



LOGOS

The Newsletter for St. John's Episcopal Church, Arlington

"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it" John 1:5

April 2018

Welcoming Our Neighbors

The St. John's vestry reached consensus at its March meeting to add a new welcome message to the church website and to place welcome signs outside the church. The message on the website will state:

We welcome children of God of all races and nations who are young and old, gay and straight, believing and doubting. You have a home with us.

The signs will say (in English, Arabic, and Spanish):

No matter where you are from, we're glad you're our neighbor.

To share any thoughts on the new welcome messages, please contact Rev. Ann Barker at 703-671-6834 (email: rector@stjohnsarlingtonva.org).



From the Rector: Resurrection Possibilities

It is the Easter season. The time when we celebrate Jesus's resurrection from the dead. The time when we celebrate God's victory over sin and death. The time when we take joy in our hope for eternal life. The time when we feel wonder at God's great love for us, expressed in such a marvelous way. Brother James Koester of the Society of St. John the Evangelist (SSJE) says, "Wherever in your life is victory; there is resurrection. Wherever in your life is joy; there is resurrection. Wherever in your life is wonder, there is resurrection." Resurrection power is critical to how we lead our lives. Wherever we experience resurrection, Koester says, "Christ is calling us to follow him out of death into his larger and more glorious life."

There are resurrection moments in all our lives, from small things to great happenings. A victory I experience in my life is any time I am able to make a computer program or a social media site do something I want it to do. I find myself shouting "I did it!" and it gives me the willingness to try it again the next time. Any time we work very hard to accomplish a goal we can be victorious. The time when you worked weeks and weeks on a project, spending late nights and long weekends, and you got it done and garnered accolades for it. The time when you buckled down to kick a bad habit that was hindering your health or your growth. The day you went outside and saw that unbelievably, finally, after a long cold winter, the flowers you planted in the fall were beginning to come up. And the time when you looked up from a clean room with satisfaction knowing you were one step closer to your goal of cleaning out the house.

There are many joys in my life. Two big ones for me are spending time with my family and friends and singing. My chorus is back in session, and I am planning my summer trip

to see my sister and her family, Evan and Kristy, and my best friend in Atlanta. All of us have joys. We experience gratitude in finding that a relationship we thought might be broken because our friend hadn't communicated in a while is just fine, only subject to a busy schedule. The accomplishments of our children can bring great joy—not just the things they do, but also who they are becoming. Kindness and understanding, dealing with challenges, building relationships, and learning from experiences are all qualities that delight us when we see them flowering in our children. Our pets bring us joy, friendship, and love. Sometimes we are just overwhelmed at the joy of being alive.

Wonder is a gift from God. Wonder hits us when we see a sunset or walk along a beach or hike in the mountains and see the beauty of God's creation. We gaze in wonder at the face of a newborn baby. We are awed by the power of God when we see things fall into place that we could never in a million years have made happen. And we hear in wonder about people who give their lives for others or find a way to give back to the community that makes a tremendous difference or overcome enormous odds to do something they want to do.

Victory, joy, and wonder. They make us feel good. They give us hope for the future. These positive feelings open us to new growth, to the new life the resurrection brings us. God wants that for us so much. God wants for us to be in loving, trusting relationship with God because God wants to give us all good things. God wants for us to care about God's creation, to care about one another.

God also wants us to take action, to follow Jesus into a larger life. God is depending on us to take action. Brother Curtis Almquist of SSJE says this: "Believe that Jesus is alive and at work within you and through you. It's true.

Make the miracles normal. We are the answer to Jesus's prayer." In the power of the resurrection, we are called to be the miracle makers. We are called to take the wonderful blessings we have been given and represent God in the world. Every time we contribute to the Arlington Food Assistance Center or bag groceries, we are making miracles for hungry people. School children are so pleased by the new school supplies we contribute. We make miracles when we listen to a friend, pray for

an enemy, follow God into an unknown future. The resurrection well deep inside us is longing to quench the thirst of God's beloved but broken world.

The power of Jesus's resurrection was not just a one-time event. That power lives in all of us. This season, may we let it out to bless the world.

Ann †

Join the Inquirer's Class

Who am I as a Christian? Who are we as a Church? Discuss these questions and more as part of the new Inquirer's Class. The class will be held April 8 through May 20 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. in the undercroft. It will offer participants an opportunity to discuss how stories in their lives relate to the lectionary readings from the worship service or the sermon. "You may have a story to share or a question to ask about how one of the Sunday scripture readings relates to what we believe as a Church or what you struggle with or take joy in as a Christian. You may also have insight or a question about how to live out one of the Sunday readings in your life," said Rev. Ann Barker. The class will be a joint exploration and discovery, not an occasion where Rev. Barker or Seminarian Kendrah McDonald teach about the Sunday readings. Come join the discussion!

St. John's Staff and Leadership

Staff

Rector: The Rev. Ann B. Barker
Minister of Music: Lynn Robinson
Organist: Judith Marcinko
Family Programs Director: Galen Henderson
Parish Administrator: Virginia Pearson
Nursery Attendant: Kaitlyn Osteguin
Sexton: Julio Sorto

Vestry

Lisa Pope, Senior Warden
Bryan Harbin, Junior Warden
Diane Henderson
Del Hunt

Parish Leaders

Peter Olivere, Treasurer
John Restall, Pledge Clerk
Dave Dunlap, Chair, Finance Committee
Eileen Tallent, Chair, Altar Guild

Peter Olivere
John Restall
Bill Thomson

Words on Hymns: *Welcome, Happy Morning*

Our traditional processional hymn for Easter Sunday is *Welcome, Happy Morning*. This is another hymn whose text dates back many hundreds of years, to Venantius Honorius Clementianus Fortunatus (c.530–c.600). Born at Ceneda, near Treviso, at an early age he was converted to Christianity at Aquileia. While a student at Ravenna, he became almost blind and then recovered his sight, he believed miraculously, by anointing his eyes with some oil taken from a lamp that burned before the altar of St. Martin of Tours in a church in that town. His recovery induced him to make a pilgrimage to the shrine of St. Martin at Tours in 565, resulting in him spending the rest of his life in Gaul.

In his time, Fortunatus filled a great social desire for Latin poetry. He was one of the most prominent poets of the age and had many contracts and commissions with kings, bishops, and members of the nobility from the time he arrived in Gaul until his death. He used his poetry to advance in society, to promote political ideas he supported (usually conceived of by Queen Radegunde of the Franks or Gregory of Tours), and to pass on personal thoughts and communications. He was a master wordsmith and because of his promotion of the church, as well as the Roman tendencies of the Frankish royalty, he remained in favor with most of his acquaintances throughout his lifetime. He was named a saint after his death but was never formally canonized. The text for *Welcome, Happy Morning* is entitled *Fortunatus*.

John Ellerton (1826–1893) was the translator of the hymn. He served as a rector at various churches in England and is best known as a hymnologist, editor, hymn writer, and translator. He published *Hymns for Schools and Bible Classes* in 1859. He also co-edited *Church Hymns* (1871) and wrote *Notes and Illustrations of Church Hymns* (1881). Ellerton wrote or translated more than 85 hymns. These

include *Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise*, whose tune bears his name.

The music for *Welcome, Happy Morning* was written by Arthur Sullivan (1842–1900). We tend to think of him as a composer of 14 rousing operettas set by W.S. Gilbert, but he also wrote 10 other operas, 11 full orchestral works, 10 choral works and oratorios, two ballets, one song cycle, incidental music to several plays, more than 70 hymns and anthems, and more than 80 songs and parlor ballads. His hymns and songs include *Onward, Christian Soldiers* and *The Lost Chord*.

The son of a military bandmaster, Sullivan composed his first anthem at the age of eight and was later a soloist in the boys choir of the Chapel Royal. In 1856, at age 14, he was awarded the first Mendelssohn Scholarship by the Royal Academy of Music, which allowed him to study at the academy and then at the Leipzig Conservatoire in Germany. His graduation piece, incidental music to William Shakespeare's *The Tempest* in 1861, was received with acclaim on its first performance in London. To supplement the income from his concert works, he wrote hymns, parlor ballads, and other light pieces and worked as a church organist and music teacher.

In 1875, Richard D'Oyly Carte engaged Gilbert and Sullivan to create a one-act piece, *Trial by Jury*. Its box office success led to the pair collaborating on 12 full-length comic operas. After the extraordinary success of *H.M.S. Pinafore* (1878) and *The Pirates of Penzance* (1879), Carte used his profits from the partnership to build the Savoy Theatre in 1881. Gilbert and Sullivan's joint works became known as the Savoy operas. Gilbert broke from Sullivan and Carte in 1890, after a quarrel over expenses at the Savoy. They later reunited for two more operas, but these did not achieve the popularity of their earlier works.

Sullivan's music is represented by six hymns in our *1982 Hymnal*: the alternate tune of *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*; *Welcome, Happy Morning*; *Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts and Voices Heavenward Raise*; *Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain of Triumphant Gladness*; *Praise God for John, Evangelist*; and *Onward, Christian Soldiers*. Sullivan was knighted by Queen Victoria in 1883. When he

died of heart failure at the age of 58, he was regarded as Britain's foremost composer. His comic opera style served as a model for generations of musical theater composers that followed, and his music is still frequently performed, recorded, and imitated.

Carol Dunlap

Sunday Seminar Plans Book Study

The adult Sunday Seminar will be starting another book study in the season after Easter. The title will be announced soon. Seminar participants may also study another religion this spring. The seminar meets at 9 a.m. in the parlor. All are welcome!



Take Time for Tea

St. John's will host its Spring Tea on Saturday, May 12, from 1 to 3 p.m. Come enjoy scones, sandwiches, desserts, fine teas, and a glass of champagne while relaxing to piano music. The cost is \$20 per person (\$10 per child 12 and under). Invite your friends, family, and neighbors to share a scrumptious and special afternoon!

LOGOS

LOGOS is published monthly at the beginning of the month, except for a combined July/August issue.

Lisa Pope, LOGOS Editor

Articles for LOGOS may be emailed to logos@stjohnsarlingtonva.org (preferred) or left at the church office. The deadline for the May issue is April 20. Article ideas for future issues are also welcome.

St. John's Vision Statement

St. John's Episcopal Church is an inclusive congregation that nurtures Christian spiritual growth and community through worship, education, outreach, mutual care, and fellowship.

St. John's Mission Statement

St. John's mission is building a strong spiritual community in Christ; welcoming all who enter our doors, including believers, seekers, and doubters; and reaching out to those in need both within our congregation and around us.

Parish News

Upcoming Events:

➤ Annual Spring Cleaning will be conducted jointly with Cristo Rey on **Saturday, April 21**, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Lunch will be served at noon. Spring cleaning will finish up on **Sunday, April 22**, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. No special skills are needed. Just bring your energy and enthusiasm to make the church shine for spring!

➤ Come participate in a joint Bingo Night with Cristo Rey on **Saturday, April 21**, at 7 p.m. The \$5 cost will cover two bingo cards, a raffle ticket, and refreshments. Prizes will be awarded. Invite your friends and neighbors to be part of this fun-filled evening!

➤ Join the St. John's Book Club on **Tuesday, May 1**, at 7:30 p.m. to discuss *The Whole Town's Talking* by Fannie Flagg. This warm and funny novel chronicles the lives and loves of the people of Elmwood Springs, Missouri. The **June 5** selection is *Vinegar Girl* by Anne Tyler, a witty modern interpretation of *The Taming of the Shrew*. All are welcome!

Thank you to:

➤ Sandy Winger for coordinating St. John's participation in the Rise Against Hunger Region III Lenten project and to all those who participated in the event and made financial contributions.

➤ Anne and Paul Stenger for arranging for the fish for the Loaves and Fishes dinner; Eileen Tallent and the altar guild for their work during Holy Week and the beautiful flower display for Easter; Galen Henderson for coordinating the Easter Egg Hunt; Judith Marcinko, Lynn Robinson, and the choir for the lovely music; and everyone who brought food to the Easter reception.

➤ Lynn Robinson for organizing the monthly game nights.

➤ Debbie Carter and Sandy Winger for agreeing to serve as St. John's delegate and alternate to the annual council.

➤ Diane Henderson, Debbie Carter, Lisa Pope, and Lynn Robinson for volunteering to coordinate the Spring Tea on May 12 and to all the members of St. John's who will help by donating food, publicizing the event, and participating in set up and clean up.

We celebrate with all who have birthdays in April:

Gerard Baynham, Maggie Buchanan, Carol Dunlap, Diane Henderson, Evelyn Hubbard, Madeline Hubbard, Matthew Hubbard, Jim Hull, Cooper Mackin, Caitlin O'Connor, John Petrich, Bob Tallent, Jackson Tallent, Sharon Tallent, Linda Trochim, Abezash VanWyk, Valerie Wilson, and Sandy Winger.

We celebrate with those observing anniversaries in April:

Jud and Lisa Buchanan; Nancy and William Gibb; Bill and Faye Pritchard; Angie and Bill Turner; Colin and Kim White.