Benjamin Straley is Organist and Associate Director of Music at Washington National Cathedral. Prior to this appointment, he was Organ Scholar at Trinity Church (Episcopal), New Haven as well as Director of Music for the Episcopal Church at Yale. Upon the completion of his undergraduate studies with Marilyn Keiser at Indiana University, he entered the Yale Institute of Sacred Music in 2008, where he studied with Martin Jean and Jeffrey Brillhart. In 2010, he became one of the few Americans in the history of the Haarlem Organ Festival invited to compete in its world-renowned contest in improvisation. More recently, he was featured as one of the “Top 20 under 30” in the May 2015 issue of The Diapason magazine. He holds both Masters in Music and Divinity from Yale, as well as a Certificate in Anglican Studies from Berkeley Divinity School, and is a Postulant for Holy Orders in the Episcopal Church.

George Fergus is the AAM Gerre Hancock Fellow in Church Music at Washington National Cathedral. In 2016, he earned the Masters of Music degree in organ performance and Certificate in Church Music Studies from the Yale Institute of Sacred Music, where he studied organ with Martin Jean and improvisation with Jeffrey Brillhart. George earned his Bachelors of Music degree in organ performance from St. Olaf College, studying under John Ferguson and Catherine Rodland. Prior to his appointment in Washington, he held the position of Organ Scholar at Grace Church in New York, as well as Choirmaster and Organist of Berkeley Divinity School at Yale.
Washington National Cathedral
Organ Recital Series · 2016-2017

September 11, 2016 (2 PM)
Benjamin Straley
Washington National Cathedral

September 18, 2016 (2 PM)
Erik Wm. Suter
Complete Organ Works of Maurice Duruflé
Gaithersburg, Maryland

September 25, 2016
Paul Thomas
Cathedral of Saint Luke and Saint Paul
Charleston, South Carolina

October 2, 2016
Jung-A Lee
Saint Andrew’s Presbyterian Church
Newport Beach, California

October 9, 2016
Michael Lodico and Rebecca Smith
Lafayette Square Duo (organ and harp)
Washington, DC

October 20, 2016
George Fergus
Washington National Cathedral

October 30, 2016
Chuyoung Suter
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Gaithersburg, Maryland

November 6, 2016
Leon Couch
Birmingham-Southern College
Birmingham, Alabama

November 20, 2016
George Fergus
Washington National Cathedral

December 25, 2016 (1:30 PM)
Benjamin Straley and George Fergus
Washington National Cathedral

February 5, 2017
Richard Spotts
Doylestown, Pennsylvania

February 12, 2017
Jeremy Filsell
Artist in Residence
Washington National Cathedral

February 19, 2017
Vaughn Mauren
Saint James’s Church
West Hartford, Connecticut

February 26, 2017
Joey Fala
Yale University
New Haven, Connecticut

March 5, 2017
Charles Tompkins
Furman University
Greenville, South Carolina

March 16, 2017
Jeremy Filsell
Artist in Residence
Washington National Cathedral

April 2, 2017
Aaron Goen
Saint Andrew’s Church
Burke, Virginia

Easter Day
April 16, 2017
Benjamin Straley and George Fergus
Washington National Cathedral

April 23, 2017
Clara Gerdes
Curtis Institute of Music
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

May 7, 2017
Ted Davis
Saint Bartholomew’s Church
Baltimore, Maryland

May 14, 2017
George Fergus
Washington National Cathedral

June 4, 2017
Nathan Davy
Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
Washington, District of Columbia

June 11, 2017
Christopher Keady
Yale University
New Haven, Connecticut

June 18, 2017
Nicholas Capozzoli
Oberlin College
Oberlin, Ohio

June 25, 2017
Charles Higgs
Saint Luke’s Church
Atlanta, Georgia

Independence Day
July 4, 2017 (11 AM)
Benjamin Straley and George Fergus
Washington Symphonic Brass
Navy Sea Chanters