

St. John's Episcopal Church
Georgetown Parish
www.stjohnsgeorgetown.org



BE YOU. BE HERE. BELONG.

HOLY EUCHARIST
THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
FEBRUARY 2, 2025
9:00 AM



Welcome to St. John's Church, Georgetown Parish!



Welcome to St. John's Church! If you are visiting with us, or even if you've already made St. John's your parish home, we want you to know how glad we are to share this day with you, and we wish you every blessing for the coming year! If you are visiting, we hope you will fill out the "Welcome" card that you'll find in the back of the pews and place it in the offering plate so we can send you some information about our vibrant community. Or you can scan the QR code to add your name directly to our email list!

Please make it easy for us all to greet one another by name by wearing a name badge. If you have one, please pick it up as you enter the church. If you don't, you can make one at the table by the main entrance to the church. The badges have magnets to make them easy to wear on any type of clothing. Please leave your badge in the bins in Blake Hall after coffee hour. If you need to exit right after the Eucharist, please leave your name badge in the bins at the back of the sanctuary.

Childcare is available 9:00 am to 12:00 pm in the atrium. Please ask an usher for assistance. We are so glad you are here!

Service Participants

Celebrant

The Rev. Gini Gerbasi

Preacher

The Rev. Dr. Laura Natta

Service of the Word

The Rev. Erica Benson

Gospeller

The Rev. Erica Benson

Director of Music

Aaron Goen

Cantor

Rexford Tester

Acolyte

Georgia Warren

Lector & Intercessor

Anthony Vernon

Altar Guild

Christine Carlson

Carol Dawson

Flower Guild

Virginia Elgin

Ushers

Judy Ryan

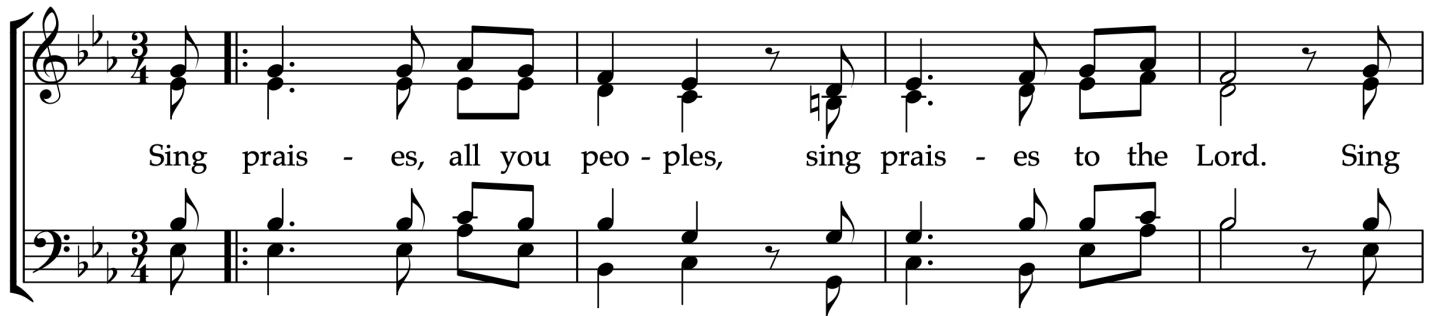
John Ryan

Liturgy of the Word

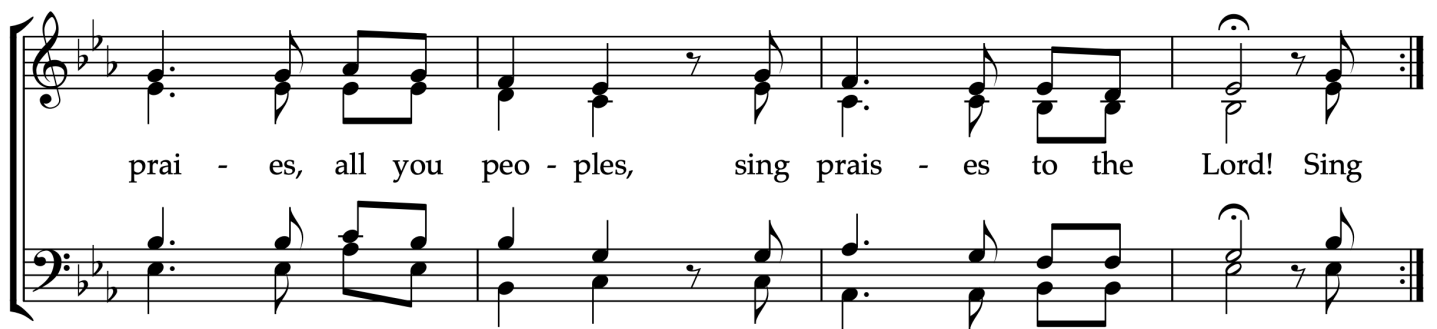
Processional Hymn

Sing praises all you peoples

Taizé



Sing prais - es, all you peo - ples, sing prais - es to the Lord. Sing



prai - es, all you peo - ples, sing prais - es to the Lord! Sing

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be **God's kingdom, now and forever, 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.

Gloria

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Lesson

Malachi 3:1-4

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Caribbean Alleluia



Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - jah!

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal-le - lu-jah, hal - le - lu - jah!

The Holy Gospel

Luke 11: 1-13

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
Give us each day our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.
And do not bring us to the time of trial."

And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Laura Natta

Please stand in body or spirit.

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

The Leader and People pray responsively

Gracious God, You carry us through our days. You know every word on our tongue, every hair on our head. You know the dreams in our hearts, and the weight of our bones. You also know the weariness we bring with us into this space. So with honesty we come before you, both with hearts full of gratitude and with prayers on our lips. Let us pray together as the

People of God, saying,

God in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Gracious God, we thank you for the gifts of this life that bring us joy. For birthday candles and sunrises, for handwritten cards and jobs that we are passionate about. For stories that can make us laugh until we cry, and for friends that feel like family.

God in your joyful mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Gracious Loving God, grant courage to each member of your Church to be your loving hands throughout the world, to do your will as ministers of inclusion, action and peace and to remember that our full humanity is welcome here.

God in your kind mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Heal the wounds of this nation. Guide us to be present with our neighbors and give us patience to actively listen so we may better understand one another. Grant wisdom to our Leaders. Help us to heal a World in transition.

God in your blessed mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Creator God, there is so much grief, strife and discord in the World. Guide refugees to safety and fortify the hearts of those who will receive them. Grant courage to those in danger and peace to those who feel lost. Wrap your arms around those whose grief will not let go. Give us wisdom to find ways to better care for your creation.

God in your profound mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Gracious God, aid all those in any kind of need or trouble: For those whose lives are closely linked with ours, and those connected to us as part of the human family. Let us pray together for: **Belinda, Carol, Bishop Chilton, Dal, Ethan, Fely, Ingrid, John, Juan Carlos, Nick, Paula, and Stephanie.** We pray that all those who are struggling with addiction, depression or illness will find relief. And we pray for all those in this country and around the world who have been impacted by violence, war, accidents, or natural disaster.

God in your infinite mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for those serving abroad and their families, and for all who have been wounded or held hostage. We pray for those who have died. We pray for all who know loss and mourn loved ones.

God in your healing mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for the intentions of the individuals in this community – stated now - either silently or aloud.

God, in your perfect mercy,

Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect

The Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

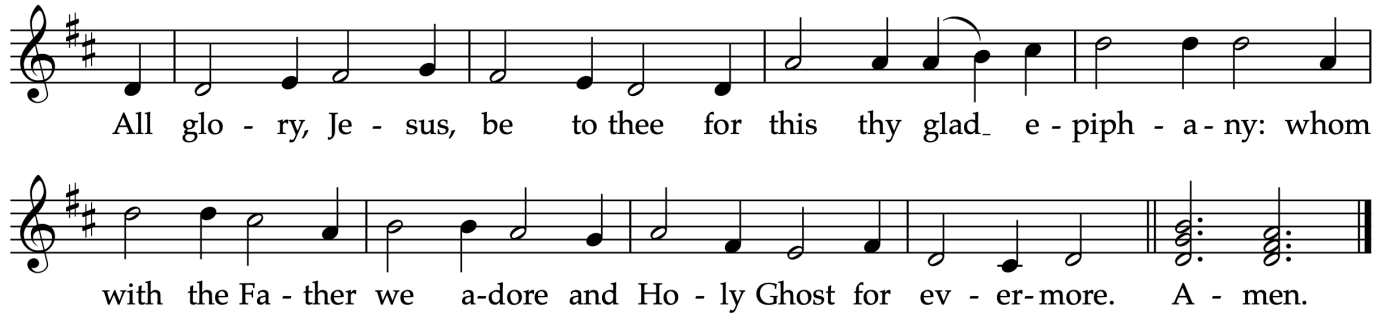
Welcome and Announcements

Offertory

Please join in making a circle around the altar for the next part of our service as we prepare for the Eucharist.

Doxology

PUER NOBIS



All glo - ry, Je - sus, be to thee for this thy glad - e - piph - a - ny: whom
with the Fa - ther we a - dore and Ho - ly Ghost for ev - er - more. A - men.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer C

Enriching Our Worship

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 God thanks and praise.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.


Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

The Sanctus

Land of Rest



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord. God of po-wer and
might Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry, ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

The Great Amen

McNeil Robinson



And now as our savior Christ has taught us we are bold to say:

The Lord's Prayer

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 forever and ever. Amen.

Fraction Anthem

Refrain

Three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is the refrain: Be known to us, Lord Je-sus, in the break ing of the bread. The second staff shows two endings: 1. bread. bread. and 2. fine vs. 1 The bread which we break, al - le - to Refrain. The third staff continues the melody: lu - ia, is the com-mun-ion of the bo - dy of Christ.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion of the People

All those who seek a closer relationship with God in Christ are welcome to receive communion at St. John's.

If you would like to receive wine, please sip from the cup. Please do not dip the bread in the cup. Please wipe the cup and turn it for the next person. If you would prefer a blessing in lieu of communion, please cross your hands over your chest.

Communion Hymn

Ubi Caritas

Taizé

Where charity and love are, God is there.

U-bi ca-ri - tas et a - mor, u-bi ca-ri - tas De-us i - bi est.

Post Communion Prayer

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.

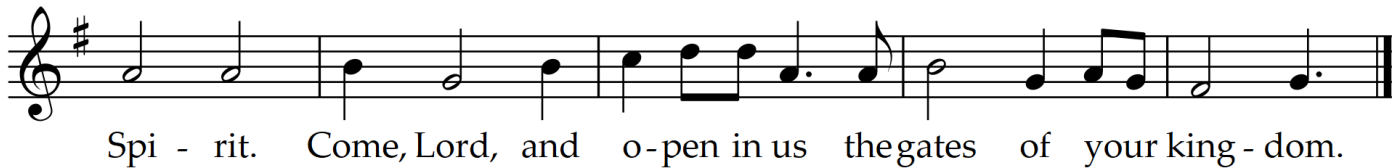
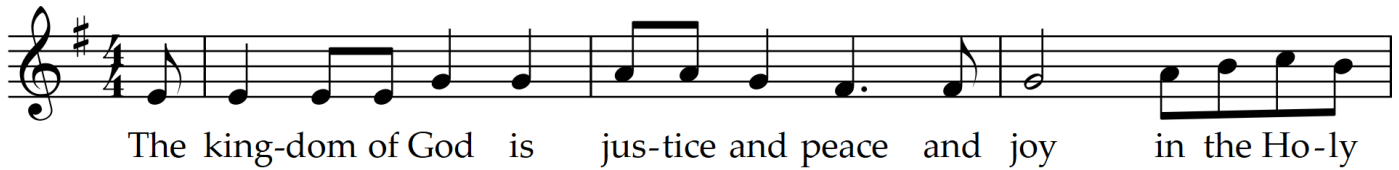
Blessing

Celebrant: The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his son, Jesus Christ our Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

The kingdom of God

Taizé



Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!**



***Pastoral care available.** If you or a loved one is in need of prayer or assistance, our clergy and Stephen Ministry are available to help. If you are feeling worried, sad, or hopeless, or are sick, in the hospital, or home recuperating, and you would like to receive communion at home, a visit by a clergy member or Stephen Minister can be scheduled. If you would like to arrange a home visit, or if a virtual visit or phone call is preferred, please contact the parish office at 202-338-1796.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Epiphany/Lent Challenge: Go Deep



This Epiphany and Lent, we invite you to participate in *Go Deep*, a spiritual challenge designed to help us engage more deeply with Scripture, our faith, and one another. Throughout these seasons, we will focus on understanding the prayers we say during our worship services and exploring their deeper meanings. By reflecting on these familiar prayers, we aim to deepen our connection to and enhance our experience of the liturgy.

Each week, the Scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday will be sent out on Monday giving you time to reflect on the texts before we gather for worship. Tuesdays present another opportunity to reflect on the scripture passages at the 5:30 pm Centering Prayer service in the downstairs Chapel of the Carpenter. On Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm, Bible study will offer a space for discussion, where we will engage with the Scriptures and explore how they can be applied to our daily lives. This is an opportunity to reflect on scripture and how it shapes our actions and interactions in the world.

Then to complete the cycle, after each Sunday service, join us for the *Preacher's Corner*, where congregants can gather to discuss the sermon with the preacher of the day (First Preacher's corner is today, following the service!) This is a chance to ask questions, share insights, and dive deeper into the message shared during worship. The goal of *Go Deep* is to help you engage more fully with the Scriptures, be mindful of the prayers we say each week, and ultimately grow in your faith as part of our community.

We hope you are able to join us as we Go Deep!

Spirit Seekers Meet Today



This week is Spirit Seekers! We will meet after the 9 o'clock service (roughly 10:05 am) and will be finished by 10:40 am. For the next several gatherings we will be learning about the story of Elijah under the broomtree which teaches us how to have compassion for ourselves. This week we will make rainbow breathers to help us focus on breathing techniques to help calm the body and mind.

We look forward to seeing you!

New Website Launched with Immigration Resources



A new website has just launched with resources for families and communities in the DC/MD/VA area. Please share as widely as you can, and add it to your social media pages: <http://Familiesuniteddcmetro.org>. The website combines family safety planning information and know your rights information in one

place. It's a great resource for individuals wondering how to prepare themselves or their families which includes information specific to our local jurisdictions. The information on the site is also available in multiple languages. The plan for the website is to continue to update with additional information as it becomes available.

Call for Volunteers: NEW Tech Ministry Team



"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I with them."

- Matthew 18:20

We are seeking dedicated volunteers to join our new **Tech Ministry** team to help manage St. John's new **livestreaming system**.

This vital ministry allows us to connect with homebound members, church members working/living abroad and visitors who return to their homes, ensuring they can participate in worship services and stay engaged with our church community. If you have experience with technology, enjoy learning new tools, or simply want to be a part of this impactful ministry, we would love to hear from you! This is also great for people who like to be "Behind the scenes," but still want to participate in the service. Volunteers will assist with setting up, operating, and troubleshooting the livestream during services. No experience required – **training will be provided!** This is a wonderful opportunity to serve the church and share the Word with those who may not be able to attend in person! If interested, please contact Laura by email Laura@stjohnsgeorgetown.org or text **202-753-6822**. Thank you for your willingness to support our community in this meaningful way!

A Note from the Care for Creation Committee



Caring for Creation by Composting in Our Communities. Almost a third of the trash collected in our communities is comprised of food waste, but we can all do something about that! Composting food waste helps to reduce methane (a greenhouse gas emitted by decomposing food in our landfills) and that helps to mitigate climate change. Composting is the natural aerobic (with oxygen) decomposition of organic matter (food waste) into nutrient rich soil for use in our yards and communities, and a great way to care for creation. Most of our communities provide opportunities to compost. Over the coming weeks the Care for Creation Committee will provide information about composting in some of our local communities. This week we spotlight the District of Columbia and provide links to some detailed information about the city's composting opportunities.

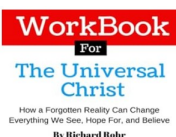
Composting in DC. DC currently has a pilot program for curbside pick-up of food waste for composting, and the farmers' markets around the District provide drop-off bins for compost. Another option is to join one of the Community Gardens around the city and bring your compost there. In return for your compost and a few volunteer hours, you can get finished compost for use in your own garden. Visit the links below for more information:

www.zerowaste.dc.gov/curbsidecomposting

www.zerowaste.dc.gov/foodwastedropoff

www.dpr.dc.gov/page/community-compost-cooperative-network

St. John's Georgetown Men's Group



The St. John's Georgetown Men's Group will be meeting on Wednesday, February 5th at 7:00 pm in the conference room to continue their ongoing discussion of Richard Rohr's *The Universal Christ*. They will be discussing Chapter 5.

2025 Georgetown House Tour Update: Tickets Available!



Another meeting was held this week. Asali Kassum our chair, from the Georgetown community told us that five houses are already confirmed to be on the tour. Committee chairs are filled and all have been hard at work planning for this our largest fundraiser for Outreach and building maintenance.

In 2024, the tour raised over \$200,000. Next year we will need Co-chairs. Azali will have served for two years. The date is Saturday, APRIL 26. It is an exciting lively day needing almost every member of St. John's to help make it possible. There will be sign up sheets for volunteers for Ticket sales, the Tea, house Docents and more.

Now it the time to block your calendars and to think about where you would most like to be involved. You can email Laura Natta at Laura@stjohnsgeorgetown.org or Judy Ryan at judy.ryan2@verizon.net to let us know that you are interested.



Tickets are now available! Click the QR code to get your House Tour tickets today!

Crossing the Street



Want more information about Outreach at St. John's? Contact Jen Page (jenlhpage@gmail.com; 703-395-6260).

Donating items from **Amazon Wish List** helps all of our Outreach ministries!



It's Girl Scout Cookie Time!



Our resident Girl Scout, Monica, will be in Blake Hall this morning from 10-11 am (between the two services) to deliver cookies to those who have already ordered. If you haven't yet placed an order, it's not too late! Please order online at her site linked below. If you wish to donate cookies, online contributions will send cookies directly to US military personnel. Monica's troop is also personally delivering donated cookies to the food pantry at her local elementary school to help food insecure students and their families; for this option, purchase cookies directly with Monica. If you have questions, please see

Monica or contact her mom, Andrea Kramer (ac_kramer@yahoo.com) Thank you for your support! Link to Monica's cookie site = <https://www.gsdigitalcookie.com/landing/14/85137400-e99c-488b-882c-91558a5c7411/en-US/False>



The **GEORGETOWN** *Concert Series*
St. John's Episcopal Church

Described by the Washington Post as "a cautionary pre-Valentine's day" program, "The Plague of Love" features madrigals by Barbara Strozzi and Claudio Monteverdi. In a time and region where devastating plagues could be common and life was short, Monteverdi and Strozzi and the poets whose texts they set focused much of their artistic energy on love, depicting it alternately as torture, war, distraction, delight.



DC Singer Collective
 Sunday, February 2, 2025, 5 p.m.



Stile Antico
 Sunday, March 30, 2025, 5 p.m.

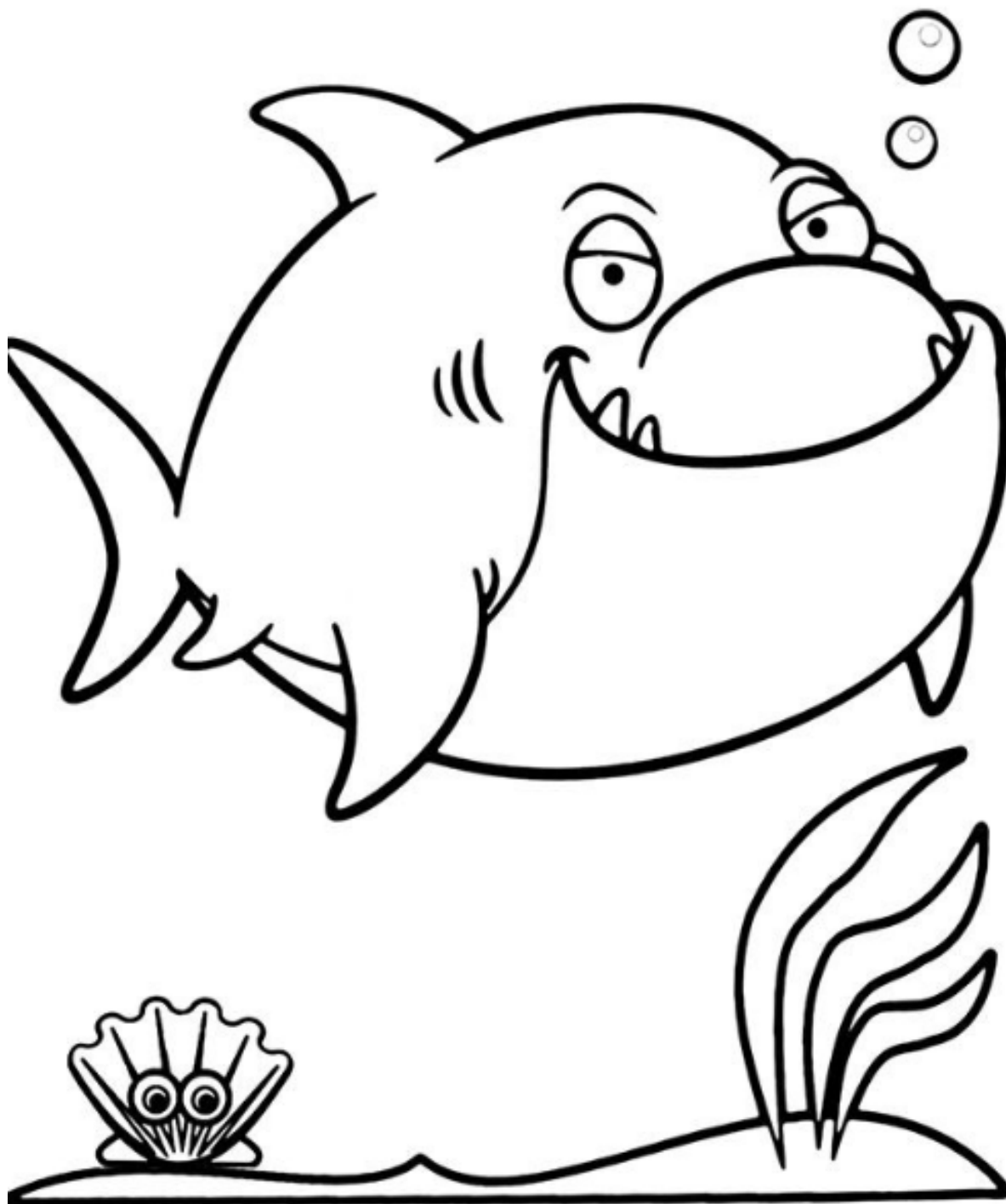
Stile Antico is firmly established as one of the world's most accomplished and innovative vocal ensembles. Working without a conductor, its twelve members have thrilled audiences on four continents with their fresh, vibrant and moving performances of Renaissance polyphony. The group has received three Grammy® nominations, and performed live at the 60th Grammy® Awards at Madison Square Garden

For more information and to purchase season tickets scan the QR code or visit:
<https://tinyurl.com/GCS2024-25>









Saint John's Episcopal Church Georgetown Parish

Contact us

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The Rev. Dr. Laura Natta, Rector
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The Rev. Sarah Duggin, Associate Rector
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Kimberly Robinson, Parish Administrator
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Nivelyn Winston, Bookkeeper
accountant@stjohnsgeorgetown.org

The Rev. Erica Benson, Seminarian
John Wise, Verger
Lidia Ruiz, Sexton
Bella Hidalgo, Childcare

Vestry

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