THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

DECEMBER 15, 2019

10:00 AM
WELCOME

Thank you for coming to St. John’s to worship this morning. We believe everyone who passes through our doors is a blessing from God. We’re glad you’re here.

Below are answers to some of the questions you might have about St. John’s. If you don’t see the information you need, please ask an usher and we’ll help you out!

First time at St. John’s? Introduce yourself to any of the clergy or a greeter after worship. We would love to meet you! Interested in more information about our music program or ministries? We’d be glad to connect you with someone. Fill out the welcome book at the back of the church, or fill out a visitor card found in the pew rack, and then place it in the offering plate or give it to an usher. We’ll drop off some bread to thank you for visiting!

Assistive Devices: Everyone needs a little help sometimes. Large-print Bibles and hearing-assist devices are available at the back of the church. Just ask an usher!

Communion: All are invited to take Communion, no matter your age or religious background. The loaf is gluten-free. If, due to mobility issues, you cannot walk to the altar rail, let an usher know and communion will be brought down to you.

Children: We welcome everyone, including children of all ages, to participate in all our worship services and to take Communion.
  • In the back of the church, there is a rocking chair and a soft space where children can sit and play on the floor. There are also “Busy Bags” with activities for kids to take into the pews.
  • If, for any reason, you and your child need to leave the church during the service, you can still hear the service over the speakers in the lower level below the worship space.
  • At the 10am service, parents can also choose to use the nursery, on the lower level below the worship space, for children up to age 4.

Godly Play: Most Sundays we offer Godly Play (children’s Sunday school) during the 10am service. Children may join the procession down to their classrooms during the Opening Hymn. If you have any questions please feel free to ask an Usher or Greeter and they will point you in the right direction.

Coffee Hour: After 10am worship, come share treats and beverages in the gymnasium.

Restrooms: Located on the lower level down any set of stairs. We also have an elevator and handicap-accessible restrooms on the lower level—ask an usher for directions.

Electronics: Please silence your cell phone and refrain from using flash cameras during the worship service. Thank you!
Responses in **bold** are spoken by everyone.

The **Book of Common Prayer (BCP)** is the **black book** in the pews.

Hymns can be found in the **blue hymnal** in the pew rack. Hymn numbers that start with “S” come from the front section of the hymnal.

You can simply listen to the Scripture readings, or follow along in the **red pew Bible** on the given page number.

You can always remain seated if you are not comfortable standing or kneeling.

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**About Today’s Worship:** Seeing, Noticing, and Welcoming God in Advent.

Beginning on the Sunday nearest November 30 (Saint Andrew’s Day) the Holy Season of Advent continues until Christmas Eve. Advent marks the beginning of the Church’s new liturgical year and always encompasses four Sundays. In Advent we intentionally take time to pause, watch, pray, and prepare to celebrate the Incarnation of God in the fully human and fully divine Christ child. Advent is a time for us to remember that “God is with us” in our sufferings and in our joys; in the light and in the darkness of our lives.

**Liturgical Color:** the dark blue of dawn reminds us of our hopeful anticipation of the Light of Christ who is born of the Virgin Mary.

**Advent Wreath:** the four candles symbolize God’s gifts of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love to all people in Christ Jesus.

If you have any questions about today’s liturgy, please email our Associate Rector at craig.lemming@stjohnsstpaul.org

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**THE WORD OF GOD**

**PRELUDE**

*Es ist ein ros entsprungen*

Johannes Brahms

**HYMN #68**

Rejoice! Rejoice believers

*Llangloffan*

**OPENING ACCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

**Celebrant**

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**People**

And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and forever.
COLLECT FOR PURITY  

BCP, p. 355

THE TRISAGION  

Hymnal S99

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: JOY

On each of the four Sundays in the Season of Advent a new candle is lit. Each candle symbolizes the sacred gifts God freely gives to us in Christ, which are Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. We light the rose colored candle to symbolize joy on the third Sunday in Advent (Gaudate Sunday).

Celebrant  

Our King and Savior draws nigh.

People  

O come, let us adore him.

As the Advent candle is lit, all pray together:

All  

Lord, grant us your light, that being rid of the darkness of our hearts, we may come to the true light which is Christ.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant  

The Lord be with you.

People  

And also with you.

Celebrant  

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever.

People  

Amen.

FIRST READING  

Isaiah 35:1-10  

Pew Bible, pp. 649-50

Reader  

The Word of the Lord.

People  

Thanks be to God.
MAGNIFICAT  Please join the choir in chanting the Magnificat.  Hymnal S185

SECOND READING  James 5:7-10  Pew Bible, pp. 1104-05
Reader  The Word of the Lord.
People  Thanks be to God.

HYMN #67  Comfort, comfort ye my people  Psalm 42

Gospeller  The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People  Glory to you, Lord Christ.

GOSPEL  Matthew 11:2-11  Pew Bible, pp. 889
Gospeller  The Gospel of the Lord.
People  Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON  The Rev. Barbara Mraz, Writer in Residence
THE NICENE CREED said by all, standing as you are able

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.  

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God,  
Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,  
the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reader
Merciful God,

All
Hear our prayer.

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. — The Collect for St. John’s

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Deacon
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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

Celebrant
Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

All
Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People
And also with you.

WELCOME
The Rev. Jered Weber-Johnson, Rector
THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY AND PRESENTATION

Anthem

A Spotless Rose

Herbert Howells

A spotless rose is blowing sprung from a tender root,
Of ancient seers’ foreshowing of Jesse, promised fruit.
Its fairest bud unfolds to light amid the cold, cold winter,
And in the dark midnight.
The rose which I am singing, whereof Isaiah said,
Is from its sweet root sprining in Mary, purest Maid.
For though our God’s great love and might,
The Blessed Babe she bare us, in a cold, cold winter’s night.

Jacob Sorrells, soloist

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.
People And of thine own have we given thee.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them up to the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give God thanks and praise.
Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty…

BCP, p. 362
Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Celebrant Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all…

...Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts…

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People Amen.
**THE 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**

**FRACTION ANTHEM**

*Celebrant* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* Therefore let us keep the feast.

**DISTRIBUTION**

*All* are welcome at the Lord’s table. You may kneel or stand to receive communion. The common loaf is gluten-free. If you prefer to receive a blessing please cross your arms. There is a standing station to receive Holy Communion.

**HYMN #66** Come, thou long expected Jesus

**HYMN #81** Lo, how a Rose e’er Blooming

*Stuttgart*

*Es ist ein Ros*
SENDING FORTH EUCHARISTIC VISITORS (AS APPLICABLE)

Deacon In the name of this congregation, we 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

standing or kneeling, as is your custom

All Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN #78 O little town of Bethlehem

Forest Green

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

Deacon Our worship here is ended; now our service begins. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Fugue, BWV 733 Johann Sebastian Bach
## Assisting in the Service

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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Celebrant</td>
<td>The Reverend Jered Weber-Johnson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preacher</td>
<td>The Reverend Barbara Mraz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assisting Priest</td>
<td>The Reverend Craig Lemming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deacon</td>
<td>The Reverend Margaret Thor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director of Music</td>
<td>Richard Gray</td>
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<tr>
<td>Altar Guild</td>
<td>Diane Power, Sue MacIntosh, Ginnie Schauss,</td>
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<td>Sarah Smith, Cecilia Wall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acolytes</td>
<td>Thea Bischof, Maren Johnson, Thomas Rinkoff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Readers</td>
<td>Shirley Sailors, Jill Thompson</td>
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<td>Verger</td>
<td>Bill Sherfey</td>
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<td>Ushers</td>
<td>Julia Ferguson &amp; Rick Rinkoff, Mary Gilbertson, Lynn Hertz</td>
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<td>Greeters</td>
<td>Cindy Bertheau, Beth Bowman, Josh Colton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Healing Prayer &amp; Anointing Ministers</td>
<td>Kathy Brown, Gil Lautenshlager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coffee Hour</td>
<td>Jayan Koshy and Young Adult Group</td>
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Altar Flowers are given in thanksgiving for the life of the Right Reverend Robert Marshall Anderson.