

**SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
DECEMBER 20, 2015 —FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I — 8:00 AND 10:00 A.M.**

THE WORD OF GOD

The opening music offers a time for prayer and meditation. Please silence all devices.

GATHERING MUSIC *Nun komm, der heiden Heiland* J. S. Bach

INTROIT, COLLECT, AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Rorate Coeli Plainsong

Drop down, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain justice.
Let the earth open and bring forth the Savior.
Comfort, comfort ye my people, my salvation shall not tarry:
why wilt thou waste away in sadness? Why hath sorrow seized thee?
Fear not, for I will save thee: I am the Lord they God,
the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer.

Please stand, as able, at the sound of the chimes.

OPENING ACCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

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

HYMNAL #66 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* STUTT GART

COLLECT FOR PURITY Book of Common Prayer p. 323

KYRIE ELEISON **S 91** *(in front section of hymnal)*
Lord, have mercy upon us. (3x) Christ, have mercy upon us. (3x)
Lord, have mercy upon us. (3x)

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

We beseech thee, almighty God, to purify our consciences by thy daily visitation, that when thy Son our Lord cometh, he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

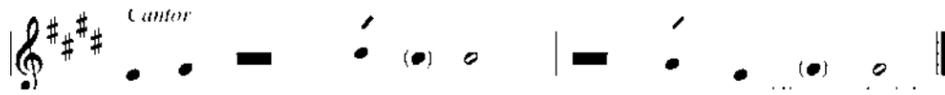
People **Amen.**

FIRST READING **Micah 5:2-5a** *(seated)*

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.
Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.
And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace.

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

PSALM 80: 1-7



- 1 *Cantor* Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a / flock; *
All **shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the / chérubim.**
2 **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Ma-/ násseh, ***
stir up your strength and come / tó help us.
3 **Restore us, O God of / hósts; ***
show the light of your countenance, and we / sháll be saved.
4 **O LORD God of / hósts, ***
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of /yóur people?
5 **You have fed them with the bread of / téars; ***
you have given them bowls of / téars to drink.
6 **You have made us the derision of our / néighbors, ***
and our enemies laugh / ús to scorn.
7 **Restore us, O God of / hósts; ***
show the light of your countenance, and we / sháll be saved.

SECOND READING **Hebrews 10:5-10** *(remaining seated)*

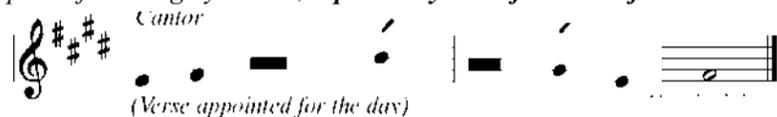
Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,
"Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;
in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.
Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God'
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

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

Please stand, as able, for the Gospel sequence.

Antiphon: first sung by cantor, repeated by all before and after the verse:



Prepare ye the way of the / Lord: * Make straight a highway / for our God.

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

GOSPEL **Luke 1:39-45(46-55)** *(standing, if able)*

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth

heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.
His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

SERMON

A period of silence is observed following the sermon.

NICENE CREED *(standing, if able)* Book of Common Prayer p. 326

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(standing or kneeling)* BCP p. 328

Reader . . . let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader Gracious God:

All **By your love you have called us to proclaim with joy
the good news of your Son: So build us up in the knowledge and love of
Him, that we may welcome all people into this community of faith, and
show forth our service to you in our service to others; through Jesus
Christ Our Lord. Amen.** *(Collect for St. John's)*

CONFESSION *(standing or kneeling)* (BCP p. 330)

People **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against
thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we
have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have
not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly
repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and for-
give us; that we may delight in thy will and walk in thy ways, to the glory
of thy Name. Amen.**

ABSOLUTION

THE PEACE *(standing, if able)*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**

You are invited to share a sign of God's peace with those around you.

WELCOME (Please be seated.)

THE HOLY COMMUNION

All are invited to share at the Lord's table. At the altar railing you may stand or kneel to receive the bread and the wine. You may drink from the cup or touch the bread to the wine. If you prefer to receive a blessing you may indicate so by crossing your arms. The common loaf is **gluten-free**.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

ANTHEM *Magnificat* Harold Friedell
(The text may be found on page 3 in today's Gospel.)

PRESENTATION (sung by all, standing if able) OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER II (The prayer may be followed in the BCP, p. 340.)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

Celebrant It is very meet, right and our bounden duty ...

Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS ET BENEDICTUS **S 114** (in front section of hymnal)

(sung by all, remaining standing, if able)

(Please remain standing or kneel, according to your custom.)

Celebrant All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, ...

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

People **AMEN.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant 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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.

DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION MUSIC

AGNUS DEI **S 158** (in front section of hymnal)

ANTHEM *Ave Maria* Parsons

HYMNAL #60 *Creator of the Stars of Night* CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM

HYMNAL #265 *The Angel Gabriel* GABRIEL'S MESSAGE

ADVENT CHANT *Prepare the Way* Jayson R. Engquist
(Congregation please sing with the choir: A voice is calling from the wilderness, voice is calling...)

HYMNAL #33 *Christ, Mighty Savior* CHRISTE, LUX MUNDI

SENDING FORTH OUR LAY EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS (10 A.M.)

Celebrant In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People **We who are many are one body,
because we all share one bread, one cup.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER (said by all, kneeling or standing.)

**Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee
for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries,
with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood
of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby
of thy favor and goodness towards us;
and that we are very members incorporate
in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people;
and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom.**

**And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us
with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship,
and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy
Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

PROCESSION OF THE CRECHE FIGURES (seated)

CAROL *Josef lieber, Josef mein* German Carol

(Please stand, if able, for the closing hymn.)

HYMNAL #438 *Tell Out, My Soul* WOODLANDS

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Deacon Our worship here is ended; now let our service begin.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY *Nun komm, der heiden Heiland* Gerald Near

(You are invited to move forward to the choir stalls for the final music.)

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TODAY WE PRAY WITH

Don, Star, Bert, Wimpy, Mae, Kathleen, Linda, Glen, Norma, Ann, Mildred, Joan, Patricia, Thelma, Pat, Steve, Ginny, Jack, Camille, Susan, Pat, Christopher, Amy, Annie, Caroline, Bill and those you would add.

ALTAR FLOWERS

In thanksgiving for the life of The Right Reverend Robert Marshall Anderson

ASSISTING IN BOTH SERVICES TODAY

CELEBRANT *The Reverend Jered Weber-Johnson*
PREACHER *The Reverend Barbara Mraz*
DEACON *The Reverend Margaret Thor*
ALTAR GUILD *Pat Brynteson, Caroline Krall, Nan Lightner,
Phyllis Merrill, Elaine Sutton, Jill Thompson*

ASSISTING IN THE 8AM SERVICE TODAY

VERGER *Phillip Baird*
READER *Joan McCann*

ASSISTING IN THE 10AM SERVICE TODAY

ADULT CHOIR *Jayson R. Engquist, Director of Music and Organist*
INSTRUMENTALISTS *Bell ringers, Recorder consort, Percussion ensemble*
ACOLYTES *Madeline Weinkauff, Eli Weinkauff, Tessa Johnson,
Maren Johnson, Elliot Wall*

VERGER *Keith Davis*
READERS *Holly Stoerker, Carole Selin*
USHERS *Patty Pflalz Byrne, Marvin Cadwell, Terri Fischel, Alex Joyce*
GREETERS *Jennifer Kinkead, Sally Sand, Don Weinkauff*
COFFEE HOUR *Alden Drew, Mimmie Pollard*

Please visit the St. John's website - stjohnsstpaul.org - for more information.