

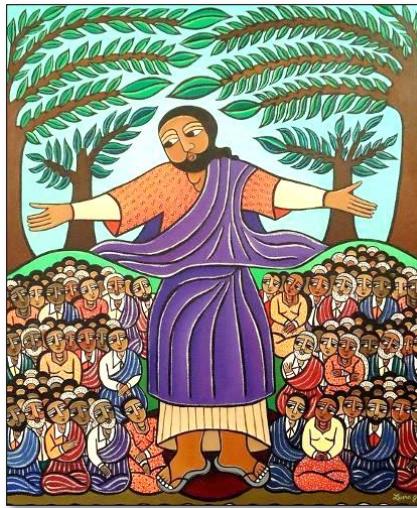
ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL  
& AFRICAN PALMS USA

THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Sunday, February 8, 2026

8am & 10:30am

HOLY EUCHARIST



*"Sermon on the Mount" by Laura James*

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>

# COME JOIN US

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## **TODAY**

- Confirmation Meeting @ 2pm

## **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15**

- Casserole Club Meeting @ 12pm
- Pancake Breakfast

## **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16**

- OFFICE CLOSED - Presidents Day

## **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18**

- Ash Wednesday Services @ 12pm | 5:30pm | 7:30pm
- Ashes for You @ 4-5pm

## **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19**

- St. John's School International Festival

## **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25**

- Soup & Bread Supper | Lenten Evening Prayer @ 6:30pm

# HOLY EUCHARIST

10:30AM

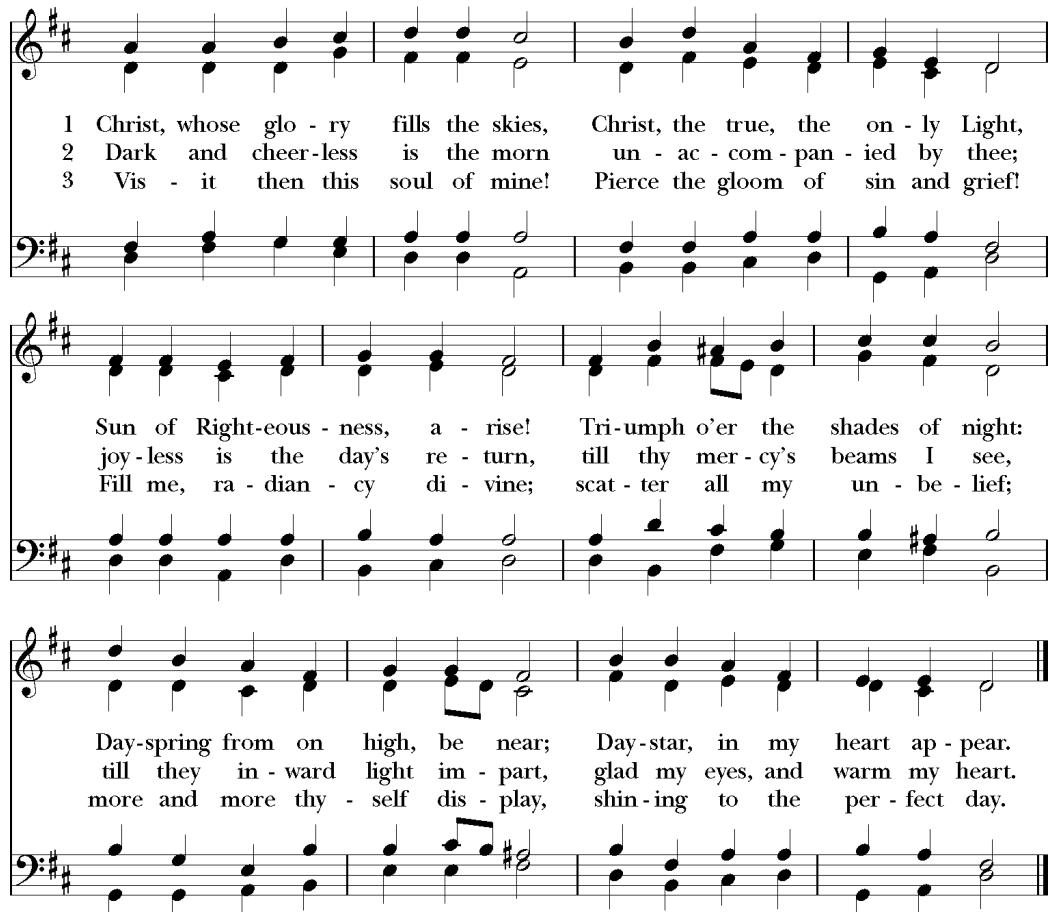
Prelude

*The people stand.*

10:30AM

Hymn #7

Christ, whose glory fills the skies



1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true, the on - ly Light,  
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pan - ied by thee;  
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine! Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!

Sun of Right-eous - ness, a - rise! Tri-umph o'er the shades of night:  
joy-less is the day's re - turn, till thy mer - cy's beams I see,  
Fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine; scat - ter all my un - be - lief;

Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.  
till they in - ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.  
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: *Ratisbon*, melody from *Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn*, 1524; adapt. att. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870);  
harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

*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



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.

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The people are seated.*

## Isaiah 58:1-12

*Lector* A reading from the prophet Isaiah.  
  
Shout out, do not hold back!  
Lift up your voice like a trumpet!  
Announce to my people their rebellion,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.  
Yet day after day they seek me  
and delight to know my ways,

as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness  
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;  
they ask of me righteous judgments,  
they delight to draw near to God.

“Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”  
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,  
and oppress all your workers.

Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today  
will not make your voice heard on high.

Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,  
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast,  
a day acceptable to the LORD?

Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them,  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you,  
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.  
Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you,  
    the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,  
if you offer your food to the hungry  
    and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
    and your gloom be like the noonday.

The LORD will guide you continually,  
    and satisfy your needs in parched places,  
    and make your bones strong;  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
    like a spring of water,  
    whose waters never fail.

Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
    you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
    the restorer of streets to live in.

The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 112:1-9

- 1 Hallelujah!  
    Happy are they who fear the Lord \*  
        and have great delight in his commandments!
- 2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; \*  
        the generation of the upright will be blessed.
- 3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, \*  
        and their righteousness will last for ever.
- 4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; \*  
        the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.
- 5 It is good for them to be generous in lending \*  
        and to manage their affairs with justice.

6 For they will never be shaken; \*  
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; \*  
their heart is right;  
they put their trust in the Lord.

8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, \*  
until they see their desire upon their enemies.

9 They have given freely to the poor, \*  
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.

### **1 Corinthians 2:1-12**

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

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the human heart conceived,  
what God has prepared for those who love him" —

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*The people stand.*

**Hymn #488**

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
 3 High King of hea - ven, when vic - tory is won,  
  
 all else be nought to me, save that thou art -  
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
 may I reach hea - ven's joys, bright hea - ven's Sun!  
  
 thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
 thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be;  
 Heart of my heart, what - ev - er be - fall,  
  
 wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.  
 still be my vis - ion, O Ru - ler of all.

Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931); tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt. Copyright © by permission of the Estate of Eleanor Hull and Chatto & Windus Ltd. Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927; harm. David Evans (1874-1948) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

## **The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (5:13-20)**

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

Jesus said, “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

The Gospel of the Lord

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

## **THE SERMON**

The Rev. Henry McQueen

*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.

*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, **Gregoria, 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.**

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

*People* We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
**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:** Bwana Asifiwe

Burrows

## 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:

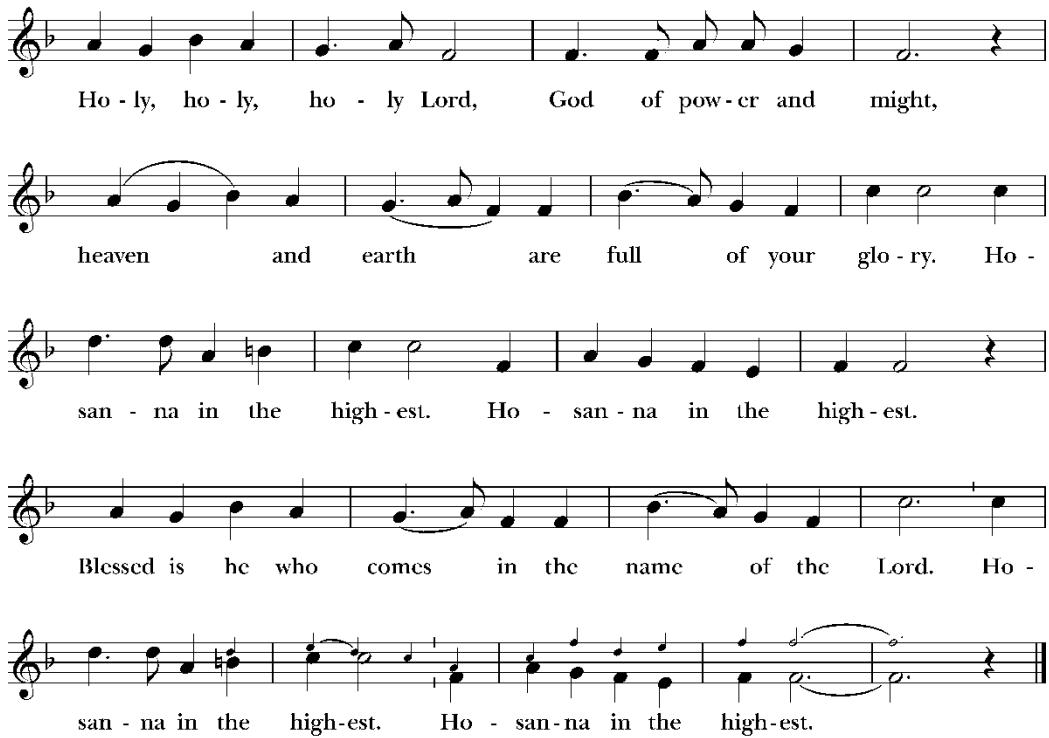
**8AM**

**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.

Pai Noso, que estais nos Céus,  
Santificado seja o Vosso nome.  
Venha a nós o Vosso reino,  
Seja feita a Vossa vontade  
Assim na Terra como no Céu.  
O pão nosso de cada dia nos  
dai hoje.  
Perdoai-nos as nossas ofensas  
Assim como nós perdoamos a quem  
nos tem ofendido  
E não nos deixeis cair em tentação  
Mas livrai-nos do mal.  
Pois Teu é o reino, e o poder, e a  
glória para sempre. Amém.

## 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 intinct (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 #381

Thy strong word did cleave the darkness



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy speak - ing  
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as night and  
 3 Thy strong word be - speaks us right - eous; bright with thine own  
 4 God the Fa-ther, Light - Cre - a - tor, to thee laud and



it was done; for cre - at - ed light we thank thee,  
 deep as death, broke the light of thy sal - va - tion,  
 ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward glo - ry,  
 hon - or be; to thee, Light of Light be - got - ten,



while thine or - dered sea - sons run: Al-le - lu-ia, al - le -  
 breathed thine own life - giv - ing breath: Al-le - lu-ia, al - le -  
 and our lives our hopes con - fess: Al-le - lu-ia, al - le -  
 praise be sung e - ter - nal - ly; Ho-ly Spi-rit, Light-Re -



lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,  
 lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,  
 lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,  
 veal - er, glo - ry, glo - ry be to thee; mortals, an-gels,



al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 now and ev - er praise the Ho - ly Tri - ni - ty.

*The Alleluias in stanzas 1-3 may be sung antiphonally.*

## **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)*

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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*Annual*  
**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**  
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15**  
**Enjoy a breakfast of pancakes from**  
**8:30 to 10:15am and 11am to 12:30pm**

\*made and served by the Youth of St. John's

- **YEAR END STATEMENTS**

2025 Year End statements are available to view and print online. To view and print, sign in to your profile through the ONLINE DIRECTORY. Go to GIVING HISTORY. The Giving History shows YTD donations. Click the "View More" link. This will take you to an Overview of the account. Click on the Detail tab, change the date to 2025 in the drop-down menu, and click on View and Print Statement. Year End Statements are mailed out by REQUEST only.

- **CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

Confirmation is open to anyone in 8th grade or older. Parents of youth are encouraged to attend this first meeting to get information as well as the full schedule. Classes meet twice a month and starts TODAY, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 2pm in the Meeting Room.

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES**

Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> @ 12 Noon; 5:30pm & 7:30pm

**ASHES FOR YOU ~ Prayer and the imposition of ashes**

Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> from 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.

- **FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

Food Pantry needs for this week include: Red Beans | Canned Beef Stew | Vienna Sausage | Taco Kit | Canned Chili | Manwich.



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.

- **HOLY PLAY**

NEW starting in Lent - Sunday February 22<sup>nd</sup> - Sundays at 9:45-10:15am in the Nursery. Holy Play is an intergenerational faith formation for families with children in 1<sup>st</sup> grade and under. Formation leaders will guide children and their care givers through Bible stories, sensory play, and conversations about the faith. Parents/guardians are expected to participate.

#### **NURSERY UPDATE**

We are hoping to transition away from staffing the nursery with a paid staff member every Sunday and instead build a consistent, trustworthy volunteer team to open the nursery during the 10:30am service.

Because we rarely have children attending during the 8:00am service, we plan to discontinue nursery care at that time. Our goal is to create a rotating team of **four primary volunteers** (older teens and adults) and **four helpers** (middle schoolers, additional teens, or adults). This structure will allow us to maintain a safe, welcoming, and reliable nursery environment for our children. With this change, volunteers would have the option to attend the 8:00am service on the Sundays they serve and not have to miss worship while supporting the nursery. Paid staffing would only be used when volunteers are unavailable.

If you are interested in serving as one of our rotating nursery volunteers, please email Mo. Shivaun ([associate@stjec.org](mailto:associate@stjec.org)). We are committed to maintaining a safe nursery with a consistent team of trusted teens and adults who love spending time with the children.

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

## Diocese of Washington

The Most Rev. and Rt. Hon Dame Sarah Mullally, *Archbishop of Canterbury*

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](mailto:rector@stjec.org)

The Reverend Shivaun Wilkinson, *Associate Rector*

[associate@stjec.org](mailto:associate@stjec.org)

The Reverend Nancy Stockbridge, *Deacon*

[deacon@stjec.org](mailto:deacon@stjec.org)

Tammy Turner, *Parish Administrator*

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

Cambria Van de Vaarst, *Minister of Music*

[music@stjec.org](mailto:music@stjec.org)

[Africanpalms@stjec.org](mailto:Africanpalms@stjec.org)

Joe Powers, *Interim Head of School*

[Joe.Powers@stjes.org](mailto:Joe.Powers@stjes.org)

Eoin Benson, *Sexton*

Selva Selvarajah, *Verger*

## VESTRY

Bree Bruemmer, 2027 – *Stewardship*

Carmen Jones, 2027 – *Evangelism*

Becca Roberson, 2027 – *Sr. Warden, Outreach*

Andrew Hamill – *Treasurer*

Julie Metcalf - *Registrar*

Becky Hast, 2028 – *Jr. Warden, STJES*

Mary Lou McMaster, 2028 - *Worship*

Rob Schellhase, 2028 – *Parish Life*

Mark Glaudemans, 2029

Francesco Paganini, 2029

Mary Quinn, 2029

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 ~