



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**Celebration of St. John's Anniversary
The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
July 12, 2026, 9:30 AM
Holy Eucharist: Rite II**

Happy Birthday! Welcome to St. John's Episcopal Church on the 172nd anniversary of our consecration.

Whoever you are, and wherever you are in your journey of faith, you are welcome here, just as you are, to experience God's love.

St. John's is a compassionate Christian community of healing, hope, and hospitality at the heart of Centreville's Historic District. First consecrated on July 14, 1854, St. John's was partially burned in the Civil War, rebuilt, expanded, and is now home to many faith communities. To learn more about us, talk to one of our clergy, chat up a neighbor, join us after worship, and visit us at stjohnscentreville.org.

Today's service follows the red Episcopal Book of Common Prayer (BCP). Responses are in bold. Music can be found in the blue hymnals in your pew or in the bulletin. Participate as the Spirit moves you!

Services are live-streamed, so please be aware that you are being recorded. Cell phone use—texting, pictures, video, social media—is encouraged, but please silence your devices and disable Wi-Fi during worship.

The Word of God

Prelude

Please take your seat as the music begins and prepare yourself quietly for worship.

Processional Hymn: H 525, "The Church's one foundation"

Aurelia

Opening Acclamation

BCP, p. 355

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Collect for Purity

BCP, p. 355

Gloria: S 280, "Glory to God"

Gloria in excelsis

Collect of the Day: On the Anniversary of the Dedication of a Church

BCP, p. 254

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

Almighty God, to whose glory we celebrate the dedication of this house of prayer: We give you thanks for the fellowship of those who have worshiped in this place, and we pray that all who seek you here may find you, and be filled with your joy and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Lesson: 1 Kings 8:22-30

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, 'O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. Therefore, O Lord, God of Israel, keep for your servant my

father David that which you promised him, saying, "There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me." Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David. 'But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Have regard to your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day towards this house, the place of which you said, "My name shall be there", that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays towards this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray towards this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling-place; heed and forgive.

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

Response: Psalm 84

BCP, p. 707

How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! * **My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.**

The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; * **by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.**

Happy are they who dwell in your house! * **they will always be praising you.**

Happy are the people whose strength is in you! * **whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.**

Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *

for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

They will climb from height to height, * **and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.**

Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; * **hearken, O God of Jacob.**

Behold our defender, O God; * **and look upon the face of your Anointed.**

For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *

and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.

For the Lord God is both sun and shield; * **he will give grace and glory;**

No good thing will the Lord withhold * **from those who walk with integrity.**

O Lord of hosts, * **happy are they who put their trust in you!**

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:1-5, 9-10

Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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

Gospel Hymn: H 289, "Our Father, by whose servants"

sung to the tune *Llangloffan*

Gospel: Matthew 21:12-16

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

Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold doves. He said to them, 'It is written, "My house shall be called a house of prayer"; but you are making it a den of robbers.' The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things that he did, and heard the children crying out in the temple, 'Hosanna to the Son of David', they became angry and said to him, 'Do you hear what these are saying?' Jesus said to them, 'Yes; have you never read, "Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise for yourself"?'

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

Sermon: The Rev. Kevin Laskowski

The Nicene Creed

BCP, p. 358

Litany of Thanksgiving for a Church

BCP, p. 578

Our prayers on this anniversary follow the litany on page 578 of the prayer book. If you'd like to add a loved one to the parish prayer list, please contact clergy or the parish office.

Confession of Sin

BCP, p. 360

Absolution

BCP, p. 360

The Peace

BCP, p. 360

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

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

At this time, the gifts of God in bread and wine and the gifts of the people are collected and brought forward in thanksgiving. Thanks to all who have pledged a portion of their time, talent, and treasure to God's mission here at St. John's.

As the Spirit moves you, please give generously by cash or check or use the QR code at right to donate online. Donations of food and other items for Western Fairfax Christian Ministries and the Katharine K. Hanley Family Shelter can be given to the usher or to the church office.



Please consider an additional birthday gift to St. John's in honor of the occasion, using the envelope provided or the QR code. Today's gifts will be used to maintain St. John's historic campus.

The Presentation of Alms & Oblations: H 380, vs. 3 "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow"

Old 100th

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP, p. 367

Sanctus: S 129, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord"

Prayer B (cont.)

BCP, p. 368

Therefore, according to his command, O Father:

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

The Lord's Prayer

BCP, p. 364

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP, p. 364

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

Fraction Anthem: S 161, "Lamb of God"

Agnus Dei

Communion

BCP, p. 365

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion. The ushers will invite you forward to receive the blessings that come from God's altar. To receive the wafer, extend one hand over the other. If you wish to receive the wine, take a sip by guiding the offered chalice to your lips. Dipping the wafer into the wine yourself is not permitted. The bishop's customary requires the minister to do it for you. If you wish the minister to intinct, make a dipping motion or point to the minister when you approach. If you would like Communion brought to you, please let an usher know. If you would like to receive a blessing rather than Communion, please cross your arms over your chest as you approach.

The table belongs to the Lord and the invitation comes from God. There are many kinds of blessing that come from it. Please come forward to receive them.

Communion Hymn: H 517, "How lovely is thy dwelling place"

Brother James' Air

Post-Communion Prayer

BCP, p. 365

Announcements

Blessing

Recessional Hymn: H 390, "Praise to the Lord, the almighty"

Lobe den Herren

Dismissal

BCP, p. 366

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Rachel Crossett, by Meg Crossett.

The Want Ads. There are so many ways to serve at St. John's. We're looking for a new treasurer, volunteers for communication and digital ministry, and additional coordinators for Centreville Day. If you feel called to serve, or are curious about these ministries, please contact Senior Warden Lisa Heller or Fr. Kevin.

Bible Study Returns This Week. Join us for Summer with the Psalms! The book of Psalms is the Bible's hymnal, and a key to understanding all of Scripture. Each week, we read and discuss several of these vital songs. We resume July 14-15 with penitential psalms 32 and 51. Contact Fr. Kevin or Lisa Heller for additional details.

Celebratory Coffee Hour. Please join us in room 217/218 at the end of the hall to celebrate the 172nd anniversary of our consecration with Sunday sundaes and more.

Adult Lectionary Forum. The forum is on hiatus for the summer. We'll resume on August 23.

Visit Us! For more information, visit stjohnscentreville.org and subscribe to our E-notes.

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TODAY'S MINISTERS

Celebrant: The Rev. Kevin Laskowski
Music Director: Mandy Hull
Vestry Member: George Dewey
Usher: Nancy Scott

Acolyte: Monti Zimmerman
Lector: Susan Davis
Alms Counters: Larry Pike, Marie McDermott
Altar Guild: Meg Crossett

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Kevin Laskowski, Priest-in-Charge, [Priest@StJohnsCentreville.com](mailto: Priest@StJohnsCentreville.com)
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Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday; 10:30 AM – 2:30 PM
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