:15 p.m. Lawyers' AA (Togo West Parlor)

Tuesday, December 17

1 p.m. Staff Meeting (Togo West Parlor)

6 p.m. Vestry Meeting (Togo West Parlor)

Wednesday, December 18

Flower and music donations due for Christmas bulletins.

4:30 p.m. Advanced Choristers Rehearsal

Thursday, December 19

4:30 p.m. Chorister Rehearsals

7 p.m. Parish Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 20

10 a.m. Memorial Service for James Doyle
(Offsite; see next column)

Saturday, December 21

10 a.m. Christmas Pageant Rehearsal (Togo West
Parlor; see page 4)

10:30 a.m. Grace's Table (see next column)

1 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary; until 3 p.m.)

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR JAMES DOYLE

Friday, December 20, at 10 a.m., in Silver Spring

We share with sadness that parishioner James Doyle died on Sunday, November 24. James was a familiar face on Sundays as a chalice bearer, crucifer, and usher. A service will be held at Grace Episcopal Church in Silver Spring on Friday, December 20, at 10 a.m. James attended Grace prior to coming to St. John's, and it is where his wife is buried. Please keep James' family and friends in your prayers.



GRACE'S TABLE

Third Saturdays, from 10:30 a.m to 12:30 p.m.

Upcoming Dates: December 21 and January 18

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 visit bit.ly/sjc-graces-table-1224 to volunteer.

FAMILY SERVICE ACTIVITY:

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND COOKIES

Sunday, December 22, at 10 a.m.

Help us spread comfort and joy this holiday season by decorating cookies and making Christmas cards for those who could use some extra cheer. Materials provided. This activity takes the place of Church School. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to join the fun.



HELP DELIVER CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Sunday, December 22

Please plan to deliver at least one Christmas poinsettia to fellow parishioners who cannot be present with us at worship at this time. The plants will be in the Parish House parlors on Sunday, December 22, with cards addressed to parishioners who live near you in Virginia, Maryland, or the District. Give the gift of your time to bring love and cheer.



LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS

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. Complimentary valet parking will be available starting at 4:30 p.m. The service will be followed by a reception in the Togo West Parlor. Invite your friends and family to join us for this special holiday offering. The service will also be livestreamed on our website. Please note: We are unable to offer nursery care for this service.

The schedule for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and the First Sunday after Christmas is found on the next page.

COMING UP IN THE NEW YEAR

THREE KINGS' PROCESSION

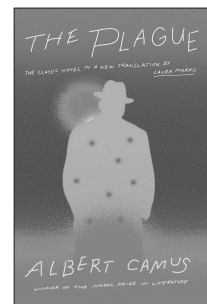
Sunday, January 5, at 11 a.m.

We will celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany on January 5 with our annual, costumed procession to "We three kings of Orient are." Members of the choir will play the kings, and young people from our congregation will accompany them as the star and pages. Join us for this special offering during the 11 a.m. service.

ST. JOHN'S BOOK GROUP

Thursday, January 9, at 7 p.m.

Join us via Zoom to discuss *The Plague* by Albert Camus, translated by Laura Marris. Marris's translation brings new insight into Camus' story of the townspeople of Oran, who are in the grip of a deadly plague, condemning its victims to a swift and horrifying death. Forced into quarantine, the town is gripped by fear, isolation, and claustrophobia. Each person responds in their own way to the lethal disease: Some resign themselves to fate, some seek to blame, and a few, like Dr. Rieux, resist the terror. 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.



CHORAL EVENSONG

Wednesday, January 15, at 5:30 p.m.

Steeped in the beauty of the Anglican tradition, Evensong meets us at the even point between the active day and the restful night. Evensong is sung by the St. John's Choir on the third Wednesday of most months from September through May, beginning at 5:30 p.m. and followed by a reception in Togo West Parlor. Parking validation is available in the Colonial parking garage at 818 Connecticut Avenue, NW. A validation ticket can be obtained from an usher before or after the service. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for this special offering. The service will also be available via livestream on our website.

CHRISTMAS EVE, CHRISTMAS DAY, AND DECEMBER 29



SPONSOR CHRISTMAS MUSIC

We invite you to support special music for Christmas Eve. Our goal is \$3,000, and gifts of any size are appreciated. To donate, contact Brent Erstad via our website, stjohns-dc.org.

THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

December 24 at 4:30 p.m. (Musical prelude starts at 4 p.m.)

Rehearsal: Saturday, December 21, at 10 a.m.

The annual Christmas Pageant featuring children of the parish, carols, and hymns will take place on Christmas Eve at 4:30 p.m. A prelude of anthems and carols will begin 30 minutes before the start of the service. All children who wish to participate are encouraged to attend a rehearsal on Saturday, December 21, at 10 a.m. Walk-ons will also be welcome, either at the rehearsal or on Christmas Eve. Contact the Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell via the About: Leadership tab of our website for more information.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

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

7 p.m. Festal Choral Eucharist with Strings—
Sermon by the Rev. Rob Fisher

10 p.m. Festal Choral Eucharist with Strings—
Sermon by the Rev. Rob Fisher

Nursery available for the 4:30 and 7 p.m. services.

*Each service on Christmas Eve will be preceded by
30 minutes of carols and music. Come early and enjoy!*

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist—Sermon by the Rev. Will Morris

No valet parking available on Christmas Day.

*The Church and Parish Office will close after the service
and remain closed through Friday, December 27.*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

8 a.m. Eucharist with Sermon

9 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon

11 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon

Preaching at all services will be the Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell.

No nursery, Church School, or Youth Group offerings.

Children's Chapel will be offered.

*The Church and Parish Office will close at 1 p.m. on December 31
and remain closed all day on Wednesday, January 1.*

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.



December 15: Bell Tower Project. Parishioner Sharon Park will offer a detailed description and visuals of the work that was done to repair and restore our historic bell tower.



January 12: David Marchick, Dean of the Kogod School of Business at American University, and former Director of the Center for Presidential Transition at the Partnership for Public Service, will speak about the presidential transition process.

STEWARDSHIP

2025 PLEDGE TO ST. JOHN'S

Thank you to all who have already pledged for 2025. **As of Wednesday, December 11 we had received 233 pledges for a total of \$936,130.** Pledging today, if you have not yet done so, will help determine what the budget will be in the coming year. All pledges are welcome, no matter how big or small. If you are able to increase your pledge this year, it will greatly impact the growth of our programs to better serve our entire parish community. You can pledge either with a physical pledge card, available at the front desk or in the narthex of the church, or by visiting stjohns-dc.org/give/pledge to complete an online pledge form. Thank you!

DID YOU KNOW?

Required Minimum Distributions can be directed from an IRA to St. John's—something to keep in mind as the year's end approaches!

We are grateful for all the ways that members support the church. If you are in a position to give from your retirement account, now may be a good time to consider directing some

or all of your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) to a charity, including St. John's as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) as part of your annual giving or as a one-time gift.

If you are interested, please talk to your tax advisor and financial advisor regarding your obligations and options. Questions? Contact Lisa Kirchenbauer, Chair of the 1816 Society, via the Ministry Directory on our website.

A WORD ABOUT MATCHING GIFTS

Here's how to make your gift to St. John's do a bit more

Many employers in the area want to make a positive impact in the community by offering matching gifts for various charitable programs. Matches are mostly focused around community support, education, and other 501(c)(3) entities, with gifts handled through portals such as Benevity, DoubleTheDonation, Global Giving, and YourCause.

To find out whether your organization has a matching gift program, please contact your company's corporate giving officer, who can help you navigate the gift portal and make sure that St. John's is listed as a verified recipient. (You can also contact the Parish Office for assistance.) Using your company's matching gifts program is a wonderful, easy way to make a meaningful difference at and through St. John's.

THE 1816 SOCIETY

Planned giving is another way to sustain the mission and ministry of St. John's. The 1816 Society honors those who remember St. John's through a planned gift, such as a bequest in their will, a life-income gift, or a gift of real estate and life insurance. Check out the Episcopal Church Foundation (episcopalgifts.org) to learn more about various options for planned giving. Contact Lisa Kirchenbauer via the Ministry Directory at stjohns-dc.org with questions or to join the 1816 Society.

NEWS AND NOTEWORTHY

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. Please 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 twice a year, and be active, pledging participants in the life of the parish. Upcoming dates for baptism and required pre-baptismal classes with the clergy at St. John's include:

Sunday, January 12, 2025, at 9 a.m.

Class: Saturday, January 11, at 10 a.m.

Sunday, February 9, at 9 a.m.

Class: Saturday, February 8, at 10 a.m.

Sunday, April 27, at 9 a.m.

Class: Saturday, April 26, at 10 a.m.

SUNDAY PARISH LUNCH

Most Sundays after the 11 a.m. service

The Sunday lunch tradition relies on volunteers to prepare and serve the meal—which is why we encourage individuals, families, groups, or ministries to host at least once before the end of May. Hosts may be reimbursed for expenses or receive a tax receipt. Not sure what's involved? Want to claim an open date? Contact Parish Lunch coordinator Holly Sukenik at stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory.

December 15	Greeters
December 22	No Lunch
December 29	No Lunch
January 5	
January 12	Refugee Committee
January 19	
January 26	
February 2	Annual Meeting and Reception
February 9	
February 16	
February 23	Laurie Adams, Matthew Bode, David and Liz Gallalee



ERIC BAILEY ORDINATION Saturday, January 11, at 10 a.m., Washington National Cathedral

All are invited to the diaconal ordination of Eric Bailey, St. John's Minister for Youth and Young Adults. The service will take place at Washington National Cathedral on Saturday, January 11, beginning at 10 a.m.

Eric has been serving at St. John's since the summer of 2024. He is in his senior year at Virginia Theological Seminary, graduating with his M.Div. in May 2025. During his short time at St. John's, Eric has made a meaningful impact in our parish community, especially among our youth and young adults. This ordination for Eric is to the transitional diaconate; after a minimum of six months, he will then be ordained to the priesthood.

Deacons play an important role in keeping the gathered community connected to the needs of the world outside our church walls. This period of the transitional diaconate gives all those seeking ordination to the priesthood a unique period of practical experience rooted in servanthood. We are grateful that Eric will be able to live into this call in our midst.

FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

CHURCH SCHOOL CLASSES

Sundays, 10–10:50 a.m.

Children in pre-K through fifth grade may participate in Church School on the second floor of the Parish House. The Godly Play class is for children in pre-K through first grade, while kids in second through fifth grade gather in the Spark class. For information, contact the Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

NURSERY HOURS

Sundays, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Infants and children are welcome at all worship services. Nursery care is also available most Sundays for infants and children up to age three. The nursery meets in the Godly Play Classroom #2 on the second floor of the Parish House.

Opportunities for children and youth continue on the next page.

YOUTH GROUP

Sundays, 10–10:50 a.m.

All middle and high school youth are invited to the second floor of the Parish House for an exploration of life and faith with their peers. Questions? Contact Eric Bailey via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Sundays during 11 a.m. worship

Children from birth through grade 5 are invited to participate in a special liturgy just for them during the sermon at the 11 a.m. service. Children gather by the pulpit during the gradual hymn and process to the Parish House for a song, homily, and prayer time, returning to the sanctuary at the Peace. Parents may accompany their children, and are encouraged to do so for those younger than three. Children are also welcome to stay and worship in the main sanctuary. Questions? Contact the Rev. Sarah Akers-Cardwell via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

THE ACOLYTE MINISTRY

Sundays during 11 a.m. worship

Youth in 6th grade and above are welcome to participate during the 11 a.m. service, serving as torch bearers or crucifers and helping set the altar for communion. To learn more, contact us via stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory.

CHORISTER PROGRAM

The St. John's Chorister Program offers children and youth exceptional choral training, music theory education, and leadership development. We have a preparatory choir for children in grades 3–6, and an advanced (auditioned) program for young singers with unchanged voices. To learn more or express interest, contact Brent Erstad via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

REMINDERS

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Sundays at 10 a.m.

This group gathers most Sunday mornings, using a hybrid approach, with some joining via Zoom and others in person. Conversations explore the connections with the Sunday lectionary lessons and sermons. During Year C

we are focusing on the structure, audience, and themes of the Gospel of Luke. For class notes and Zoom login information, please connect with leader Jack Reiffer via our online Ministry Directory found at stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory.

JOIN A MINISTRY GROUP

Explore our many ministry groups at www.stjohns-dc.org, and contact the leaders via our online Ministry Directory for details or to sign up.

FLOWER MEMORIALS AND THANKSGIVINGS

The flowers that enhance the beauty of the Church and Parish House are made possible by gifts from our community and are often dedicated to the memory of a loved one or to mark a birth or birthday, a wedding, an anniversary, a graduation, or another special event. To make a dedication, pick up a flower card at the entrance to the Church.

MAKE A PLEDGE TO ST. JOHN'S

A pledge is a commitment of financial support over the course of a year, to be paid weekly, monthly, or on another schedule. By making a pledge to St. John's, you enable us to plan for the work we undertake in mission and ministry. It's easy to make a pledge commitment online using this QR code or by visiting the Give tab on our website.



ONLINE OFFERINGS TO DESIGNATED FUNDS

If you want to make a monetary offering toward your pledge or a specific fund, you may do so on our website or by scanning the QR code on the right. In the "Fund" drop-down menu, select the fund to which you wish to donate.



LISTEN AGAIN TO SUNDAY SERMONS

To listen to past sermons or speaker series, visit our website, scan this QR code, or search for "St. John's Church, Lafayette Square" in the Podcast app on your device.



LIVESTREAMED SERVICES

The weekly 11 a.m. Sunday service (10:30 a.m. in summer) is broadcast and available for replay on our website, as are the monthly evensong and occasional other special services and events.

PRAYER & PASTORAL CARE

Praying for the sick and those in need is an important part of our life together. We invite you to add yourself, family, or friends to the parish prayer list. **Contact Pastoral Care through the Connect: Ministry Directory tab at stjohndc.org.** Birthdays, anniversaries, births, and deaths are listed for a week. Other names added to the prayer list will be reviewed twice a year to help keep prayer requests current. If you would like a name to be on the prayer list for a specific period of time, please let us know. For family and friends who are not members of the congregation, we list in parentheses the name of the person requesting prayers.

Our prayers are requested for the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially:

THOSE WHO ARE SICK, RECOVERING, OR GRIEVING

From our parish: Margo Arnold, Yung Chang, Anne Field, Andy McKinnon, and David Springer.

Friends and family of our parish: Susan Baxter (Rob Fisher), Kiesha Carroll (GeeGee Bryant), Billy Beardsley Conderman (Margo Arnold), Gisela Block (Sigi Block), Mary Leche Delong (Margo Wiegenstein), Jim DeBello (Grace Barrett), Ed Eder (Joanne and Powell Hutton), Linda Young Gsell (Rick Young), Morgan Hickenlooper (Livy More), Doug Holy (Joanne Hutton), Jack (Marta Cook and Cal Trepagnier), Latithia and Charles Jones (GeeGee Bryant), Charlotte Crowley Junilla (Margo Arnold), Olivia Kehoe (Kat Kehoe), Elizabeth Lee (Clayton Crawford), William Markiewicz (Matthew Taylor), Jim Martella (Livy More), Tammy McCleaf (Matthew Taylor), Nell Montgomery (Brandon Montgomery), Christopher More (Sarah Akes-Cardwell), Bruce Mortimer (Nancy Mathis), Lisa Nestor (Sarah Wood), Patrick Christopher O'Donnell (Wendy J. Fibison), Sophie Panagi (Brian and KayAnn Schoeneman), Paul Peralta (Debby Hailey), Alan Schutz (John and Zachary Schutz), Nancy Stephenson (Ann and John Gardner), Scott (Marta Cook and Cal Trepagnier), Louise Shaughnessy (Sarah Wood), Pam Snyder (Sarah

Agnew), Patsy Swain (Margo Arnold), Sallie and William Wilkie Thompson (Cecelia Thompson), Mackenzie Toland (Wendy J. Fibison), John Walsten (Emily and John Lucio), Richard Waycott (Louisa Waycott), Edward Leland Williams II (Virginia Bader), and Linda Woolley (Blount and Charlotte Stewart).

THOSE WHO ARE IN ASSISTED LIVING

From our parish: Eve Atkeson, Milton Chamberlain, Jack Kinsey, Barney Malloy, Marcella Odom, Becky Schergens, and Paul and Susan Van Nice.

Friends and family of our parish: Wilma Daubs (Kay Gilley), Lori LaPoint (Brent Erstad), Pat Morris (Will Morris), Deanne Scanlon (Wendy J. Fibison), Cawley Scott (Robyne Johnston), and Carl Wright (Frank and Nancy Klotz).

THOSE WHO ARE IN HOSPICE CARE

Friends and family of our parish: Ann (Frances Tyler), Henry Farrington (Wendy J. Fibison) and Ian Paton (Frances Tyler).

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Friends and family of our parish:

Haywood Harrell, December 9 (Bud Harrell); and Margaret Schell, December 8 (Elissa Edwards).

THOSE IN OUR PARISH CELEBRATING

A BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK

Wendy J. Fibison, Joanne Hutton, Emmanuel Lagera, Grant Lucio, RJ Lyerly, Randall Roe, Marie Sadqi, Sandy Sierck, and Leeza Wheeler.

THOSE IN OUR PARISH CELEBRATING

AN ANNIVERSARY THIS WEEK

Jim and Lisa Kirchenbauer, Michael and Nayla Mengel, Jim and Pat Czerwonky, and Clayton and Lauren Crawford.

THOSE ON THE FRONT LINES

Friends and family of our parish: Janie Abernethy (Elizabeth Lewis and David Abernethy), Anna Broadbent-Evelyn (Shawn Evelyn), and Philip L. Faris (Caroline and Steve Faris).

*Contact Pastoral Care at **Connect: Ministry Directory** on our website to add, remove, or change a status on the prayer list.*

LIST OF 2025 PLEDGERS

On behalf of the rector, wardens, vestry, and all who share in the grace of God through the worship, ministries, programs, and outreach of St. John's Church, we thank the following for their pledges for the year 2025:

(As of December 11, 2024)

Anonymous (10)	Deb & Jeff Dornemann	Robert & Whitney Johnston
David Abernethy & Elizabeth Lewis	James Doyle	Bill & Sara Josey
Alison Adkins	Mike & Beth DuMond	Carter & Fran Keithley
Sarah & Amanda Akes-Cardwell	Diana Duke Duncan	William T. Kendall
John & Renate Alison	James Eastwood	Kim Kennedy & Beverly Roberts
Anthony H. Anikeeff & Tung-lin Wu	Janet Edmond	Loren & Anne Kieve
Douglas & Margo Arnold	Kaye Edwards	David Kieve & Kate Bedingfield
Harvey E. & Carolyn L. Bale	Brandon & Elizabeth Elliott	James & Lisa Kirchenbauer
Paul Barkett	Martha Ellison	Anya Kleymenova
Chandler Battaile	Anne & Cliff Elmore	Frank & Nancy Klotz
Jordan & Angelle Baugh	Clark Ervin & Carolyn Harris	Elizabeth P. Koehler
Robert Beizer	Sylvia Martin-Estes & Doug Estes	Elizabeth & Jonathan Kosobucki
Laura Belman	Le & Casey Evans	Julia Koster
Coleman Bird	Amanda & Eric Eversole	Kenny Kraft
Martha L. & William S. Birdseye	Allison Herron Eydt	Grant Kraus
Diane Bitsberger	Caroline & Steve Faris	Albert S. & Katherine C. Kyle
Marion Blakey & William Dooley	Wendy J. Fibison	Patricia Leslie
Paul Bledsoe & Celia Boddington	Hyman & Anne Field	Julie Neff Lippman
Thomas Bleha & Natasha Simes	Elizabeth Field	James Longley
Katherine Bliss & Mark Dennis	Dr. Art & Louise Fisher	Jeffrey Lovelace
Matt Bode & Laurie Adams	Rob Fisher & Sarah Wood	Emily & John Lucio
Jeff Bozman	Molly & Matthew Ford	Jan Lupton
Krista & Larry Bradley	Linda Gaines	Chip & RJ Lyerly
Lacy Broemel	Elizabeth Gallalee	Sandy & Nancy Martin
Sydney Brooks	David Gallalee	Paolo Mastrangelo & Perri Warren
Autumn Brown	John & Ann Gardner	Caroline Mazzocchi
Craig & Barbara Burkhardt	Elizabeth & Christopher Gardner	Abbott McCartney & Sigrid Block
Richard T. Busch	Kay Gilley	Clayton McCleskey
Susan Cardwell	Donnie & Ronald Goodheart	Saunders McElroy
Mark Cardwell & Paul Ramos	Richard & Jeanne Grimmett	Thomas McKinnon
Andrea Charters	Sandra Hackworth	George McLendon & Carol Quillen
Mary Jane Checchi	Dierdre & JD Hague	Matthew McMurray & Christine Kennedy
Preston Cherouny	Deborah Hailey	Jacob McNeill
Virginia Chew	Budd & Susan Hallberg	Ellen McPeake
Carlye Christianson & Pascal Joly	Peter & Summer Hardinge	Anna Lee & PJ Melnick
Andrew Clarke & Chip Sherrill	Barbara Harper	Richard Metzger
Gwinneth Ann Clarkson	Robert & Anne Harrington	Johnathan S. Miller
Carly & Collier Connell	Fruzsina Harsanyi	Nathan & Kelly Miller
Brian & Kevin Cordova-Brookey	Dolph Hatfield & Mary Wilson	Joseph D. Mitchell
Pamela Covington	Diane Hauslein	Livy More
Joe Creech & Stephanie Delong	Tim & Susan Heil	Greg & Elizabeth Cavert Morrison
Garry & Patricia Dalby	Laura & John Herzog	Rob Mosbacher, Jr.
Betsy Danello	Ann Compton Hughes	Jim & Michele Mullins
Christine Davies	Joanne & Powell Hutton	Dick & Joy Nathan
LaFawn C. Davis	Marlene Ikeda	Dixie & John Noonan
William E. Davis	John Peters Irelan	John C. Northrup
Justin B. Dean	Wande Johnson	Peter & Eleanor Odom
Clayton & Margaret Depue	Ethan Johnson	Ralph & Lydia Olson
John Derrick	Felton Johnson	Ucheora & Nkem Onwuamaegbu

Owen & Felicia Owunwanne
Matthew L. Paeffgen
Robert Pahnke
Robert & Sharon Park
Cami Pease
Anthony Pegues
Robin Pennington
Raymond & Susan Petniunas
Larry & Connie Pettinger
Natalie Popovic
Richard Price & Yung Chang
William Priest
Kelly & Tricia Pulsifer
Will Rabbe & Brittany Prime
Carl & Mary Raether
Allie Raether Ganijan
Garret & Gigi Rasmussen
Glenn Reichardt & JoAnn Zuercher
Sarah & Avo Reid
Jack Reiffer
James Reilly & Caleb Hays
Geraldine & Harker Rhodes
Hap & Nora Rigby
Steve & Susan Roehrich
Damion Rose
Chase Rynd

Alex & Jessica Sanchez
KayAnn & Brian Schoeneman
John & Zachary Schutz
Sandy & Susan Sierck
Adelle Simmons
Thom Sinclair & James Kreger
Jeremy Skog
Patrick & Cameron Smith
Diane & Peter Spaulding
John Staples & Scott Raspa
Kenneth & Susan Starling
Anne Stewart
Charlotte & Blount Stewart
Toby Stock & Margy Slattery
Desirée Stolar
Catherine Stolar
Alex Stolar
John & Holly Sukenik
Patrick J. Summers
Matthew Taylor
Veronica Tejera
Hilary & Alfred Thesmar
Jocelyn Tichenor
Laurel & Andrew Tierney
Roderick & Rebecca Todd
David Trebing

Cal Trepagnier & Marta Cook
Anthony G. Turner
Frances Tyler
Susan Valaskovic
Paul & Susan Van Nice
Pamela & Patrick Venzke
Ryan Wagner
Christopher Wall
Alis Wang & Amy Stulman
Carl & Kristin Ward
Louisa Waycott
Susan Welch
Gail West
Hilary West
Brainerd H. Whitbeck III
Suzanne Whitmore
Trey & Amy Whitworth
Margaret E. Wiegenstein
Elena & Marty Williams
Emma Wilson
Anita Woehler
Bill Wright
Renee Yancey
Nicole Zehfuss & Neil Gutterman
Paul & Sitta Zehfuss

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS AND THANKSGIVINGS

The poinsettias and evergreens that enhance the beauty of the church and parish house at Christmastide are given by parishioners as memorials for those who have died and as thanksgiving for those who are living. Please consider remembering those who are important to you. The suggested donation is \$50 per name. Your support of this important ministry is greatly appreciated. **The deadline for inclusion in the Christmas order of service is Wednesday, December 18.**

To pay by check, please enclose your completed form with a check payable to St. John's Church, and send it to the Parish Office, Attention: Finance, with "Christmas Flowers" noted on the outside of the envelope—or simply place this form with your check in the offering plate on Sunday.

You may also make your payment online at bit.ly/SJCLGive. Choose "Special Flowers" from the dropdown menu. Under memo, list the name(s) and indicate whether your gift is in memory of or in thanksgiving for.

In memory of _____

In thanksgiving for _____

Your name _____

Address _____

Phone number _____ Amount _____

Mail to: St. John's Church ♦ 1525 H Street, NW ♦ Washington, DC 20005 ♦ Attention: Finance Office

Please contact the Parish Office at 202-347-8766 if you have questions.

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 Queer
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