Service of Confirmation, Reception, & Reaffirmation

Saturday, November 14, 2026

10:00 AM

The Cathedral Church of Saint Peter & Saint Paul
in the City & Episcopal Diocese of Washington

Participating Congregations

Episcopal Church of the Ascension and St. Agnes
Washington, District of Columbia

All Saints Igbo Anglican Church
Cheverly, Maryland

All Souls Episcopal Church
Washington, District of Columbia

Christ Episcopal Church
La Plata, Maryland

Christ Episcopal Church
Rockville, Maryland

St. Alban's Episcopal Church
Washington, District of Columbia

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
New Carrollton, Maryland

St. David's Episcopal Church
Washington, District of Columbia

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church
Bethesda, Maryland

St. John's Episcopal/Anglican Church
Mt. Rainier, Maryland

St. John's Episcopal Church, Lafayette Square
Washington, District of Columbia

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Bethesda, Maryland

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church/Iglesia Episcopal San Mateo
Hyattsville, Maryland

St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church
Adelphi, Maryland

St. Monica and St. James Episcopal Church
Washington, District of Columbia

St. Paul's Episcopal Parish, Baden
Brandywine, Maryland

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Rock Creek Parish
Washington, District of Columbia

Service of Confirmation, Reception, & Reaffirmation

November 14, 2026 • 10:00 AM

The people's responses are in **bold.**

PRELUDE

Give Me a Clean Heart — Margaret Doureaux (b. 1941)

The Entrance Rite

The people stand as able at the introduction to the hymn.

HYMN AT THE PROCESSION

Down to the River to Pray — *Sung by all.* — Traditional American folk song



Sung four times.

First refrain sing "brothers", second "sisters", third "mothers", fourth "fathers."

The Word of God

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Bishop Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Bishop There is one Body and one Spirit;
People **There is one hope in God's call to us;**
Bishop One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
People **One God and Father of all.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Bishop The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Bishop Let us pray.

God of grace, by the power of the Holy Spirit you have given us new life in the waters of baptism; strengthen us to live in righteousness and true holiness, that we may grow into the likeness of your Son, Jesus Christ.
People **Amen.**

The people are seated.

THE LESSON

Jeremiah 31:31-34

"The days are surely coming," says the Lord, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband," says the Lord. "But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days," says the Lord: "I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," says the Lord; "for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 139:1-9 *Sung by all.* chant: Robert Knox Kennedy (b. 1945)



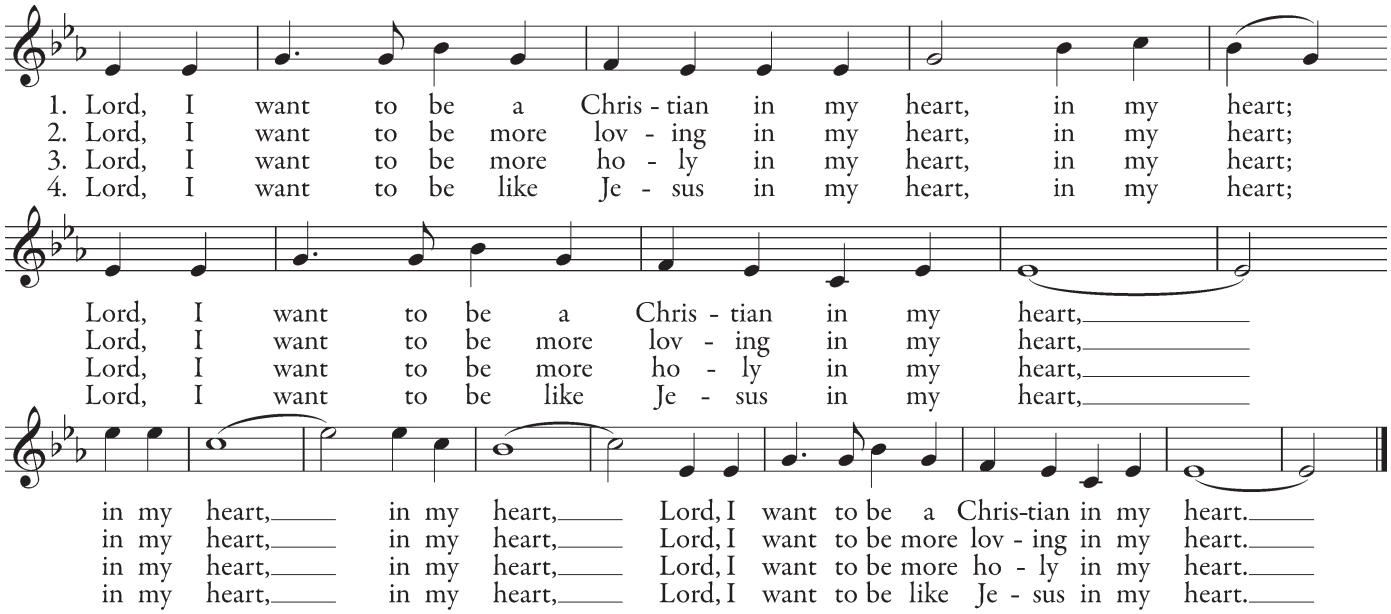
Lord, you have searched me out and | known me;
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from a-| far.
You trace my journeys and my resting-| places
and are acquainted with all my | ways.
Indeed, there is not a word on my | lips,
but you, O Lord, know it alto-| gether.
You press upon me behind and be-| fore
and lay your hand u-| pon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for | me;
it is so high that I cannot a-| ttain to it.
Where can I go then from your | Spirit?
where can I flee from your | presence?
If I climb up to heaven, you are | there;
if I make the grave my bed, you are there | also.
If I take the wings of the | morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the | sea,

Repeat second half:
Even there your hand will | lead me
and your right hand hold me | fast.

The people stand as able at the introduction to the hymn.

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE

Lord I Want to Be a Christian *Sung by all.* Traditional Negro spiritual



THE HOLY GOSPEL John/Juan 14:15-21

Deacon Santo evangelio de nuestro Señor Jesucristo según Juan.
People **Gloria a ti, Cristo Señor.**

Jesús dijo: «Si ustedes me aman, obedecerán mis mandamientos. Y yo le pediré al Padre que les mande otro Defensor, el Espíritu de la verdad, para que esté siempre con ustedes. Los que son del mundo no lo pueden recibir, porque no lo ven ni lo conocen; pero ustedes lo conocen, porque él permanece con ustedes y estará en ustedes. No los voy a dejar huérfanos; volveré para estar con ustedes. Dentro de poco, los que son del mundo ya no me verán; pero ustedes me verán, y vivirán porque yo vivo. En aquel día, ustedes se darán cuenta de que yo estoy en mi Padre, y ustedes están en mí, y yo en ustedes. El que recibe mis mandamientos y los obedece, demuestra que de veras me ama. Y mi Padre amará al que me ama, y yo también lo amaré y me mostraré a él.»

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The people are seated at the invitation of the bishop.

THE SERMON The Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde

The Confirmation, Reception, & Reaffirmation

THE PRESENTATION & EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR CONFIRMATION, RECEPTION, & REAFFIRMATION

The candidates for confirmation, reception, and reaffirmation and their presenters stand as able. The candidates are presented.

Bishop The Candidates will now be presented.
Presenters I present these persons for Confirmation.
or
I present these persons to be received into this Communion.
or
I present these persons who desire to reaffirm their baptismal vows.

Bishop Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?
Candidates I do.

Bishop Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?
Candidates I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.

The people stand as able and the bishop addresses the congregation.

Bishop Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?
People **We will.**

Bishop Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Bishop Do you believe in God the Father?
People **I believe in God, the Father almighty,**
creator of heaven and earth.

Bishop Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Bishop Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
People **I believe in the Holy Spirit,**
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Bishop Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
People **I will, with God's help.**

THE PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

Bishop Let us now pray for these persons who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

Deacon We pray that through the renewal of vows and the empowerment of the community gathered, these candidates will be encouraged to persevere and deepen their commitment to grow in faith.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Deacon May they continue to seek your guidance in their lives and be open to the presence of the Holy Spirit in all that they do.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Deacon As they are strengthened by the Spirit, may they go forth from this place to be Christ's hands and feet in the world, speaking, working, and striving for justice.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Deacon In all that they do, may the love of God in Christ be how they are first known and the offering they give in their encounters with all of creation.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Deacon May each day that follows be one where they are sustained by your love and grace, renewed in wonder, and find joy in all that they do.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Bishop Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you made with them at their Baptism. Send them forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

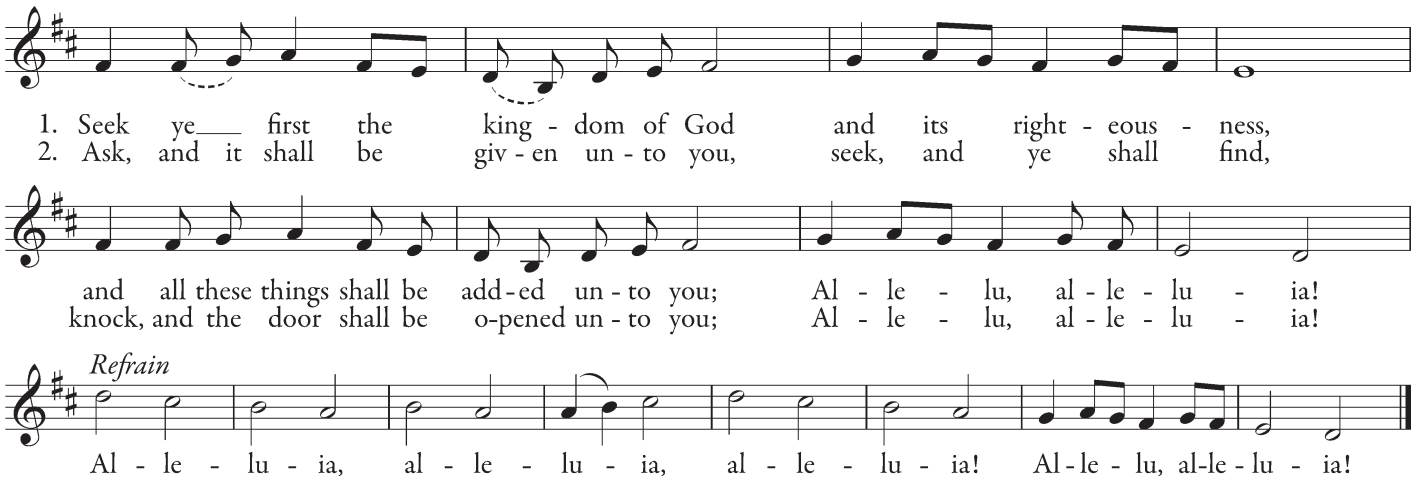
People **Amen.**

The people are seated.

The candidates and their presenters come forward at the direction of the vergers and ushers.

HYMN • 711

Seek Ye First *Sung by all.* Karen Lafferty (b. 1972)



ANTHEM

I'm Available to You — *Sung by the ensemble.* — Milton Brunson (1929–1997)

You gave me my hands to reach out to man,
To show him your love and your perfect plan.
You gave me my ears, I can hear your voice so clear.
I can hear the cries of sinners.
But can I wipe away their tears?

You gave me my voice to speak your Word,
To sing all your praises to those who never heard.
But with my eyes I see a need for more availability.
I've seen the hearts that have been broken,
So many people to be free.

Lord, I'm available to you;
My will I give to you.
I'll do what you say do.
Use me, Lord, to show someone the way and enable me to say,
My storage is empty, and I am available to you.

Now I'm giving back to you all the tools you gave to me,
My hands, my ears, my voice, my eyes,
So you can use me as you please.
I have emptied out my cup so that you can fill it up.
Now I am free, I just want to be more available to you.

HYMN • 439

What Wondrous Love Is This — *Sung by all.* — *Wondrous Love*



THE CONCLUDING PRAYER

After all candidates have been confirmed, received, and reaffirmed their vows, the bishop concludes with a prayer.

The people stand as able.

Bishop God of mercy and love,
new birth by water and the Spirit is your gift,
a gift that none can take away;
grant that your servants may grow
into the fullness of the stature of Christ.
Fill them with the joy of your presence.
Increase in them the fruit of your Spirit:
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of love, patience, and gentleness,
the spirit of wonder and true holiness.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Bishop The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Bishop And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE COMMUNAL PRAYER

Bishop Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Bishop We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Bishop We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us. We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Bishop Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Bishop Praying together:

All **Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

The bishop blesses the people, and the people respond, **Amen.**

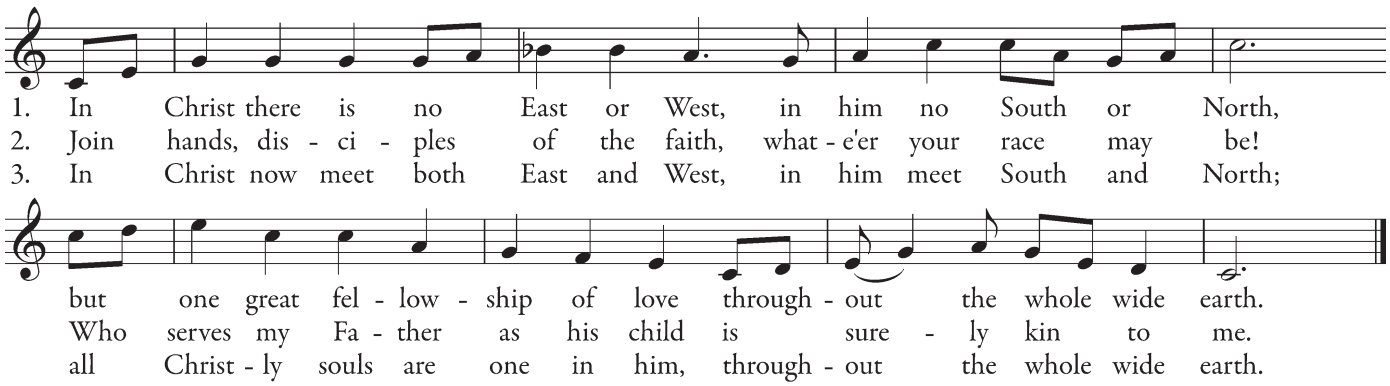
THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN AT THE CLOSING • 529

In Christ There Is No East or West *Sung by all.* *McKee*



POSTLUDE

Finale from Symphony No. 2 in D major, Op. 13, No. 2 Charles-Marie Widor (1844–1937)

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

OFFICIANT & PREACHER

The Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde
Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Washington

ASSISTING BISHOP

The Right Reverend Eugene T. Sutton
Assistant Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Washington

DEACON OF THE WORD (SPANISH)

The Reverend Rosa Briones
Deacon, Episcopal Church of the Ascension, Gaithersburg, Maryland

DEACON OF THE WORD (ENGLISH)

The Reverend Dawn Booth
Deacon, St. Nicholas Episcopal Church, Germantown, Maryland

CHAPLAIN TO THE BISHOP

The Venerable Steve Seely
Archdeacon, Episcopal Diocese of Washington

READER

Ed Krauland
St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Bethesda, Maryland

MUSICIANS

The Cathedral Contemporary Ensemble

Michele Fowlin
Associate Director of Music and Director of Contemporary Ensemble, Washington National Cathedral

Edward Hewes
Associate Director of Music and Cathedral Organist, Washington National Cathedral

PERMISSIONS Bible texts taken from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Spanish Bible texts taken from the Biblia Dios Habla Hoy, Third Edition, Copyright 1996, Sociedades Bíblicas Unidas. Used by permission. All rights reserved. The Liturgy of the Word, with alterations, taken from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979. Public domain. Concluding prayer taken from *A New Zealand Prayer Book–He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa'*, Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Down to the River to Pray. Traditional American folk song. Public domain. *Lord I Want to Be a Christian*. Traditional Negro spiritual. Public domain. *Seek Ye First*. Text and music: Karen Lafferty, Copyright 1972, Maranatha! Music (admin by Capital CMG Publishing). Reprinted under One License #A-709283. *What Wondrous Love is This*. Text: Alexander Means (1801–1883). Music: *Wondrous Love*. Anonymous. Public domain. *In Christ There Is No East or West*. Text: John Oxenham (1852–1941). Music: *McKee*. Traditional Negro spiritual, arr. H. T. Burleigh (1866–1949). Public domain.



WASHINGTON
NATIONAL
CATHEDRAL