

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

**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Sunday, December 14, 2025**

**8am & 10:30am**

**HOLY EUCHARIST**



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

- Family Ice Skating @ 12-2pm

- National Cathedral Blue Christmas Service @ 7pm

- Gift Wrapping & Christmas Cookies @ 6:30pm

- Casserole Club Meeting @ 12pm
- Cookies & Milk Prayer Partner PJ Party @ 12pm

# HOLY EUCHARIST

10:30AM

Prelude

*The people stand.*

10:30AM

**Hymn #59**

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding

*Descant*

2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age let us rise;  
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;  
2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age let us rise;  
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, comes with par - don down from heaven;  
4 so when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,  
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.  
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

1 "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness, O ye child - ren of the day."  
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.  
3 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for - given;  
4 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.  
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, alt. Music: *Merton*, William Henry Monk (1823-1889); desc. Alan Gray (1855-1935)  
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*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.**

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

Wait for the Lord

Ostinato Chorale

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart!

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

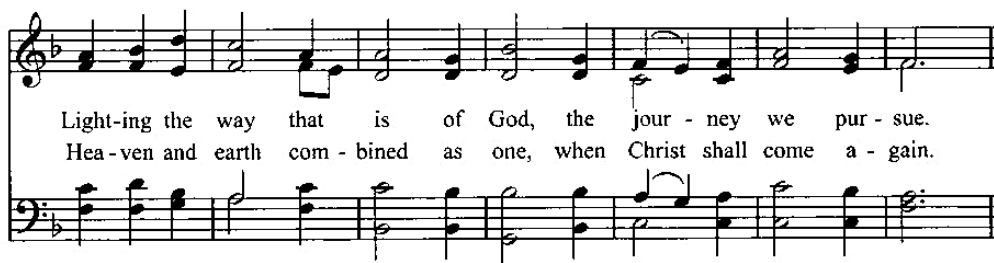
Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Advent candle is lit.*

10:30AM



1. Kin - dle this flame of joy. May it burn bright and true.  
2. God's realm is our de - sire, where peace and jus - tice reign.



Light-ing the way that is of God, the jour - ney we pur - sue.  
Hea - ven and earth com - bined as one, when Christ shall come a - gain.

WORDS: Gary L. Lake Dillensnyder, 2009  
MUSIC: Robert Jackson, 1888

TRENTHAM  
SM

*Kneel as you are able.*

Heavenly Father, you call us to repent of our sins: soften our proud and stubborn hearts. Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you declared the forgiveness of God: teach us to forgive one another. Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Holy Spirit, you search our hearts and show us the truth: direct us in your way of righteousness. Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive you your sins, open your eyes to God's truth, strengthen you to do God's will, and give you the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The people are seated.*

### **Isaiah 35:1-10**

*Lector*      A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;  
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,  
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.  
They shall see the glory of the Lord,  
the majesty of our God.



Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble knees.  
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
"Be strong, do not fear!  
Here is your God.  
He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.  
He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;  
the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,  
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,  
and it shall be called the Holy Way;  
the unclean shall not travel on it,  
but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools,  
shall go astray.  
No lion shall be there,  
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;  
they shall not be found there,  
but the redeemed shall walk there.  
And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,  
and come to Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
they shall obtain joy and gladness,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

**Psalm 146:4-9**

4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! \*  
    whose hope is in the LORD their God;  
5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas,  
    and all that is in them; \*  
    who keeps his promise for ever;  
6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \*  
    and food to those who hunger.  
7 The LORD sets the prisoners free;  
    the LORD opens the eyes of the blind; \*  
    the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;  
8 The LORD loves the righteous;  
    the LORD cares for the stranger; \*  
    he sustains the orphan and widow,  
    but frustrates the way of the wicked.  
9 The LORD shall reign for ever, \*  
    your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
    Hallelujah!

**James 5:7-10**

*Lector*      A reading from Saint James.

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not

be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**

*The people stand.*

## Hymn #76

On Jordan bank the Baptist's cry

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -  
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make  
 3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our  
 4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and  
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
 2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -  
 3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we  
 4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy  
 5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.  
 2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.  
 3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.  
 4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.  
 5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), after John Chandler (1806-1876); alt.  
 Music: *Winchester New*, melody from *Musicalishes Hand-Buch*, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.

## The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (11:2-11)

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

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’

“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

*People*      The Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you, Lord Christ**

**THE SERMON**

The Rev.

*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

*Deacon* God calls us to love one another. As a sign of that love, let us lift up our prayer to God for the needs of all people throughout the world, saying: O God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for the peace of the world, that our instruments of war may be transformed into instruments of peace, and that nations shall cease to learn war any more.

*People* **O God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

We pray for the church, that we may become more and more a means of grace and peace in the world.

*People* **O God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all people of good will who seek to cast off the works of darkness, that we may be enlightened through our service of others in the name of Christ.

*People* **O God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are in need especially **Anne, Sara, Sloane, Aurora, Katie, Stephen, Carole, Tom, Ron, Greg, Ivy, Steve, Celeste, and Mary**, that we may be alert to the presence of Christ in them and ready to reach out in love.

*People* **O God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all the departed, that we may be comforted in knowing they are in the nearer presence of God.

*People* **O God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are assembled here today, that we may be clothed with the Lord Jesus Christ and go forth from this place to be Christ in the world.

*People* **O God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who have asked for our prayers, that we may faithfully wait upon God with confidence in that love which sustains us in every moment of our lives.

*People* **O God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

*Officiant* We praise you, Lord our God, that you have called us to be your people and the instruments of your presence in the world. Grant us grace to discern your will and the strength to do it, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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



Use the QR code to donate from your mobile device.

**Anthem:** A Shoot Shall Come Forth

Horn

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Samuels Wells

*During Advent our Eucharistic Prayers will reflect the specific readings for each week. We invite you to listen to, rather than read, the prayers. This will also permit you to focus on the bread and the wine during these prayers. Lift your eyes towards the altar and hear our prayers to God.*

*The people stand.*

*People*      The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

*People*      Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

*People*      Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant continues.*

**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 129** Holy, holy, holy

Robert Powell

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.\_\_\_\_\_

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

Great is the mystery of faith.  
*People* **Christ has died;**  
**Christ is risen;**  
**Christ will come again.**

*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.**

**Vater unser im Himmel,  
Geheiligt werde dein Name.  
Dein Reich komme.  
Dein Wille geschehe,  
Wie im Himmel so auf Erden.  
Unser tägliches Brot gib uns heute,  
Und vergib uns unsere Schuld,  
Wie auch wir vergeben unsern  
Schuldigern.  
Und führe uns nicht in Versuchung,  
Sondern erlöse uns von dem Bösen.  
Denn dein ist das Reich und die  
Kraft und die Herrlichkeit in  
Ewigkeit. Amen.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

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

10:30AM

Fraction Anthem: My Spirit Yearns for You

Taizé Community



My spir - it yearns for you in the night, O God; I  
*Ie - de - re nacht ver-lang ik naar u, o God, ik*



seek you, O Lord, with all my soul. My spir - it  
*hun - ker naar u met heel mijn ziel. Ie - de - re*



yearns for you in the night, O God; I  
*nacht ver-lang ik naar u, o God, ik*



seek you, O Lord, with all my soul.  
*hun - ker naar u met heel mijn ziel.*

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## 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

VF # 34

People look east

1 Peo - ple, look East. The time is near of the  
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more  
 3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the  
 4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more  
 5 An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who

crown - ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are  
 seed is plant - ed there: give up your strength the seed to  
 nest that must be filled. E - ven the hour when wings are  
 light the bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y  
 brings new life to earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley



a - ble, trim the hearth and set the ta - ble.  
 nour - ish, that in course the flow'r may flour - ish.  
 fro - zen God for fledg - ing time has cho - sen. Peo - ple, look  
 weath - er, bright as sun and moon to - geth - er.  
 hum - ming with the word, the Lord is com - ing.

East and sing to - day: Love the guest is on the way.

Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881–1965) © 1957 Harold Ober Associates, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
 Music: *Besancon Carol*; harm. Gary Fitzgerald © Gary Fitzgerald. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

## TENDING GOD'S FLOCK

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*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](mailto:accounting@stjec.org).*

*In case of pastoral emergency, please call 301-774-3619 or email [pastoralcare@stjec.org](mailto:pastoralcare@stjec.org)*

Anne Elliott

Sara R.

Sloane Lewis

Aurora

Katie Fairbanks

Stephen Simpson

Carole

Tom Dry

Ron Blackburn

Greg Downing

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](mailto:pastoralcare@stjec.org).*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- **CHRISTMAS ALTAR FLOWERS & MUSIC**

Celebrate Christmas by remembering, honoring, or giving thanks for someone with a Christmas floral tribute or special Christmas music during worship. Names will be printed in the bulletins. Deadline to submit donation form is **THIS Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**.

- **WOMEN OF ST. JOHN'S SOUP & SALAD/COOKIE EXCHANGE**

Ladies of St. John's, please join us for our annual Soup & Salad/Cookie Exchange TOMORROW evening at 6:30pm at the home of Mathy Downing - (5712 Stanbrook Lane, Laytonsville, MD). Come and enjoy soup and salads, followed by a cookie exchange. Please bring a salad or an appetizer to share along with 2-3 dozen cookies for the exchange plus a food item for the food pantry.

- **BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE**

Washington National Cathedral's annual Blue Christmas Service invites us into hope and healing through prayer, music, and reflection on Wednesday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. Meet Deacon Nancy at 4:30pm at St. John's to carpool to Washington DC. Start the evening off with dinner and fellowship prior to the service. The service will also be livestreamed at <https://cathedral.org/worship/blue/>.

- **GIFT WRAPPING & CHRISTMAS COOKIES**

Ladies bring your gifts (for your own family and others on your list), wrapping paper and other supplies to the Parish hall, along with wine, soda, or snacks of your preference to share, for a casual evening of wrapping and fellowship on Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Pizza will be provided, along with salad, and wrapping supplies to share.



- **PRAYER PARTNERS MILK & COOKIES PJ PARTY**

Join us for Advent Cookies, Milk and Eggnog with your prayer partner on Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> from 12-1pm. If you would like a prayer partner, please contact Mo. Shivaun.

- **KNITTERS & CROCHETERS**

Please consider making mittens, hats, scarfs, and other cold weather items, so that we can put them out on the “Love Your Neighbor” sign for anyone in need to take. Items may be dropped off on the bench outside the Rector’s office so that they can be hung with love outside for those who need them to stay warm.



**Epiphany** a service of light  
**SATURDAY, JANUARY 10 @ 5PM**  
Pageant . Chalk Blessing . Spaghetti Dinner

- Please join us as we celebrate the revelation of God incarnate as Jesus Christ on Saturday, January 10th at 5pm with the Christmas/Epiphany Pageant, evening Epiphany prayer service followed by a casual spaghetti dinner in the Parish Hall. Worship with us and stay for fellowship immediately following the service in the Parish Hall.



## CHRISTMAS GIVING @ ST. JOHN'S

**TOYS** - In partnership with St. John's Episcopal School, we will be collecting new, unwrapped toys for children through Olney Lion's Club Toys for Local Kids. Please bring in new toys for children age newborn through 16 and leave them in the box outside Fr. Henry's office by **December 18th**.

**GROCERY STORE GIFT CARDS** - So many families in our area are struggling to put food on the table. Grocery store gifts cards (\$50) will be collected for families so that they are able to purchase items for their holiday meals. Gift cards may be placed in the collection plate or given to Deacon Nancy. Gift cards will be collected through **December 24th** - Christmas Eve.

*Spirit* of   
GIVING

- **FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

Food Pantry needs for this week include: Spaghetti Sauce | Taco Kits  
Cereal (large) | Jelly | Pudding | Sardines | Cake Mix | Pancake Mix  
Syrup.



## Christmas Altar Flowers

CONTRIBUTION DEADLINE IS **DECEMBER 19TH**

Return completed form along with your check for **\$50** made payable to:  
**St. John's** (Christmas Flowers on Memo Line)  
place in Sunday's Collection Plate or mail to church office.

GIVEN BY: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ IN THANKSGIVING OF: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ IN HONOR OF: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ IN MEMORY OF: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## Christmas MUSIC

CONTRIBUTION DEADLINE IS **DECEMBER 19TH**

Help make St. John's beautiful and festive this joyful season.  
Please make a contribution to assist with the cost of special music on Christmas Eve  
In Memory of / In Thanksgiving of / In Honor of family and friends.

**Make checks payable to: St. John's (Music on Memo Line)**

GIVEN BY: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ IN THANKSGIVING OF: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ IN HONOR OF: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ IN MEMORY OF: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# 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

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The Reverend Shivaun Wilkinson, *Associate Rector*

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The Reverend Nancy Stockbridge, *Deacon*

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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*

Aparna Williams - *Asst. 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

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~ On the Land of the Piscataway Nation ~