

¶ 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 they will happily provide you with whatever assistance you may require.

Notes on Selected Portions of Today’s Music

The Offertory Anthem:

Richard Farrant (ca. 1530 – 30 November 1580) was a composer of English church music, also a choirmaster, playwright and theatrical producer noted for creating the Blackfriars Theatre that hosted children’s companies. Very little is known about him. He became a gentleman of the Chapel Royal in the reign of Edward VI, but resigned his post in 1564 on being appointed master of the children of St. George’s Chapel, Windsor. In this capacity he presented a play before the queen at Shrovetide 1567, and again at Christmas of the same year, receiving on each occasion the sum of £6: 13: 4d [6 pounds, 13 shillings, 4 pence]. His plays, on classical themes, are all lost. In November 1569 he became Master of the Chapel Royal, holding this post concurrently with that at Windsor. Few of Farrant’s compositions survive. The best known are a service and the anthems *Call to remembrance* and *Hide not thou thy face*. The anthem *Lord, for thy tender mercy’s sake*, often attributed to him, does not appear in any source under his name before the late 18th century and is now thought to be by the elder John Hilton. Other compositions attributed simply to “Farrant” in early sources may be by him or by one of two or more John Farrants, active in Salisbury in the late 16th and early 17th century.

~ Wikipedia; ed. C. Sayers

The Communion Hymn:

This is one of the finest communion hymns found in evangelical hymnals. The dominant theme of this beautifully expressed text is the adoration of the person of Christ and the work He did in our behalf, based on the passage from the Song of Solomon 5:10–16. The hymn originally had nine stanzas and was entitled *The chief among ten thousand* or *The excellencies of Christ*. Samuel Stennett was born in Exeter, England, in 1727. His father, Dr. Joseph Stennett, was a well-known Baptist pastor of the Little Wild Street Church in London. In 1748 Samuel became an assistant to his father and ten years later succeeded him in the pastorate of that church. Stennett remained at this church for the next thirty-seven years, where he became known as one of the outstanding evangelical preachers of his day. It is said that he was a confidant to many of the most distinguished statesmen of that time, and even King George III was one of his most ardent admirers. In 1763 the University of Aberdeen conferred the Doctor of Divinity Degree upon him in recognition of his many accomplishments. Samuel Stennett died in London on August 24, 1795. He had served as a faithful pastor of one church for thirty-seven years. Dr. Stennett was also an influential writer on numerous theological subjects as well as the author of thirty-nine hymns. Most of these hymns were contributed to Rippon’s famous Baptist collection, *A Selection of Hymns from the Best Authors*, published in 1787. *Majestic sweetness sits enthroned* first appeared in that collection. It became Stennett’s best-known hymn and is still widely used today.

~ Adapted from 101 Hymn Stories © 1982 by Kenneth W. Osbeck. Published by Kregel Publications, Grand Rapids, MI. Used by permission of the publisher. All rights reserved; ed. C. Sayers



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The Rev. Fr. Steven J. Kelly, SSC, *Rector*  
The Rev. Fr. 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*

Giving QR



St. John’s Church

Sunday, February 15, 2026

Ten O’clock in the Morning

THE SUNDAY CALLED QUINQUAGESIMA

OR THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT

The Order for Holy Communion

- 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.

Hymnal

Prayer Book

The Prelude: Chorale Prelude on “Abridge” - C. S. Lang




783 The Processional Hymn: God of grace and God of glory – TUNE: Cwm Rhondda  
The Introit: Esto mihi, Psalm 31:3–4, 1 – Plainchant  
BE thou my God and defender, and a place of refuge that thou mayest save me: for thou art my upholder, my refuge, and my Saviour; and for thy holy Name’s sake be thou my leader, and my sustainer. Ps. In thee, O LORD, have I put my trust; let me never be put to confusion; but rid me and deliver me in thy righteousness. Glory be... Be thou... (etc.)

The Collect for Purity (the People all kneeling) p. 67

The Summary of the Law p. 69

710 The Kyrie eleison, ninefold: Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena – Healey Willan p. 70

The Collect of the Day p. 122

Hymnal		Prayer Book p. 122–3	Hymnal		Prayer Book p. 74–5
	The Epistle: 1 Corinthians xiii. 1.			The Prayer for the Church	
	¶ After the reading of the Epistle, the People shall remain seated, and the Choir shall chant			The Invitation to Confession	p. 75
	<b>The Psalm:</b> 31:21–27. <i>Quam magna multitudo.</i> – ANGLICAN CHANT: James Nares	p. 377		The Confession and Absolution	p. 75–6
	¶ Then shall the People stand, and the Choir continue with			The Comfortable Words	p. 76
	<b>The Gradual:</b> <i>Tu es Deus</i> , Psalm 77:14–15 – Plainchant				
	THOU art the God that doeth wonders: and hast declared thy power among the people. <i>V.</i> Thou hast mightily delivered thy people: even the sons of Jacob and Joseph.				
	<b>The Tract:</b> <i>Jubiliáte Déo</i> , Psalm 100:1–2 – Plainchant			[734] <b>The Sursum corda:</b> Plainchant	p. 76
	OBE joyful in the LORD, all ye lands: serve the LORD with gladness. <i>V.</i> Come before his presence with a song: be ye sure that the LORD he is God. <i>V.</i> It is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves: we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.				
					
	The Gospel: St. Luke xviii. 31.	p. 123–4		797 <b>The Sanctus:</b> Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena	p. 77
	The Nicene Creed	p. 71		797 ✠ <b>The Benedictus qui venit:</b> Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena	
353	The Sermon Hymn: <i>Majestic sweetness sits enthroned</i> – TUNE: Caithness			The Prayer of Consecration	p. 80–1
	Announcements <i>(if there be any)</i>			The Lord’s Prayer	p. 82
	The Sermon – The Right Reverend Wendell N. Gibbs, Jr., <i>10<sup>th</sup> Bishop of the Diocese of Michigan (retired)</i>			The Prayer of Humble Access <i>(said by the Congregation with the Minister)</i>	p. 82
	<b>The Offertory:</b> <i>Benedictus es</i> , Psalm 119:12–13 – Plainchant			712 <b>The Agnus Dei:</b> Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena <i>(to be sung thus: Men only, Trebles only, Full)</i>	
	BLESSED art thou, O LORD; O teach me thy statutes: with my lips have I been telling of all the judgments of thy mouth.			The Invitation: ✠ Behold the Lamb of God; behold him that takest away the sins of the world. Response: <i>Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.</i>	
	<b>The Offertory Anthem:</b> <i>Lord, for thy tender mercy’s sake</i> – Richard Farrant/John Hilton			The Administration of Holy Communion	p. 82–3
	Lord, for thy tender mercy’s sake, lay not our sins to our charge, but forgive that is past, and give us grace to amend our sinful lives: To decline from sin and to incline to virtue, that we may walk in a perfect heart before thee now and evermore. Amen.			504 <b>The Communion Hymn:</b> <i>Our Father, by whose name</i> – TUNE: Rhosymedre	
	~ <i>John Bull</i> , Christian Prayers and Holy Meditations, 1568			<b>The Communion:</b> <i>Manducáverunt</i> , Psalm 78:30 – Plainchant	
				THEY did eat, and were filled, for the LORD gave them their own desire: they were not disappointed of their lust.	
	The Presentation of the Alms and Oblations			The Prayer of Thanksgiving <i>(said by the Congregation with the Minister)</i>	p. 83
139	The Doxology			209 In place of the <b>Gloria in excelsis:</b> <i>(sung while kneeling)</i>	
	PRAISE 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.			<i>O saving Victim, opening wide</i> – TUNE: St. Vincent	
141	My country, ’tis of thee <i>(4<sup>th</sup> stanza only)</i>			The Blessing <i>(the People all kneeling)</i>	p. 84
	OUR 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.			The Dismissal   Response: <i>Thanks be to God.</i>	
				479 <b>The Recessional Hymn:</b> <i>Love divine, all loves excelling</i> – TUNE: Hyfrydol, DESCANT: Lewis	
				The Postlude: <i>Postlude on “Old Hundredth”</i> - Fred Bock	
				✠	

The flowers on the altar are given by the congregation of St. John’s in Thanksgiving for 25 years of service to the parish and community by the Rector, Fr. Steven J. Kelly, SSC