



# St. John's Church

**Sunday, May 17, 2026**

**Ten O'clock in the Morning**

**THE SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION DAY**

**The Order for Choral Morning Prayer**

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- *A warm welcome to all parishioners, guests, and visitors. Worship at St. John's is according to the 1928 Book of Common Prayer and The Hymnal, 1940. Be sure to ask a neighbor for help if you have any questions about where we are during the service.*
  - *The ✠ symbol indicates a point in the liturgy where making the sign of the cross is appropriate.*
  - ***Please turn all cell phones, pagers, and wireless communication devices off or to "vibrate."***
  - *Children are most welcome at St. John's worship services. For those who desire it, during the school year, Sunday School begins at 10:00 AM in the undercroft, where nursery care is also available year-round.*
  - *Information on worship practices, Communion procedure, announcements, prayer requests, the teaching series, a brief history of St. John's, and various aspects of parish life are available in the Parish Chronicle, which is inserted in this bulletin.*
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**Prayer Book**

**The Prelude:** *Prière du Christ montant vers son Père (from L'Ascension)*  
*[Prayer of Christ ascending to his Father (from The Ascension)]* – Olivier Messiaen

**102 The Processional Hymn:** *Hail thee, festival day!* – TUNE: *Salve festa dies*  
¶ *The Choir sings the Refrain first; then all repeat it.*

**142 The National Anthem** (*1<sup>st</sup> stanza only*)

**The Sentences of Scripture** p. 3–5

**A General Confession** p. 6

**The Declaration of Absolution** p. 7

**The Lord's Prayer** p. 7

**601 The Ferial Preces:** Plainchant p. 7–8

**609 The Invitatory Antiphon for Ascension:** Goodson p. 8

**609 The Venite, exultemus Domino:** Goodson p. 9

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*this time, the People remain standing for the reading of*

**The Psalm:** 24. *Domini est terra.*

**The First Lesson:** 1 St. Peter iv. 7.

**623** *The Benedictus es, Domine:* Turton

**The Second Lesson:** St. John xv. 26, *and part of* Chap. xvi.

**646** *The Jubilate Deo:* Lawes

*The Apostles' Creed*

**601** *The Ferial Responses (The Suffrages after the Creed):* Plainchant

*The Collect for the Day*

*The Collect for the Ascension Day* (to be said daily throughout the Octave)

*A Collect for Peace*

*A Collect for Grace*

**103** **The Sermon Hymn:** *See the Conqueror mounts in triumph*

**Announcements** (if there be any)

**The Senior Warden Address** – Mr. Peter Grim

**The Offertory Anthem:** *Lift up your heads, O ye gates* – William Mathias

Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up ye everlasting doors, and the King of glory shall come in.

Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up ye everlasting doors, and the King of glory shall come in.

Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

~ Psalm 24, vv. 7–10

**The Presentation of the Alms and Oblations**

**139** *The Doxology*

**P**RAISE God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**141** *My country, 'tis of thee (4<sup>th</sup> stanza only)*

**O**UR fathers' God, to thee, Author of liberty, To thee we sing; Long may our land be bright With freedom's holy light; Protect us by thy might, Great God, our King. Amen.

**A Prayer for the President of the United States and all in Civil Authority** p. 17

**A Prayer for the Clergy and People** p. 18

**A Prayer for all Conditions of Men** p. 18

**A General Thanksgiving** (said together by all) p. 19

**A Prayer of St. Chrysostom** p. 20

**Prayer Book**

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**The Grace**

**106** **The Recessional Hymn:** *The head that once was crowned with thorns*

– TUNE: St. Magnus

**The Postlude:** *Processional* - William Mathias

**p. 20**

*We welcome you to St. John's Church. If you are new, please be sure to fill out a visitor card and place it in an offertory plate, and/or sign one of the guest registers in the narthex at the back of the church. We are glad you are here and hope that you will join us for fellowship and refreshments in the undercroft below the nave (general seating area) of the church. If you have questions, please feel free to speak to any parishioner and a person will happily provide you with whatever assistance you may require.*

**Notes on Selected Portions of Today's Music**

**Prelude:**

Olivier Messiaen (1908–92) is widely acclaimed as one of the greatest composers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. He wrote in almost every musical form, including opera, for many different solo instruments, including voice, as well as for chorus, chamber groups, and symphony orchestra. He studied at the Paris Conservatory where his teachers included Marcel Dupré (organ) and Paul Dukas (composition). In 1931 he became organist at Église de la Trinité in Paris, and in 1942 Professor of Harmony at the Paris Conservatory, posts he held until his death. Much of Messiaen's music is mystical in nature, reflecting his deep religious faith, and all of his organ compositions were written for important days in the church calendar. In describing his life, Messiaen, a devout Roman Catholic, wrote, "My faith is the grand drama of my life. I'm a believer, so I sing praise of God to those who have no faith. I give bird songs to those who dwell in cities and have never heard them, make paintings for those who know only military marches or jazz, and paint colors for those who see none."

*Ascension ("The Ascension")* is a four-movement suite that paints in sound images and feelings a faithful Christian's experience in the liturgy for the Feast of the Ascension. Composed in 1933, this work was originally written for orchestra, but which Messiaen later arranged for organ. In the organ version, Messiaen substituted the orchestral third movement with "Transports", a virtuoso toccata for organ that represents the explosion of joy that a Christian soul experiences when encountering the glory of the risen Jesus.

~ Janice Beck, 2004; ed. C. Sayers



Giving QR

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The Rev. Fr. Steven J. Kelly, SSC, *Rector*  
The Rev. Canon Michael J. Bedford, SSC, *Assisting Priest Emeritus*  
Dr. Huw R. Lewis, FRCO, *Director of Music, Organist, and Master of the Choir*  
Ms. Chanmi Kim, MMus, *Edwards Organ Scholar*