

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL
& AFRICAN PALMS USA

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Sunday, January 25, 2026

8am & 10:30am

HOLY EUCHARIST



3427 Olney Laytonsville Rd. Olney, MD 20832
Phone: (301) 774-6999 | Website: www.stjec.org

~ CALLED BY CHRIST IN LOVE, TO LIVE IN TRUTH AND ACTION ~

Welcome to St. John's Church

We are a diverse faith community committed to carrying out Christ's mission in the world around us. We love the beauty of worship, and live into the faithful and constant commitment towards seeking social and economic justice and reconciliation among all peoples. We come from across the globe, with varied family configurations, educational backgrounds, occupations, interests, and talents and invite you to join us.

If you are visiting our church for the first time, please introduce yourself to an usher or a member of the Clergy. We have a small gift for you from the parish.

If you are seeking a spiritual home, please speak with the Clergy.



Please join us for Coffee and fellowship following the worship service

If you are a guest with us today, please know that you are welcome to enjoy fellowship, coffee, and tea with us in the Parish Hall following the service.

Children are welcome at all services

If you have little worshipers with you today who might enjoy coloring, Play-Doh, or a Rubik's cube, these can be found at either entrance.

The Nursery is open from 8am to 12pm for children age 5 and under.

SUNDAY @ ST. JOHN'S

8am	<i>Worship with Eucharist, no music, in the Sanctuary</i>
9am	<i>Adult Forum in the undercroft Meeting Room</i>
9:45am	<i>Holy Household Half-Hour, Intergenerational "Sunday school" in the Parish Hall</i>
10:30am	<i>Worship with Eucharist and choir in the Sanctuary</i>

COME JOIN US

TODAY

- Annual Meeting @ 9am

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31

- EDOW Convention, Washington National Cathedral

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1

- Newcomer's Coffee Hour @ 12pm

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

- Neuro-Spicy Meeting @ 1:30pm

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

- St. John's School International Festival

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

- Casserole Club Meeting @ 12pm
- Pancake Breakfast

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16

- OFFICE CLOSED – Presidents Day

HOLY EUCHARIST

10:30AM

Prelude

The people stand.

10:30AM

Hymn #304

I come with joy to meet my Lord

Unison or harmony

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -
2 I come with Chris tians far and near to
3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each
4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll

1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der
2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -
3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us
4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship
5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple

1 to re - call his life laid down for me.
 2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
 3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.
 4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.
 5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt. Copyright ©1971 by Hope Publishing Company. Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983) Copyright ©1938 by J. Fischer & Bro., a division of Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp. Copyright renewed. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.

8AM

Gloria

BCP pg. 356

Glory to God in the highest,
 and peace to his people on earth.
 Lord God, heavenly King,
 almighty God and Father,
 we worship you, we give you thanks,
 we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
 Lord God, Lamb of God,
 you take away the sin of the world:
 have mercy on us;
 you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
 receive our prayer.
 For you alone are the Holy One,
 you alone are the Lord,
 you alone are the Most High,
 Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
 in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

10:30AM

S280 Glory to God in the highest

Robert Powell

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
 King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
 give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you

take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; 5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer. 6. For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord, 7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

Isaiah 9:1-4

Lector A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness--
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden,
 and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 27:1, 5-13

- 1 The LORD is my light and my salvation;
 whom then shall I fear? *
 the LORD is the strength of my life;
 of whom then shall I be afraid?
- 5 One thing have I asked of the LORD;
 one thing I seek; *
 that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of
 my life;
- 6 To behold the fair beauty of the LORD *
 and to seek him in his temple.
- 7 For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter; *
 he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling
 and set me high upon a rock.
- 8 Even now he lifts up my head *
 above my enemies round about me.
- 9 Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation
 with sounds of great gladness; *
 I will sing and make music to the LORD.
- 10 Hearken to my voice, O LORD, when I call; *
 have mercy on me and answer me.
- 11 You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." *
 Your face, LORD, will I seek.

12 Hide not your face from me, *
 nor turn away your servant in displeasure.

13 You have been my helper;
 cast me not away; *
 do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Lector A reading from Paul's first letter to the church at Corinth.

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand.

Hymn #707

Take my life, and let it be

1 Take my life, and let it be
 2 Take my voice, and let me sing
 take my moments and my days, let them flow in cease-less praise.
 take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.
 Take my hands, and let them move at the im-pulse of thy love;
 Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no long - er mine.
 take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy roy - al throne.
 Take my self, and I will be ev - er, on - ly, all for thee.

Words: Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879), alt. Music: *Hollingside*, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (4:12-23)

People Glory to you, Lord Christ

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the
Gentiles –
the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.”

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea – for they were fishermen. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

The Gospel of the Lord

People Praise to you, Lord Christ

The people stand.

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 Form III

BCP pg. 387

People Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

People Grant that every member of the Church may truly and
humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

People We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and
Sacraments.**

People We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations
of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

People Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

People Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
especially, **Lu, Nancy, Betty, Patrick, Jessica, Stephanie, Cynie, Sara, Aurora, Katie, Carole, Ivy, Steve, Celeste, and Mary**, and
those in our hearts and known to God.
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.
People **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
People **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

The celebrant adds a concluding collect.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

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 of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**



Use the QR code to donate from your mobile device.

Anthem: Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God

Larson

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B

BCP pg. 367

The people stand.

People The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
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.

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:

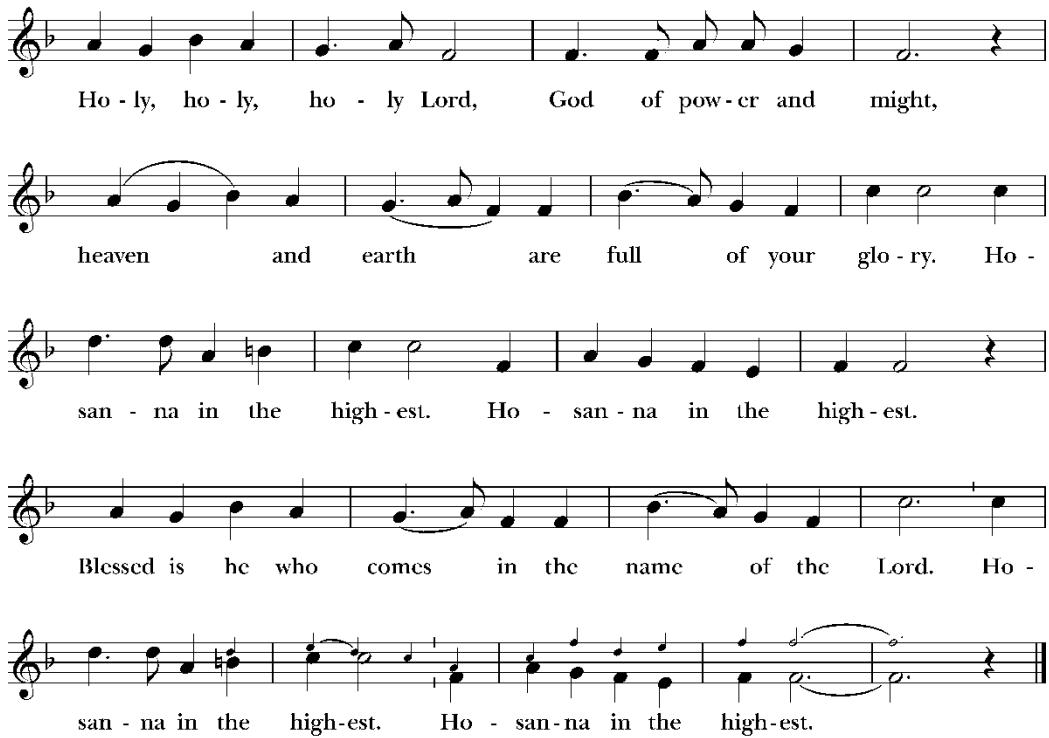
8AM

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

10:30AM

Sanctus 125

Richard Proulx



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

Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Celebrant 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**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 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 Celebrant continues.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, in the language closest to our hearts, we are bold to say,

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.

Vor Fader, du som er i himlene,
helliget vorde dit navn.
Komme dit rige;
ske din vilje,
som i himmelen, således også på
jorden.
Giv os i dag vort daglige brød,
og forlad os vor skyld
som også vi forlader vore skyldnere.
Og led os ikke i fristelse,
men fri os fra det onde.
Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast.

10:30AM

Fraction Anthem: WLP #866

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The people are seated.

Communion is offered to all who are called by Christ to participate. You can receive in both kinds, bread and wine or in just one. To receive communion, or a blessing, please come forward to the priest at the front of the altar. To receive bread, put your hands out, to receive wine, please drink from the chalice. For health reasons, we do not instinct (dip) the bread. To receive a blessing, cross your arms across your chest. Gluten-free host is available. Please make your needs known to the priest.

Sending Prayers for Eucharistic Visitors

Deacon In the name of God and this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People **We who are many are one body because we all share one bread and one cup.**

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

The people stand.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Hymn #539

O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling

O Zi - on, haste, thy mis - sion high ful - fill - ing,
 Pro - claim to ev - ery peo - ple, tongue, and na - tion
 Send her - alds forth to bear the mes - sage glo - rious;
 He comes a - gain! O Zi - on, ere thou meet him,

to tell to all the world that God is Light;
 that God, in whom they live and move, is Love:
 give of thy wealth to speed them on their way;
 make known to ev - ery heart his sav - ing grace;

that he who made all na - tions is not will - ing
 tell how he stooped to save his lost cre - a - tion,
 pour out thy soul for them in prayer vic - to - rious
 let none whom he hath ran - somed fail to greet him,

one soul should fail to know his love and might.
 and died on earth that all might live a - bove.
 till God shall bring his king - dom's joy - ful day.
 through thy ne - glect, un - fit to see his face.

Refrain

Pub - lish glad ti - dings: ti - dings of peace,

ti - dings of Je - sus, re - demp - tion and re - lease.

Words: Mary Ann Thomson (1834-1923), alt. Music: *Tidings*, James Walch (1837-1901)

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

TENDING GOD'S FLOCK

Use this list to pray and to show your love and concern for the sick, shut-in, bereaved, or those merely in need of prayer. If you wish to submit a name please contact the office at accounting@stjec.org.

In case of pastoral emergency, please call 301-774-3619 or email pastoralcare@stjec.org

Lu Soukup
Nancy Soukup
Betty, Patrick & Jessica Blackburn
Stephanie Sidella
Cynie Eisler
Sara R.
Aurora
Katie Fairbanks
Carole
Ivy Choe-Branstetter
Steve Ruff
Celeste McGee
Mary Persinger

If you are ill for an extended period, are hospitalized, need a visit or Eucharist brought to you, want your home blessed, are celebrating a birth, adoption, or want specific prayers for any number of celebrations or sorrows, please email: pastoralcare@stjec.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

SAVE THE DATE... and enjoy a breakfast of pancakes on us on Sunday, February 15th from 8:30 to 10:15am and at 11am to 112:30pm in the Parish Hall at the Annual Pancake Breakfast. Pancakes will be made and served by the youth of St. John's. (Gluten Free Pancakes available upon request).

- **NEWCOMER'S COFFEE HOUR**

New to St. John's? Please join our clergy and vestry for a Newcomers' Coffee Hour on Sunday, February 1st at 12pm in the Parish Hall. This is a relaxed time to meet one another, get to know our clergy and vestry members, and receive an official welcome into the St. John's community. We look forward to welcoming and spending time with you!

- **MINISTRY TO SUPPORT WOMEN'S HOMELESS SHELTER**

Interfaith Works operates an emergency shelter for women just 15 minutes from St. John's, providing care and safety for 50 women in need. We are prayerfully exploring a new ministry and how St. John's might serve these neighbors by offering meals. If cooking is your love language, or if you feel called to help by preparing meals, delivering food, or offering other support, please speak with Deacon Nancy or Shelley Spencer.

- **FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

Food Pantry needs for this week include: Taco Kits | Canned Chili | Jelly Beef Stew | Red Beans | Frosting Mix | Fresh Stack Crackers.

The Food Pantry Ministry needs people to stock the Pantry on Saturdays. See Friday's Bell Tower for the SIGN-UP GENIUS link.

- **ASH WEDNESDAY**

Lent is a time for spiritual reflection and renewal—a season to take inventory of our hearts and clear away whatever hinders our relationship with Jesus Christ and our service to Him.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

Wednesday, February 18th @ 12 Noon; 5:30pm & 7:30pm

ASHES FOR YOU ~ Prayer and the imposition of ashes

Wednesday, February 18th 4-5pm
in the circle drive at the entrance of St. John's Church.

- **EVENING PRAYER & Soup Supper**

Mark your Lenten journey and share fellowship with a simple meal of soup and bread followed by the beautiful service of Evening Prayer - Wednesday evenings during Lent (February 25-March 25) at 6:30pm for soup and bread followed by Evening Prayer at 7:30pm.



St. John's Church and School follow Montgomery County Public School (MCPS) announcements regarding inclement weather. Monday through Friday, if MCPS is closed or delayed, the church office is likewise closed or delayed. On Sunday for inclement weather, an all-parish email will be sent by 6:30am concerning any service cancellation.

SERMON NOTES

SAINT JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL & AFRICAN PALMS USA

Diocese of Washington

The Most Reverend Sean W. Rowe, *Presiding Bishop*
The Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde, *Bishop*

STAFF

The Reverend Henry P. McQueen, *Rector*
rector@stjec.org

The Reverend Shivaun Wilkinson, *Associate Rector*
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The Reverend Nancy Stockbridge, *Deacon*
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Cambria Van de Vaarst, *Minister of Music*
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Africanpalms@stjec.org

Joe Powers, *Interim Head of School*
Joe.Powers@stjes.org

Eoin Benson, *Sexton*

Selva Selvarajah, *Verger*

VESTRY

Will Lederer, 2026 - *Formation*
Bill Fleming, 2026 - *Sr. Warden*
Mary Kerr, 2026 - *Pastoral Care*
Andrew Hamill - *Treasurer*
Julie Metcalf - *Registrar*

Bree Bruemmer, 2027 - *Stewardship*
Carmen Jones, 2027 - *Evangelism*
Becca Roberson, 2027 - *Jr. Warden, Outreach*
Becky Hast, 2028 - *STJES*
Mary Lou McMaster, 2028 - *Worship*
Rob Schellhase, 2028 - *Parish Life*

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
3427 Olney Laytonsville Rd. Olney, MD 20832
(301) 774-6999 - [Welcome@stjec.org](mailto>Welcome@stjec.org)

~ On the Land of the Piscataway Nation ~