

# LOGOS

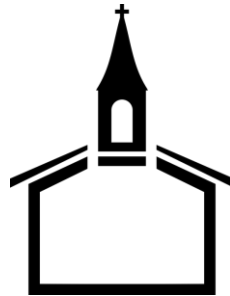
The Newsletter for St. John's Episcopal Church, Arlington

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

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September 2022

## September Worship Updates



As fall begins, continue to join your St. John's family for worship this September. The following supply ministers are scheduled for upcoming weeks:

Sept. 11 -- The Rev. Tom Pritchard  
Sept. 18 -- The Rev. Dr. Anne Gavin Ritchie  
Sept. 25 -- Dr. Sylvia Booth  
Oct. 2 -- The Rev. Dr. Anne Gavin Ritchie  
Oct. 9 -- The Rev. Tom Pritchard

St. John's started a trial use of an intinction cup during Holy Communion on Sunday, September 4. Compared to a typical Communion chalice, an intinction cup is just large enough and holds just enough wine for congregants to dip the tip of a wafer in it without the risk of a finger touching the wine. Cup bearers will follow the presiding priest and present the cup to each parishioner. You may decline the cup by crossing your arms. There is full assurance that the benefit of both Communion elements is conveyed by the one.

Worship services continue to be live-streamed on Zoom every Sunday morning. For the Zoom access information, please see the worship bulletin sent by email each week.

If you have questions or need pastoral care, please contact Senior Warden Sandy Winger at 703-498-6990 (email: [swarden@stjohnsarlingtonva.org](mailto:swarden@stjohnsarlingtonva.org)).

See you in worship!

## Words on Hymns: *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

*All Things Bright and Beautiful* is an Anglican hymn that is also sung in many other Christian denominations. The words are by Cecil Frances Alexander and were first published in her *Hymns for Little Children* in 1848.

The hymn consists of a series of seven stanzas that elaborate on the clause of the Creed that describes God as “maker of heaven and earth,” and has been described as asserting a creationist view of the natural world. The hymn may have been inspired by Psalm 104, verses 24 and 25: “Oh Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches. So is this great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts.” The hymn may have been inspired as well by a verse from Samuel Taylor Coleridge’s *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*: “He prayeth best, who loveth best; All things great and small; For the dear God who loveth us; He made and loveth all.” Alternatively, inspiration may have come from William Paley’s *Natural Theology*, published in 1802, which argues for God as the designer of the natural world.

Inspiration for the second verse of Alexander’s hymn, “The purple-headed mountain, The river running by,” has been attributed to four separate locations in Wales, Ireland, and England. Alexander visited Llanwenarth House, which is located in Govilon, Monmouthshire, Wales, in 1848, and according to this claim, the hymn refers to the nearby Sugar Loaf or Bloreng mountains and to the River Usk. She is also known to have visited Markree Castle near Sligo, Ireland, and some sources link the text to the gardens there. The village of Dunster in Somerset, England, and the landscape of Somerset’s Grabbist Hill and River Avill are also claimed to be her inspiration.

However, a more credible account is given by Sir John Heygate of Bellarena House in

County Londonderry, Ireland, which links the hymn to the many visits paid by the Alexanders to what was then the Gage family residence, a family into which Sir John’s ancestor, Sir Frederick Heygate, married in 1850. Writing in 1973, Sir John attributed “the purple headed mountain” to nearby Benevenagh and “the river running by” to the River Roe.

The hymn is frequently sung to the tune *Royal Oak*, a melody that was adapted from a 17th-century folk tune, *The Twenty-Ninth of May*, published in *The Dancing Master* in 1686. The melody may have political origins in Boscobel, Shropshire in the English Civil War, and its name is thought to be a reference to the Royal Oak, a tree in which King Charles II hid himself in 1651. The tune was first arranged for the hymn by Martin Shaw in 1916 and published in his book for children, *Song Time*. This arrangement became widely associated with the hymn after it was included in the hymnal *Songs of Praise*.

Alexander, born in 1818 in Dublin, Ireland, was the daughter and third child of the former Elizabeth Reed and Major John Humphreys of Norfolk. The introverted Fanny, as she was known to her family and friends, showed early interest in poetry and writing. In 1850, she married William Alexander, rector of Termonamongan, who later became Bishop of Derry, Archbishop of Armagh, and primate for all Ireland. The couple had two sons and two daughters. Following a personal tragedy, Alexander began to write hymns for adults. During her lifetime Alexander was known for her devotion to the poor, mentally handicapped, the deaf, and the sick. Upon her death in 1895 in Londonderry, the cathedral bell began to ring to announce her passing to the city and there was a great outpouring of condolences from all over the nation.

Carol Dunlap



St. John's was blessed to have Professor Pat Bleicher deliver the sermon on Sunday, Aug. 21.

**LOGOS**

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

Lisa Pope, LOGOS Editor

Email articles to [logos@stjohnsarlingtonva.org](mailto:logos@stjohnsarlingtonva.org). The deadline for the October issue is September 24.

**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.

**St. John's Staff and Leadership**

**Staff**

Supply Plus Minister: The Rev. Dr. Laurence K. Packard  
 Minister of Music: Lynn Robinson  
 Organist: Judith Marcinko  
 Parish Administrator: Virginia Pearson  
 Sexton: Julio Sorto

**Vestry**

Sandy Winger, Senior Warden  
 Bryan Harbin, Junior Warden  
 Jeff Aitken  
 Dave Dunlap

**Parish Leaders**

Peter Olivere, Treasurer  
 John Restall, Pledge Clerk  
 Eileen Tallent, Chair, Altar Guild

Diane Henderson  
 Peter Olivere  
 Lisa Pope

## Parish News

### Upcoming Events:

- St. John's Virtual Bingo has permanently moved to the second Saturday of each month at 7 p.m. and will next meet on **Saturday, September 10**. To join the fun and obtain game cards and the Zoom link, contact Sandy Winger at [srwarden@stjohnsarlingtonva.org](mailto:srwarden@stjohnsarlingtonva.org) or 703-498-5990.
- St. John's Book Club will meet on **Tuesday, September 13**, at 7:30 p.m. in the undercroft to discuss *The Beekeeper's Apprentice* by Laurie R. King. Book club members will also make selections for the next year at the September meeting. All are welcome!

### Rest in Peace:

- Anne Stenger, who entered the Life of the Resurrection on August 26, 2022.

### Thank You to:

- Faye Pritchard for organizing the August school supply drive and to all those who contributed supplies.
- Dave Dunlap and Sandy Winger for their past year of faithful service on the Search Committee.

### We celebrate with all who have birthdays in September:

Ginger Adair, Jeff Aitken, Griffin Baynham, and Kay Wells.

### We celebrate with those observing anniversaries in September:

Erin and Gerard Baynham; Richard and Chelsea Kaufman; Cristina and Matthew Tallent.



St. John's presented Lin Novak with a sparkling new shovel on July 31 in thanks for all of her garden work.