FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

DECEMBER 22, 2019
10:00 AM
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**      *In dulci jubilo*  
Johann Michael Bach  

**Hymn #76**  
On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s Cry  
*Winchester New*

**Opening Acclamation and Response**

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

_People_  
And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and forever.
**Lighting of the Advent Candle: Love**

*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.*

*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.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*People*  
Amen.
THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
Carols may be found in the blue 1982 hymnal.

Scene 1  Gabriel appears to Mary
Carol #78  O little town of Bethlehem (verses 1 & 5)

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Scene 2  No room at the inn
Carol #101  Away in a Manger (verses 1 & 2)

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Scene 3  Shepherds keeping watch
Carol #99  Go tell it on the mountain (verses 1 & 2)

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o’er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! Above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior’s birth.
Scene 4  Shepherds arrive at the stable
Carol #128  We three kings (verses 1 & 5)

We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;
Heaven sings alleluia: alleluia the earth replies.

Scene 5  The Magi arrive
Carol #83  O come all ye faithful (verses 1, 3, & 6)

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels;

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God, glory in the highest;

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;
THE NICENE CREED

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  Incarnate God,  
All  Remain with us.
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

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

Organ Solo  Carol of the Nativity  John Ireland

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  BCP, p. 362
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…

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. Healing and Anointing will be offered in the chapel.

Hymn #60 Creator of the stars of night Conditor alme siderum
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 #657  Love divine, all loves excelling  Hyfrydol

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  Toccata in C  Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck
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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Celebrant</td>
<td>The Reverend Jered Weber-Johnson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assisting Priest</td>
<td>The Reverend Craig Lemming</td>
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<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>Assistant to the Director of Music</td>
<td>Haley Olson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cantor</td>
<td>Phillip Takemura Sears</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries</td>
<td>Katie Madsen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Altar Guild</td>
<td>Colleen Swope, Sue Cadwell, Shirlee Gooch, Paige Hagstrom, Sabine Krall, Thea Bischof</td>
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<td>Acolytes</td>
<td>Sabine Krall, Jayan Koshy</td>
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<td>Reader</td>
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<td>Ushers</td>
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<td>Mary Ann Jackson, Tom Eyre, Jennifer Kinkead</td>
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<td>Healing Prayer &amp; Anointing Ministers</td>
<td>Elaine Eyre, Wendy Wendstrom</td>
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<td>Coffee Hour</td>
<td>Pageant, Olson Family &amp; Olsen Family</td>
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Altar Flowers are given in thanksgiving for the life of Cynthia S. MacIntosh.