



ST. JOHN'S NORWOOD
Bethesda - Chevy Chase

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

JANUARY 29, 2023

10:30 AM

Welcome to St. John's Norwood!

At the heart of our church family is a desire to reflect God's love and gracious hospitality to all. Our members represent a variety of racial and ethnic backgrounds, nationalities, family configurations, political affiliations, sexual orientations, abilities, and religious traditions. We are single, married, partnered, divorced, widowed, remarried, LGBTQIA+, with and without children, empty nesters, old and young, and people with disabilities; you name it - we are here, and we're glad you've come.

Families of young children:

Nursery Care is available for children up to 5 years old; just ask a member of the Welcome Team.

Kid's Kits and **Sunday Papers** are located at the Wisconsin Avenue entrance to the sanctuary.

For more information about St. John's, see the [St. John's Notes and News](#) bulletin.

THE WORD OF GOD

Voluntary *Three Settings of "Liebster Jesu"*

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Please stand and sing

Hymn at the Procession 440 "Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word"

LIEBSTER JESU

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light; from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.
God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.
Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

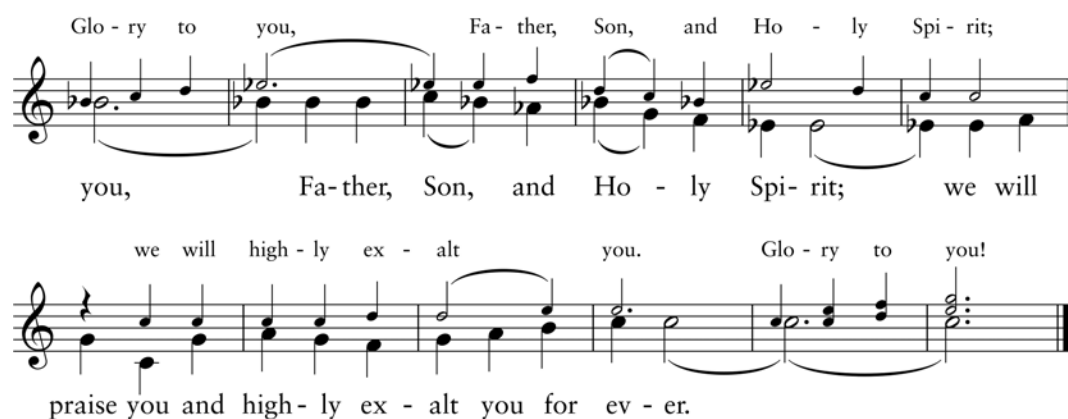
The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God Almighty, Holy Three in One.
People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Song of Praise

John Rutter (1945-)

Glo-ry to you, Lord God of our fa - thers;
you are wor - thy of praise; glo-ry to you. Glo-ry to you
for the ra - di - ance of your ho - ly Name; we will
praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.
Glo - ry to you in the splen - dor of your tem - ple;
on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to you.
Glo - ry to you, seat - ed be - tween the Cher - u - bim;
we will praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.
Glo - ry to you, be - hold - ing the depths;
Glo - ry to you, be - hold - ing the depths; in the
in the high vault of hea - ven,
high vault of hea - ven, glo - ry to you. Glo - ry to



The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

People Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated

The Reading

Micah 6:1-8

Lector A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Micah.

Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.”

“With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings, with calves a year old?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 15

sung by the choir to a chant by David Hurd (1950-)



Choir Antiphon

People Antiphon

Choir Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? who may abide on your holy hill?
Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, who speaks the truth from his heart.
There is no guile upon his tongue;
he does no evil to his friend; he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.
In his sight the wicked is rejected, but he honors those who fear the Lord.
He has sworn to do no wrong and does not take back his word.
He does not give his money in hope of gain, nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.
Whoever does these things shall never be overthrown.

People Antiphon

Please stand and sing

Hymn at the Sequence 554 "'Tis the Gift to Be Simple"

SIMPLE GIFTS



The Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Pat Jackson

Associate Minister, Bethesda Presbyterian; co-executive Director, Interwoven Congregations

Please stand as you are able

The Nicene Creed

People 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

Leader Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.
A brief silence.
 Call your people to seek your wisdom in difficult conversations and action. Give the church everywhere courage to repent for the ways we have tolerated and practiced injustice.
 Merciful God,

People **Receive our prayer.**

Leader Inspire our wonder at creation, from the light of dawn to the beauty of the dark night. Sustain the unseen depths of the ocean and the plants and animals we know well. Bring healing to lands and communities experiencing natural disasters.
 Merciful God,

People **Receive our prayer.**

Leader Instruct the powerful in your ways. Provide upright leadership in business and industry, that workers are not oppressed. Throughout the world, inspire voters and raise up politicians to heed your call for nations to practice righteousness.
 Merciful God,

People **Receive our prayer.**

Leader Loosen the bonds of injustice in our midst. Grant peace to endless quarrels, put an end to hunger, and break every yoke of oppression. Shelter all who flee abuse in their homes or violence in their communities. Satisfy those afflicted in any way.
 Merciful God,

People **Receive our prayer.**

Leader Shape our congregation to be salt for the earth. Give us delight in your commandments, that we are generous with those in need. Make us steadfast in our trust in you, ready with tangible mercy and compassion for our neighbors.
 Merciful God,

People **Receive our prayer.**

Leader The cross and resurrection bring us to redemption and new life beyond death. We praise you for all those whose lives reflected your love, remembering especially those we now name. (*Pause for remembrances.*) Keep them in our hearts and bring us with them into the kingdom of heaven.
 Merciful God,

People **Receive our prayer.**

Celebrant We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

People **Amen.**

The Peace

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

Please be seated

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Anthem at the Offertory *Soon-Ah Will Be Done*

arr. William Dawson (1919-2015)

Soon ah will be don' a wid de troubles ob de worl', goin' home t' live wid God.
I wan' t' meet my mother, I'm goin' t' live wid God.
No more weepin' an' a wailin', I'm goin' t' live wid God.
I wan' t' meet my Jesus. In de mornin' Lord! I'm goin' t' live wid God.

-trad. Spiritual

Please stand and sing

Hymn at the Presentation

SCHMÜCKE DICH



Now we join in cel-e - bra - tion at our Sav-ior's in-vi - ta - tion,
dressed no more in spir-it som-ber, clothed in - stead in joy and won - der;
for the Lord of all ex - is - tence, put - ting off di-vine tran-scen-dence,
stoops a - gain in love to meet us, with his ver-y life to feed us.

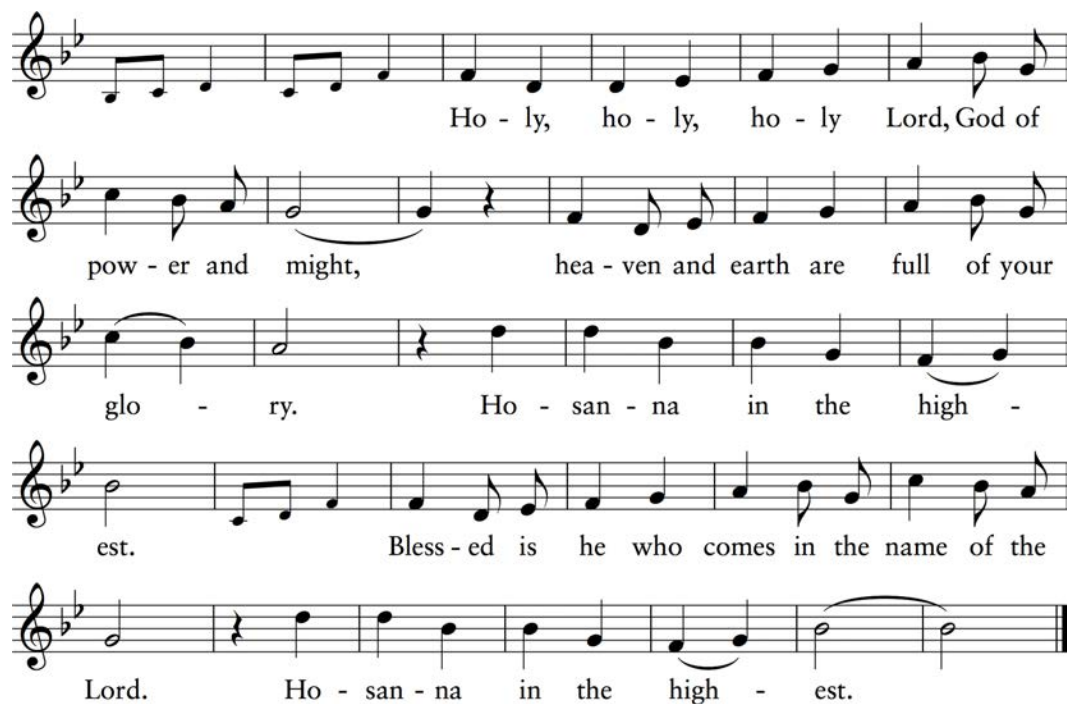
The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus and Benedictus

Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)



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

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

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

Therefore, according to his command, O God,

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

Celebrant 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 children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

People Amen.

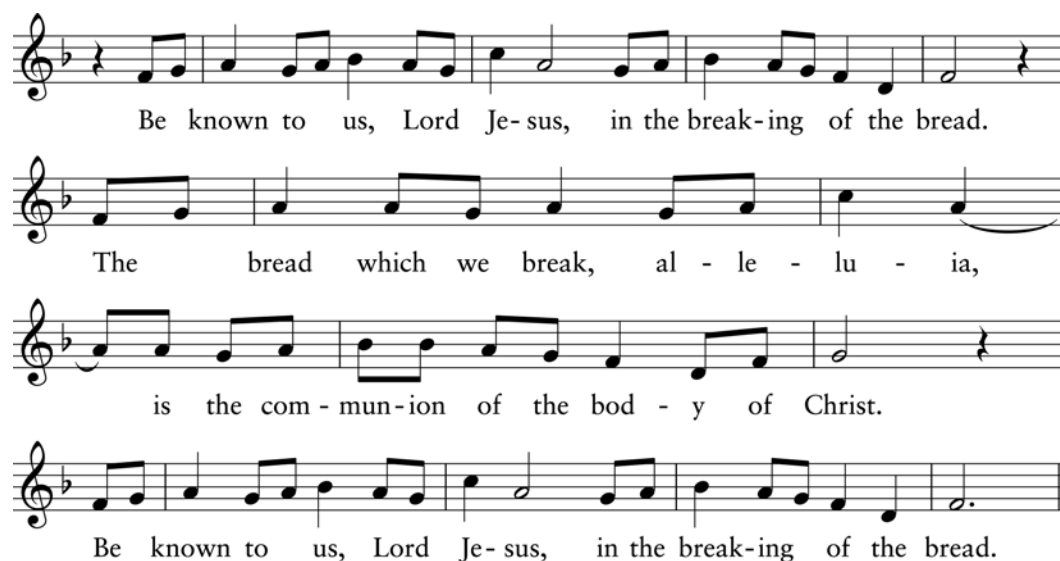
The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, 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.

Fraction Anthem

Gary James (1957-)

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.



Be known to us, Lord Je-sus, in the break-ing of the bread.

The bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia,

is the com - mun-ion of the bod - y of Christ.

Be known to us, Lord Je-sus, in the break-ing of the bread.

Celebrant All are welcome at the Lord's table.
 If you are joining us from home this morning,
 we invite you at this time to partake of the consecrated bread and wine made available to you.
 We who are many, and in many places, are one body,
People because we all share in one bread and one cup.
Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion of the People

*All who hunger for God are invited to the Lord's Table. Gluten-free wafers are available.
To receive a blessing instead of communion, please come forward and cross your arms over your chest.
If you require assistance to reach the altar or need to receive Communion at your seat,
please inform a Welcome Team member.*

Anthem at the Communion *The Beatitudes*

Ruth Watson Henderson (1932-)

*-Matthew 5:3-10
(see today's Gospel – page 5)*

Hymn at the Communion 442 "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

TOMTER

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry tower - ing o'er the
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de - ceive, and
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and love up -
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the cross are

wrecks of time; all the light of sa - cred
fears an - noy, nev - er shall the cross for -
on my way, from the cross the ra - diance
sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that knows no

sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
sake me: lo, it glows with peace and joy.
stream - ing adds new lus - ter to the day.
mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

The Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Let us pray.
People Eternal and Living God, 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.

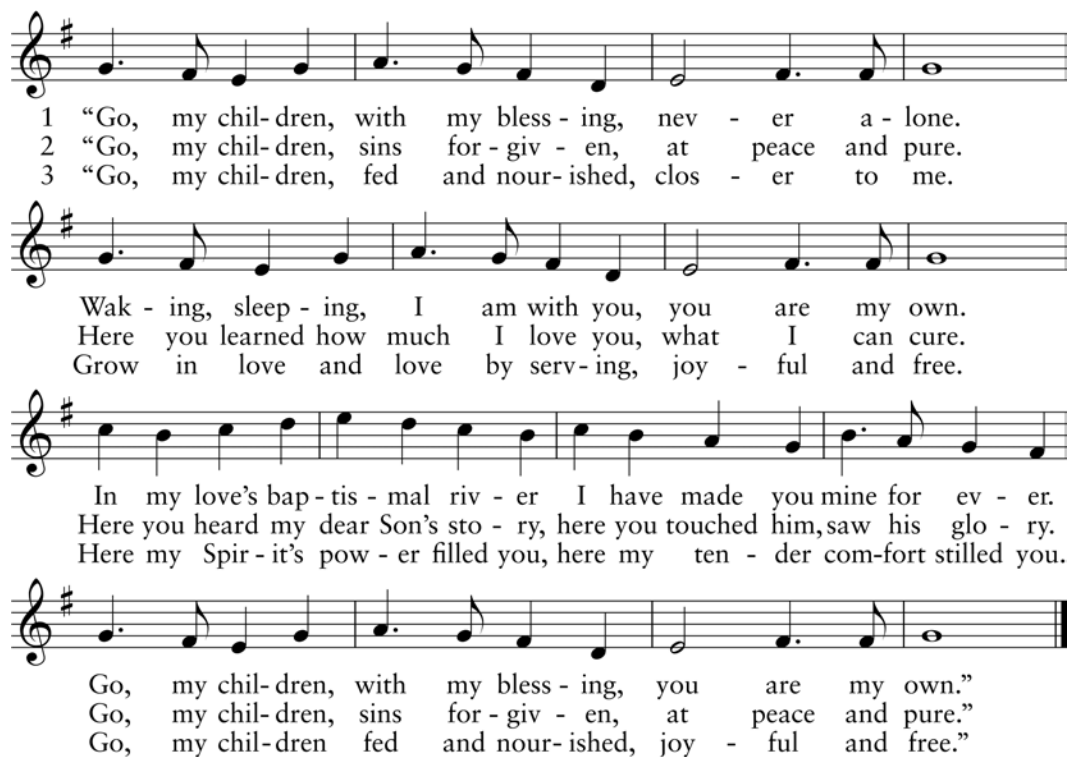
The Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the people.

People **Amen.**

Hymn at the Closing “Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

AR HYD Y NOS



1 “Go, my chil-dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 “Go, my chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 “Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.

Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.

In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.

Go, my chil-dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own.”
Go, my chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.”
Go, my chil-dren fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free.”

The Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary *Fugue in G Major, BWV 541*

Bach

ABOUT THIS SERVICE

At St. John's we worship with the most expansive language we can
to invoke the great mystery that is God among us.
The music, poetry, and prayers in this liturgy have been adapted for our use
with permissions from the following sources:

The Book of Common Prayer
Sundays & Seasons
The Hymnal 1982
Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Leaders in the Liturgy

Clergy	The Rev. Pat Jackson, <i>Guest Preacher: Associate Minister, Bethesda Presbyterian;</i> <i>co-executive Director, Interwoven Congregations</i> The Rev. Sari Ateek, <i>Rector</i> The Rev. Sarah Reynolds, <i>Associate Rector, Celebrant</i> The Rev. Anne Derse, <i>Deacon & Minister for Community Engagement</i>
Musicians	Karl Robson, <i>Director of Music</i> The St. John's Choir

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"Tis the Gift to be Simple" Words: Shaker song, 18th cent. Music: *Simple Gifts*, Shaker melody. Public domain.

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory" Words: John Bowring (1792-1867). Music: Bruce Neswick (b. 1956), © 1983, Bruce Neswick. Reproduced under OneLicense.net #A-701332.

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Beatitudes Words: St Matthew 5:3-10. Music: Ruth Watson Henderson (b. 1932) Copyright © 1986, renewed 2005 The Royal School of Church Music. Used by permission.

Contact Us

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