



ST. JOHN'S NORWOOD

Bethesda - Chevy Chase

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 19, 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 under age 6; just ask a member of the Welcome Team.

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

Worship Streaming is available in the Lounge, just outside the front-right doors of the Nave.

A **Children's Library Collection** may also be found in the Lounge.

For more information about St. John's, see the **St. John's Notes and News** bulletin.

THE WORD OF GOD

Voluntary *Psalm-Prelude, Op. 32, No. 3*

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

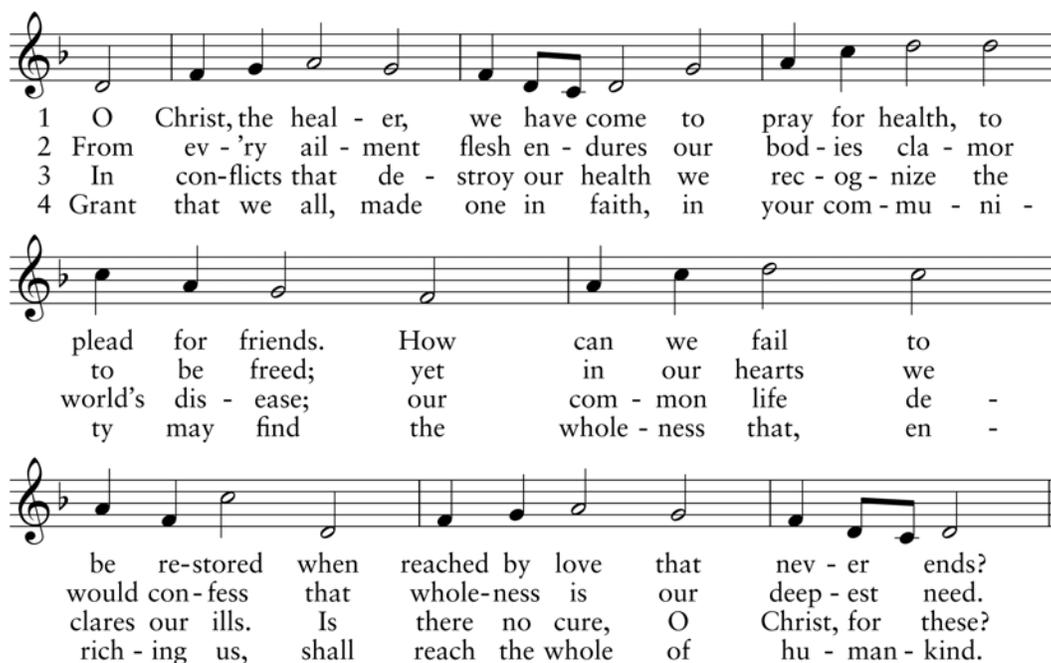
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil,
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.

-Psalm 23:4

Please stand and sing

Hymn at the Procession "O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come"

DISTRESS



1 O Christ, the heal - er, we have come to pray for health, to
2 From ev - 'ry ail - ment flesh en - dures our bod - ies cla - mor
3 In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we rec - og - nize the
4 Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your com - mu - ni -

plead for friends. How can we fail to
to be freed; yet in our hearts we
world's dis - ease; our com - mon life de -
ty may find the whole - ness that, en -

be re - stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?
would con - fess that whole - ness is our deep - est need.
clares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?
rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man - kind.

The Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity

Celebrant Blessed be the God of our salvation:

People **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

Celebrant 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.

People **Amen.**

Trisagion

Robert Poovey (1960-)

Sung once by the choir, then twice by the congregation.

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and migh - ty, Ho - ly Im -
mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us. -on us.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

People Creator and Healer, you work your Sabbath will in the chaos of our life: teach us the insight that gives true judgment and praises you wherever you are found, making miracles of spit and mud; through Jesus Christ, the Son of earth. Amen.

Please be seated

The Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

Lector A Reading from the Letter to the Ephesians.

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Please stand and sing

Hymn at the Sequence 646 “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

ST. COLUMBA

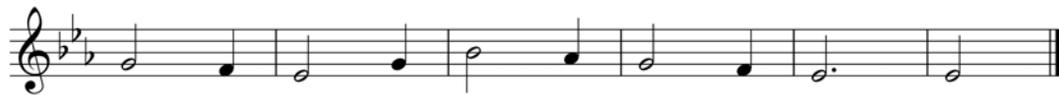
Today’s Sequence Hymn is a paraphrase of Psalm 23.



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 4 In death’s dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear
 5 Thou spread’st a ta - ble in my sight; thy unc - tion
 6 And so through all the length of days thy good - ness



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul he lead - eth, and where the ver - dant
 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
 Lord, be - side me; thy rod and staff my
 grace be - stow - eth; and oh, what trans - port
 fail - eth nev - er: Good Shep - herd, may I



I am his, and he is mine for ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 com - fort still, thy cross be - fore to guide me.
 of de - light from thy pure chal - ice flow - eth!
 sing thy praise with - in thy house for ev - er.

The Gospel

John 9:1-41

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Sarah Reynolds, *Associate Rector*

Please stand as you are able

The Agape Creed

1 Corinthians 13:4-8

People Love is patient; love is kind;
 It does not envy, it does not boast,
 it is not proud, it is not rude.
It is not self seeking,
 It is not easily angered,
 It does not keep a record of wrongs.
It does not celebrate injustice,
 but rejoices in the truth.
Love never gives up,
 never loses faith,
 always hopes,
 always endures.
Love cannot be conquered.

The Prayers of the People

Leader Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.
A brief silence.

We pray for all who work through the power of Christ in the Church today, serving the needs of the poor and healing the wounds of injustice, division, and materialism in our society.

Merciful God,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We pray for the elderly, the sick, and the lonely among us: that they may receive comfort, companionship, and care from those around them.

Merciful God,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We pray that those who have been persecuted, wronged, or forgotten by others may experience the warmth and love of Christ, and be able to forgive those who have harmed them.

Merciful God,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We pray for the Church, that we may humbly admit our failure to meet the needs of others, and for all you call us to do that we have left undone.

Merciful God,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We pray for ourselves: that we may seek more tirelessly to work alongside you in establishing justice and peace on earth, and to preserve and protect the creation which is entrusted to us.

Merciful God,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We praise you for your many blessings in our lives, giving thanks for those things we hold silently in our hearts and those we name before you now. (*Pause for thanksgivings.*)

Merciful God,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We pray for all those whom we have loved but no longer see, and all those now beyond the veil of this mortal life, especially those we now name. (*Pause for remembrances.*) May their souls be at rest now with you.

Merciful God,

People **Hear our prayer.**

The Confession of Sin

Deacon Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

People **Holy God, we confess to you our faults and failings.**

Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;

we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;

we spoil rather than steward your creation;

we cause hurt though you call us to heal;

we choose fear over compassion.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life.

Amen.

Celebrant Beloved of God, hear the good news: God's grace is far greater than our failings. God embraces you with divine mercy, forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

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 *Amazing Grace*

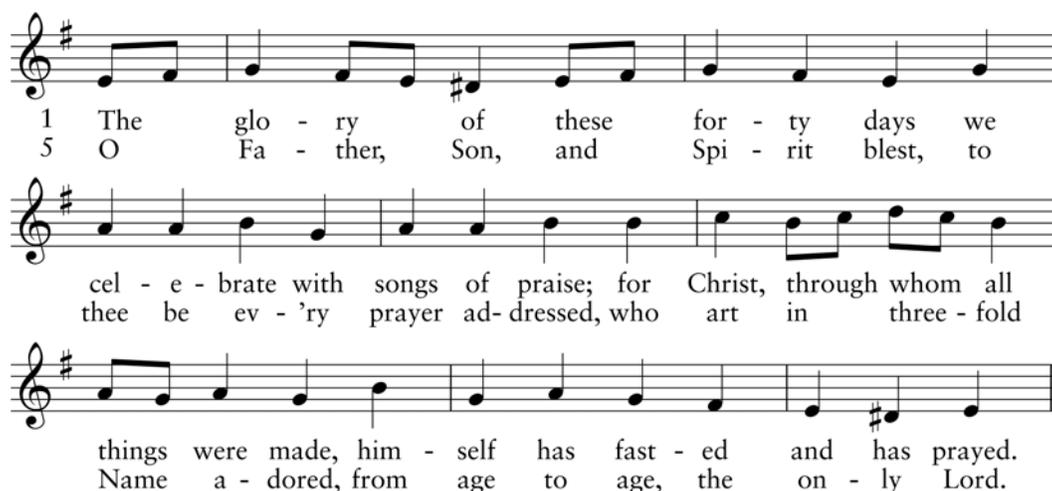
arr. Ghislaine Reese-Trapp (1992-)

The anthem text may be found at hymn 671.

Please stand and sing

Hymn at the Presentation

ERHALT UNS, HERR



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we
5 O Fa - ther, Son, and Spi - rit blest, to
cel - e - brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
thee be ev - 'ry prayer ad - dressed, who art in three - fold
things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
Name a - dored, from age to age, the on - ly Lord.

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.

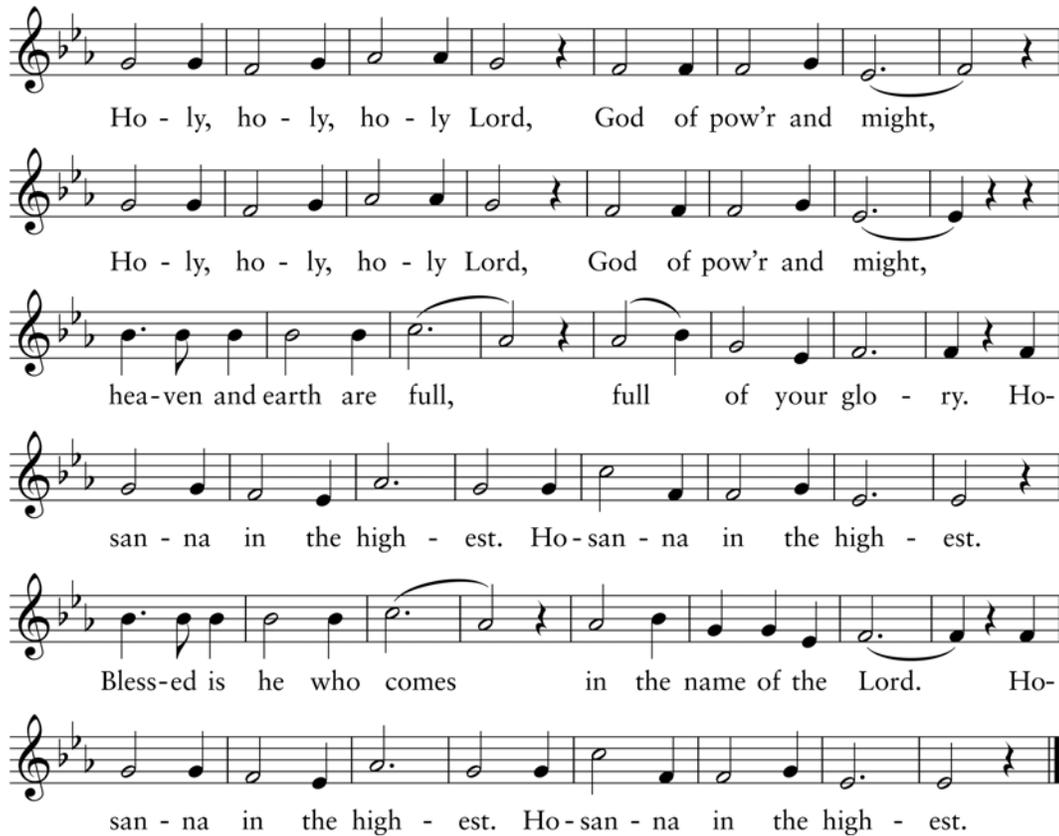
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant Praise and thanks are yours, God Almighty, our source and purpose. In love overflowing, you created all things out of nothing; you called a people out of the desert; you sent to us your Son when we were hard-hearted and far from your grace; and you send your Holy Spirit to us today, despite our foolishness and forgetfulness. And so we give you humble thanks for your forgiveness and our new life, and with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we sing this hymn of unending praise:

Sanctus and Benedictus

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
hea - ven and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant Overflowing God, in you we discover that all our striving and thirsting are truly a striving and thirsting for you, and in all our desert wanderings, we find that only you can satisfy. Come to us who wander in the wilderness and make our wanderings holy paths toward your love and truth. As you sustained Jesus in the wilderness, sustain us also, that we might walk in his footsteps and follow his Way.

On the night before he died for us, our brother Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

People And so, in thanksgiving of your unending love for us, we proclaim the mystery of faith,
**Christ has died, Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

Celebrant Come among us now in the power of your Holy Spirit, that we, your people, may become a blessing to you and all the world, and that this bread of sustenance and this wine of celebration may become for us the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ.

God of all, in your mercy you hear the fragile world's cries for justice. Shape us in the habits of faithfulness, the disciplines of holiness, and the practices of peace, that we may find your goodness and mercy as we walk with your Son on the way of the cross; until that day when we hunger, thirst, and wander no more, united in life abundant with you in the risen Christ, through whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:
People 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

Schubert

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear-er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re-deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

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

At St. John's, all are welcome to the Lord's Table. Our "bread" is in the form of wheat-based wafers (though gluten-free are also available) and our wine is fermented/contains alcohol. If you prefer to receive the bread only, please indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest after receiving the bread.

Or, if you'd like 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.

Healing Prayer Ministers are available for private prayer in the Tower Lobby (to the right of the pulpit).

Anthem at the Communion *King Jesus Hath a Garden*

arr. Charles Wood (1866-1926)

King Jesus hath a garden, full of divers flowers, where I go culling posies gay, all times and hours.

*There naught is heard but Paradise bird, harp, dulcimer, lute,
with cymbal, trump and tymbal, and the tender, soothing flute.*

The Lily, white in blossom there, is Chastity: the Violet, with sweet perfume, Humanity. *There naught...*

The bonny Damask-rose is known as Patience: the blithe and thrifty Marygold, Obedience. *There naught...*

The Crown Imperial bloometh too in yonder place, 'tis Charity, of stock divine, the flower of grace. *There naught...*

Ah! Jesu Lord, my heal and weal, my bliss complete, make thou my heart thy garden-plot, fair, trim and neat.

*That I may hear this musick clear: harp, dulcimer, lute,
with cymbal, trump and tymbal, and the tender, soothing flute.*

Hymn at the Communion "Lead Me, Guide Me"

LEAD ME, GUIDE ME

Refrain

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way,
for if you lead me, I can - not stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
Lead me, Oh Lord, lead me.

1 I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r to
2 Help me tread in the paths of right - eous - ness, be my
3 I am lost if you take your hand from me, I am

help me o - ver my weak - est hour; help me
aid when sa - tan and sin op - press; I am
blind with - out thy light to see; Lord, just
through the dark - ness thy face to see,
put - ting all my trust in thee.
al - ways let me thy ser - vant be.

to Refrain

Lead me, Oh Lord, lead me.

Please stand as you are able

The Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Let us pray.

People Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. Amen.

The Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the people.

People Amen.

Hymn at the Closing 490 "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

HOUSTON

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.

I want to fol - low Je - sus.
I want to look at Je - sus.
I want to be with Je - sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The
Clear sun of right - eous - ness, shine on my path, and
When we have run with pa - tience the race, we

star of my life to is Je - sus.
show me the way to the Fa - ther.
shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain
In him there is no dark - ness at all. The
night and the day are both a - like. The
Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God.

a tempo
Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

The Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace. Serve in love.
People Thanks be to God.

Voluntary *Amazing Grace*

arr. Craig Phillips (1961-)

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
Lift Every Voice and Sing II
Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Leaders in the Liturgy

Clergy The Rev. Sari Ateek, *Rector, Preacher*
The Rev. Sarah Reynolds, *Associate Rector, Celebrant*
The Rev. Anne Derse, *Deacon & Minister for Community Engagement*

Musicians Karl Robson, *Director of Music*
The St. John's Choir

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Amazing Grace, Music: arr. Ghislaine Reece-Trapp (b. 1992). Words: verses 1-3 & 5-6 John Newton (1725-1807); verse 4 John Rees (1828-1900). Copyright © 2020 Encore Publications. Printed in the UK. Used by permission.

King Jesus Hath a Garden Music: English Carol, arr. Charles Wood (1866-1926). Words: George Ratcliffe Woodward (1848-1934). Public domain.

Contact Us

6701 Wisconsin Avenue, Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815
Office Hours: 9 am – 5 pm, Monday – Friday
www.stjohnsnorwood.org
office@stjohnsnorwood.org
301.654.7767