

# SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH

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LAFAYETTE SQUARE • WASHINGTON, DC

## THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 22, 2024 ♦ Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m.

*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.*

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### 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.

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### ORDER OF SERVICE

*All page numbers reference the Book of Common Prayer. See inside for the readings, psalm, and gospel.*

The Word of God, page 355

The Collect of the Day

The First Reading

The Psalm

The Gospel

The Sermon: The Rev. William Morris

The Prayers of the People, Form III, page 387

Confession and Absolution, page 360

The Peace

The Holy Communion

A Prayer for Stewardship (*see page 3 inside*)

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer B, page 367

Prayer after Communion, page 366

Blessing

Dismissal

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### 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.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE FIRST READING

Hebrews 10:5-10

When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 80:1-7

*Said responsively by half verse.*

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*  
**shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.**

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, \*  
**stir up your strength and come to help us.**

Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

O LORD God of hosts, \*  
**how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?**

You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*  
**you have given them bowls of tears to drink.**

You have made us the derision of our neighbors, \*  
**and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-55

*Please stand as you are able.*

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

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

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

*Gospeller* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## 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 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 THIS SERVICE**

Sandra Hackworth, *Lay Server* ♦ Alfred Thesmar, *Assistant Head Usher*  
Glenn Stewart, *Usher* ♦ Anne Harrington, Joanne Hutton, and Julia Koster, *Flower Guild*

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.**

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**OFFERING PRAYER INTENTIONS**

*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.*

**MAKING AN OFFERING**

*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*



**INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION**

*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.*

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Readings 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.

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## Announcements for the Week of December 22

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### TODAY AT ST. JOHN'S

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- 8 a.m. Eucharist—Sermon by the Rev. Will Morris  
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.  
Will Morris
- 10 a.m. Coffee Hour (Plaza, weather permitting,  
or Parish House First Floor)  
Christmas Cards and Cookies (Togo West  
Parlor; see next column)  
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.  
Will Morris  
Children's Chapel (children begin in church)
- Noon Coffee Hour (Plaza, weather permitting,  
or Parish House First Floor)  
Church Tour (see next column)
- 5:30 p.m. Lessons and Carols for Christmas  
(see next column)



### HELP DELIVER CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

#### Today after all services

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 are in the Parish House parlors, paired with cards addressed to parishioners who live near you in Virginia, Maryland, or Washington, D.C.

### FAMILY SERVICE ACTIVITY: CHRISTMAS CARDS AND COOKIES

Today 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.

### 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 Richard Busch.



### LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS

Today 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 "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.

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## SERVICE SCHEDULE

*December 23–29*

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**Monday**—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist

**Tuesday**—4:30 p.m.—Pageant and Choral Eucharist  
7 p.m.—Christmas Eve Festal Eucharist  
10 p.m.—Christmas Eve Festal Eucharist

*No noontime service on Tuesday: Christmas Eve.*

**Wednesday**—11 a.m.—Christmas Day Eucharist

*No noontime services on Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday:  
Office closed for Christmas.*

**Sunday**—The Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell, 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

*No Adult Bible Study. No nursery, Church School, or Youth  
Group. Children's Chapel will be offered at the 11 a.m. service.*



## THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

**December 24 at 4:30 p.m. (Prelude starts at 4 p.m.)**

The annual Christmas Pageant featuring children of the parish, carols, and hymns will take place on Christmas Eve at 4:30 p.m. Walk-ons are welcome. Contact the Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell via the About: Leadership tab of our website for more information.

## DECEMBER 24—CHRISTMAS EVE

**4:30 p.m.**—Pageant & Eucharist with Choir & Harp  
*Nursery care available. Musical prelude starts at 4 p.m.*

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

*Nursery care available. Musical prelude starts at 6:30 p.m.*

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

*Musical prelude starts at 9:30 p.m.*

## DECEMBER 25—CHRISTMAS DAY

**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.*

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## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

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**Monday, December 23**

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

**Tuesday, December 24—Christmas Eve**

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

**Wednesday, December 25—Parish office closed**

**Thursday, December 26—Parish office closed**

**Friday, December 27—Parish office closed**

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## COMING UP IN THE NEW YEAR

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### EPIPHANY PARTY FOR KIDS

**Sunday, January 5, at 10 a.m.**

During the Church School hour, which begins at 10 a.m., infants, toddlers, and elementary aged kids are invited to the second floor of the Parish House, where we'll decorate stars, enjoy King Cake, and reflect on the story of the magi. Then, stay to watch the Three Kings' procession during the 11 a.m. service.

### 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.

### LATROBE YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

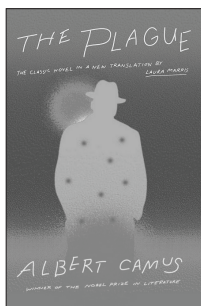
**Wednesday, January 8, at 6:30 p.m.**

The Latrobe Young Adult Fellowship will host a Three Kings celebration on Wednesday, January 8. We'll kick things off at 6:30 p.m. with Evening Prayer, followed by a presentation on the history of Three Kings' Day, its connection to Epiphany, and how the tradition is celebrated today. Food and drinks will be served. If you're in your 20s and 30s, please come! The Latrobe Fellowship typically gathers 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. Questions? Contact Eric Bailey, St. John's minister for youth and young adults, via the About: Leadership page of our website.

### 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](http://stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory).



### 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.

On Sunday, January 12, Eric will serve as a deacon at our 9 and 11 a.m. services. Liturgically this means he will proclaim the gospel, bid the confession of sins, help prepare the altar for Communion, and offer the dismissal. Please keep Eric in your prayers, and join us in celebrating this joyous occasion.

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## SPEAKER SERIES

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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.



**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.



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### GRACE'S TABLE

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

*Upcoming Dates: January 18 and February 15*

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](https://bit.ly/sjc-graces-table-1224) to volunteer.

## EPIPHANYTIDE LESSONS AND CAROLS

**Sunday, January 19, at 5:30 p.m.,**

**at Christ Church, Georgetown**

The combined professional choirs of St. John's, Lafayette Square, and Christ Church, Georgetown, will offer a joint service of Epiphanytide Lessons and Carols on Sunday, January 19. The service includes readings interspersed with seasonal hymns and choral anthems. A reception follows. Note that this year the service will be held at Christ Church (3116 O Street, NW). We hope you'll join us for this annual collaboration with a neighboring parish as we observe the joyous season of Epiphany.

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## STEWARDSHIP

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### 2025 PLEDGE TO ST. JOHN'S

Thank you to all who have already pledged for 2025. As of **Wednesday, December 18**, we had received **243 pledges for a total of \$996,040**. 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](https://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](http://episcopalgifts.org)) to learn more about various options for planned giving. Contact Lisa Kirchenbauer via the Ministry Directory at [stjohns-dc.org](http://stjohns-dc.org) with questions or to join the 1816 Society.

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## NEWS AND NOTEWORTHY

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### SPEAKING OF ORDINATIONS . . .

We are delighted to report that on December 14, Teboho Molefe (below left) was ordained by Bishop Charles May as a deacon in the Diocese of the Highveld, South Africa. St. John's supported Teboho in seminary as part of our link with the Anglican Church of South Africa.



## 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.*

## HELP US RING IN THE NEW YEAR

**Sunday, January 5, at noon**

On Sunday, January 5, after the 11 a.m. service, we are hosting a special Three Kings-themed parish potluck. You are invited to bring your favorite New Year's or Epiphany dish—or any other favorite food—to share as we celebrate the arrival of the magi and the year 2025.

## SUNDAY PARISH LUNCH

**Most Sundays after the 11 a.m. service**

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.

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](http://stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory).

*December 22 No Lunch*

*December 29 No Lunch*

*January 5 Three Kings' Day Potluck with King Cake*

January 12 Refugee Committee  
**January 19**  
January 26 Susan Cardwell  
February 2 Annual Meeting and Reception  
**February 9**  
**February 16**  
February 23 Laurie Adams, Matthew Bode,  
David and Liz Gallalee

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## FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

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### 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.

### 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.

### 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 Akes-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](http://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.

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## REMINDERS

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### 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](http://stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory).

### JOIN A MINISTRY GROUP

Explore our many ministry groups at [www.stjohns-dc.org](http://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.

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## PRAYER & PASTORAL CARE

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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 [stjohns-dc.org](http://stjohns-dc.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.

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

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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), Ann Petrosky (Johnathan Miller), 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 IN OUR PARISH CELEBRATING  
A BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK**

Margo Arnold, Robert Carroll, Virginia Chew, Matthew Ford, Matt Gaziano, Katherine Green, Margaret Hampe, James Kreger, Molly Lyons, and Nancy Mathis.

**THOSE IN OUR PARISH CELEBRATING  
AN ANNIVERSARY THIS WEEK**

Carlos and Lourdes Arriaga.

**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).

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## 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 18, 2024)*

Anonymous (11)  
David Abernethy & Elizabeth Lewis  
Alison Adkins  
Sarah & Amanda Akes-Cardwell  
John & Renate Alison  
Anthony H. Anikeeff & Tung-lin Wu  
Douglas & Margo Arnold  
Eric Bailey  
Harvey E. & Carolyn L. Bale  
Paul Barkett  
Chandler Battaile  
Jordan & Angelle Baugh  
Robert Beizer  
Laura Belman  
Coleman Bird  
Martha L. & William S. Birdseye  
Diane Bitsberger  
Mary Ellen Bittner  
Marion Blakey & William Dooley  
Paul Bledsoe & Celia Boddington  
Thomas Bleha & Natasha Simes  
Katherine Bliss & Mark Dennis  
Matt Bode & Laurie Adams  
Jeff Bozman  
Krista & Larry Bradley  
Lacy Broemel  
Sydney Brooks  
Autumn Brown  
Craig & Barbara Burkhardt  
Richard T. Busch  
Susan Cardwell  
Mark Cardwell & Paul Ramos  
Andrea Charters  
Mary Jane Checchi

Preston Cherouny  
Virginia Chew  
Carlye Christianson & Pascal Joly  
Andrew Clarke & Chip Sherrill  
Gwinneth Ann Clarkson  
Carly & Collier Connell  
Brian & Kevin Cordova-Brookey  
Pamela Covington  
Jamison Craft  
Joe Creech & Stephanie Delong  
Garry & Patricia Dalby  
Betsy Danello  
Christine Davies  
LaFawn C. Davis  
William E. Davis  
Justin B. Dean  
Clayton & Margaret Depue  
John Derrick  
Charles & Bonnie DeWitt  
Deb & Jeff Dornemann  
James Doyle  
Mike & Beth DuMond  
Diana Duke Duncan  
James Eastwood  
Janet Edmond  
Kaye Edwards  
Brandon & Elizabeth Elliott  
Martha Ellison  
Anne & Cliff Elmore  
Clark Ervin & Carolyn Harris  
Sylvia Martin-Estes & Doug Estes  
Le & Casey Evans  
Amanda & Eric Eversole  
Allison Herron Eydt

Caroline & Steve Faris  
Wendy J. Fibison  
Hyman & Anne Field  
Elizabeth Field  
Dr. Art & Louise Fisher  
Rob Fisher & Sarah Wood  
Molly & Matthew Ford  
Linda Gaines  
Elizabeth Gallalee  
David Gallalee  
John & Ann Gardner  
Elizabeth & Christopher Gardner  
Kay Gilley  
Donnie & Ronald Goodheart  
Richard & Jeanne Grimmett  
Michael Gullans  
Sandra Hackworth  
Dierdre & JD Hague  
Deborah Hailey  
Budd & Susan Hallberg  
Peter & Summer Hardinge  
Barbara Harper  
Robert & Anne Harrington  
Fruzsina Harsanyi  
Dolph Hatfield & Mary Wilson  
Diane Hauslein  
Tim & Susan Heil  
Whitley Herndon  
Laura & John Herzog  
Ann Compton Hughes  
Joanne & Powell Hutton  
Marlene Ikeda  
John Peters Irelan  
Nancy James

Wande Johnson  
Ethan Johnson  
Felton Johnson  
Robert & Whitney Johnston  
Bill & Sara Josey  
Carter & Fran Keithley  
William T. Kendall  
Kim Kennedy & Beverly Roberts  
Loren & Anne Kieve  
David Kieve & Kate Bedingfield  
James & Lisa Kirchenbauer  
Anya Kleyменова  
Frank & Nancy Klotz  
Elizabeth P. Koehler  
Elizabeth & Jonathan Kosobucki  
Julia Koster  
Kenny Kraft  
Grant Kraus  
Albert S. & Katherine C. Kyle  
Patricia Leslie  
Julie Neff Lippman  
James Longley  
Jeffrey Lovelace  
Emily & John Lucio  
Jan Lupton  
Chip & RJ Lyerly  
Sandy & Nancy Martin  
Paolo Mastrangelo & Perri Warren  
Caroline Mazzocchi  
Abbott McCartney & Sigrid Block  
Clayton McCleskey  
Saunders McElroy  
Thomas McKinnon  
George McLendon & Carol Quillen  
Matthew McMurray & Christine Kennedy  
Jacob McNeill  
Ellen McPeake  
Anna Lee & PJ Melnick  
Richard Metzger  
Johnathan S. Miller  
Nathan & Kelly Miller  
Joseph D. Mitchell  
Livy More  
Greg & Elizabeth Cavert Morrison

Rob Mosbacher, Jr.  
Jim & Michele Mullins  
Dick & Joy Nathan  
Dixie & John Noonan  
John C. Northrup  
Peter & Eleanor Odom  
Ralph & Lydia Olson  
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  
Larry Redway  
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  
Rev. Dr. Wesley S. Williams, Jr.  
Emma Wilson  
Anita Woehler  
Bill Wright  
Renee Yancey  
Nicole Zehfuss & Neil Gutterman  
Paul & Sitta Zehfuss





# 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](http://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.

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## Vestry

Nora Rigby, *Senior Warden*

Alfred Thesmar, *Junior Warden*

Tony Anikeeff, Krista Rimple Bradley, Kaye Edwards,  
Wendy J. Fibison, David Gallalee, Fruzsina Harsanyi,  
Elizabeth Cavert Morrison, Ucheora Onwuamaegbu,  
Jack Reiffer, Matthew Taylor, and Jess Unger,  
*Members*

Casey Evans, *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](http://www.stjohns-dc.org)