



## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 15, 2024

8:00am In Person Worship

10:15am Online/In Person Worship

St. John's Episcopal Church, Royal Oak MI



## St. John's Welcome Statement

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Welcome! We are St. John's, a parish that invites you be a part of our community and warmly embraces you when you do.

At St. John's, our history has taught us that accepting and embracing true diversity is challenging. As a result, we have come to claim a firm, undying commitment to inclusion. So here is our invitation to you: regardless of your cultural background, ethnicity,

gender, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or heterosexual identity, economic status, physical or cognitive ability – you will not be labeled, singled out or excluded here. You will be welcomed, affirmed, embraced and celebrated! We will be better because you are here.

*Adopted by unanimous vote at St. John's Annual Meeting, January 31, 2016*

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## Everyone is Welcome! Everyone Belongs!

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### ***Advent***

Advent (from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming") is considered to be the beginning of the Church Year, the Christian New Year. We will count these four Sundays before Christmas Eve, and wait, watch, and hope for the “coming” of Christ.

### **The Seasonal Color of Advent - Blue**

The vestments and adornments of the sanctuary, including the candles for the Advent Wreath, at St. John's are blue in the tradition of the Sarum rite (i.e., the traditions associated with Salisbury Cathedral, England) – practiced in Great Britain from the 11<sup>th</sup> century through the Protestant Reformation. The vibrant colors symbolize the jubilant cry, “Rejoice in Expectation!” and also represent the darkened sphere of earth, our living in darkness, awaiting Christ.

### **The Lessons – Notes on the Lectionary beginning in the Season of Advent**

The Readings in the Episcopal Church (and in most liturgical Christian Churches around the world) are taken from a three-year cycle of scriptural passages known as the Revised Common Lectionary. This Advent season (which marks the beginning of the liturgical year), we begin year B and as such the majority of our Gospel readings are taken from the Gospel of Mark. In year C the readings come from Luke's Gospel and in Year A they come from Matthew's Gospel. Readings from the Gospel of John are inserted periodically in all years.

# PRELUDE

## THE WORD OF GOD

*At the ringing of a bell, the people stand.*

### ENTRANCE HYMN (at 10:15am)

#### Watchman, tell us of the night

The Hymnal 1982, 640

1 Watch-man, tell us of the night, what its signs of prom - ise  
2 Watch-man, tell us of the night; high - er yet that star a -  
3 Watch-man, tell us of the night, for the morn - ing seems to

are. Trav - eler, o'er yon moun-tain's height, see that glo - ry -  
scends. Trav - eler, bless - ed - ness and light, peace and truth its  
dawn. Trav - eler, dark - ness takes its flight, doubt and ter - ror

beam - ing star. Watch-man, does its beau - teous ray  
course por - tends. Watch-man, will its beams a - lone  
are with - drawn. Watch-man, let thy wan - derings cease;

aught of joy or hope fore - tell? Trav-eler, yes; it  
gild the spot that gave them birth? Trav-eler, a - ges  
hie thee to thy qui - et home. Trav-eler, lo! the

brings the day, prom - ised day of Is - ra - el.  
are its own; see, it bursts o'er all the earth.  
Prince of Peace, lo! the Son of God is come!

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*Presider* Make straight the paths we now walk

*People* **And prepare the way for God's reign of justice and love.**

*Presider* †Blessed be God: the one holy and undivided Trinity;

*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

## THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

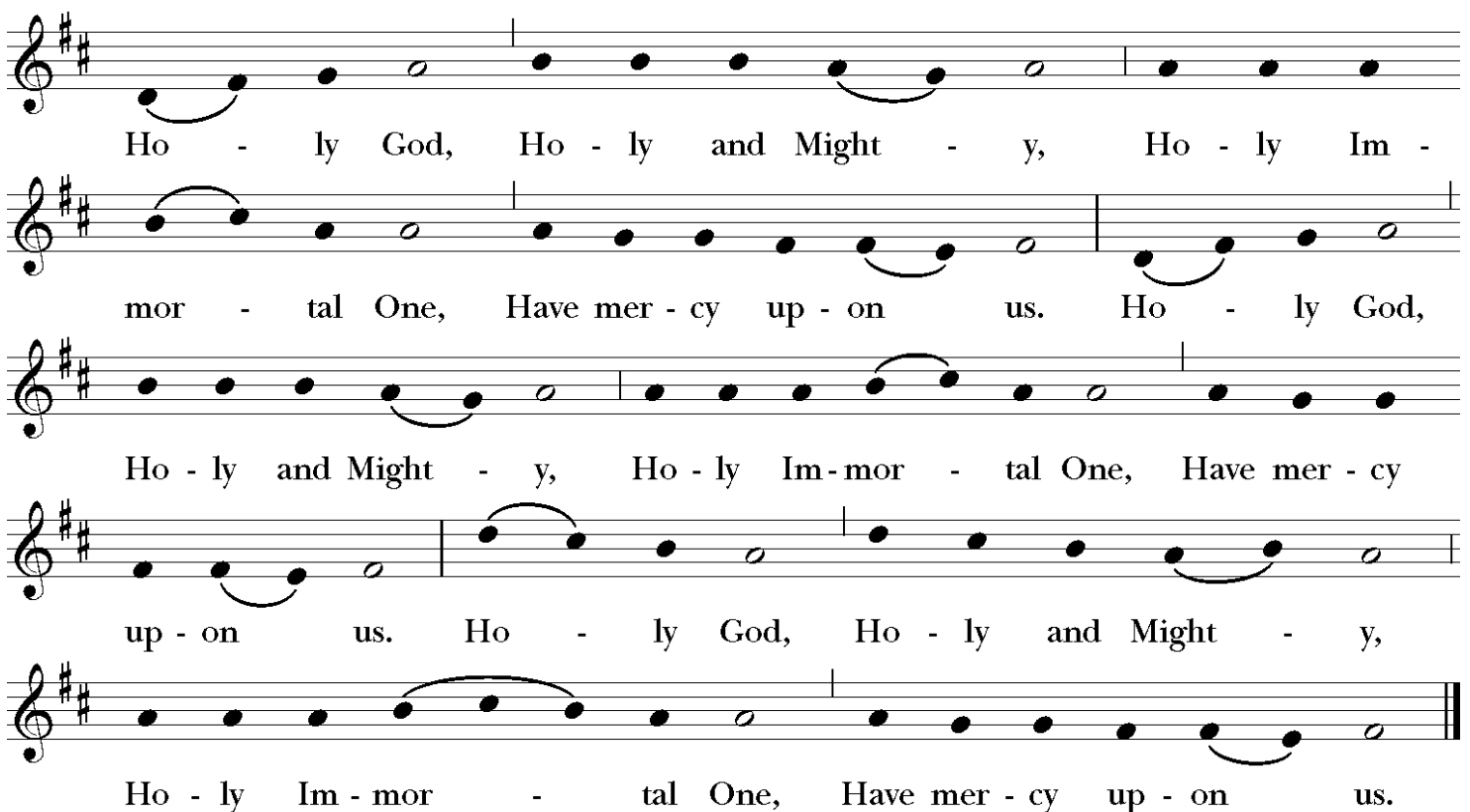
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**TRISAGION** (*spoken at the 8:00am*)

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

(*at 10:15am*)

The Hymnal 1982, S100



Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im -  
mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us. Ho - ly God,  
Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy  
up - on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,  
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

## ADVENT WREATH

*The first and second candle of the Advent Wreath are lighted*

***Lighting the Third Candle of the Advent Wreath:*** *This custom of candle lighting was derived from the Jewish Sabbath practice and was a regular occurrence in the early Christian house churches. As time went on, the practice was carried over to the larger assemblies outside of homes. The candles are a way of counting down the Sundays that lead to the birth of Jesus. Today, we light the first, second, and third candles (blue and pink) and say a prayer expressing our longing for the world.*

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Presider* God be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* 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. ***Amen.***

*The people are seated*

## FIRST LESSON

**Zephaniah 3:14-20**

*Lector* A reading from Zephaniah

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;  
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter Jerusalem!

The Lord has taken away the judgments against you,  
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;  
you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion;  
do not let your hands grow weak.

The Lord, your God, is in your midst,  
a warrior who gives victory;  
he will rejoice over you with gladness,  
he will renew you in his love;  
he will exult over you with loud singing  
as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,  
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

I will deal with all your oppressors  
at that time.

And I will save the lame  
and gather the outcast,  
and I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you home,  
at the time when I gather you;  
for I will make you renowned and praised  
among all the peoples of the earth,  
when I restore your fortunes  
before your eyes, says the Lord.

*Lector* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## **Canticle 9 The First Song of Isaiah**

Surely, it is God who saves me; \*

I will trust in God and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, \*  
and God will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \*  
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, \*

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon the Holy Name;

Make God's deeds known among the peoples; \*

see that they remember that the Holy Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, who has done great things, \*  
and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \*  
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. **Amen.**

## THE SECOND LESSON

Philippians 4:4-7

*Lector* A reading from the letter to the Philippians

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

*Lector* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL HYMN

O come, o come Emmanuel

The Hymnal 1982 56, v. 3

3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy  
3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the  
3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.  
Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 3:7-18

*Clergy* †The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

*Clergy* The Gospel of Christ.

*People* **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

## SERMON

**The Rev. Beth Taylor**

*A period of silence is kept*



# Nicene Creed

*The people stand.*

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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.

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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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

*Clergy* God of the watching, God of the waiting, as we joyfully await the coming of the Christ child, we pray to you for the needs of the church and the world.

*Leader*

God of the watching, thank you for the symbol of the Advent wreath, whose circle reminds us that your mercy is endless, with no beginning or end. Help us to set our minds on things eternal.

**Hear our prayer.**

God of the waiting, we pray for all in authority, that they may govern with wisdom for the prosperity of all. Guide us to the day when the nations of the world will walk in the light of peace, and justice is experienced by all peoples.

**Hear our prayer.**

God of the watching, we pray for this city and our region, that we may be communities of hope, wellbeing and belonging.

**Hear our prayer.**

God of the waiting, we pray for all the people of St. John's, that you may strengthen us for the ministries that you have set before us. Help us to encourage, strengthen, and welcome one another, just as Christ has welcomed us. God who blesses us,

**Hear our prayer.**

God of the watching, we pray for the sick, the friendless, and the needy, that they may experience your healing presence, especially Barbara, Gloria, Cheri, Carolyn, Sandor, Kathy, Nancy, Madiba, Trudy, Gayle, Sue, Scout, Jenny, Linda, Emma, Mark, and those we now name \_\_\_\_\_; God who heals and strengthens us,

**Hear our prayer.**

God of the waiting, set our hearts and minds on the here and now, and help us to remember and be thankful for what matters, especially those things we now name \_\_\_\_\_. God who does wonders,

**Hear our prayer.**

God of the watching, we pray for †all who have died, especially those we now name \_\_\_\_\_. God who welcomes them into eternal life,

**Hear our prayer.**

God of the waiting, we pray for all those who are watching and waiting for a dream to be born, that you may give them patience of heart and mind and the wisdom to see your will.

**Hear our prayer.**

*Presider* Hasten, O God, the coming of your kingdom, and grant that we, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his advent in glorious majesty. ***Amen.***

## **CONFESSION**

*People* **Most Holy God,  
In the midst of this season of new life, we confess:  
We have resisted the light of your love;  
we have not fully shared the gifts entrusted to us; and  
we have not treasured the gifts of others around us.  
We stand in need of your love.  
Holy Creator, make us holy.  
Holy Redeemer, make us holy.  
Holy Spirit, make us holy.  
Holy God, make us whole. *Amen.***

*Presider* Friends, I am confident of this:  
If we repent, God is sure to forgive us.  
The One who began a good work in us will bring it to completion.  
†Your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. ***Amen.***

## **ABSOLUTION**

*Presider* 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. ***Amen.***

## **THE PEACE**

*Presider* The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*The people stand as they are able. The peace is exchanged among the people.*

## GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERTORY

*Your pledges and financial gifts support the mission, the many ministries, the outreach, and the fellowship offered through St. John's.*



*Give online:* [stjohnsroyaloak.org](http://stjohnsroyaloak.org) and click on GIVE

*Text:* Text "StJohnsRoyalOak" to 73256

*Mail:* St. John's, 26998 Woodward Ave, Royal Oak, MI 48067

OR scan this code to be directed to the giving page.

### OFFERTORY MUSIC (at 10:15)

#### Rejoice, rejoice, believers

arr. John Ferguson

*Oblation bearers bring forward the gifts of bread and wine on behalf of the congregation.*

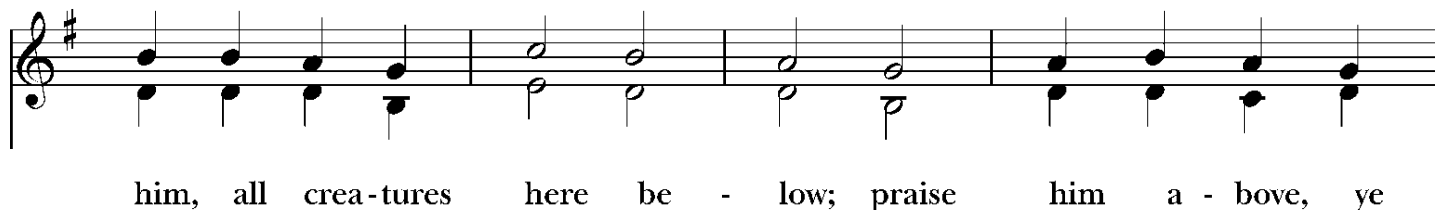
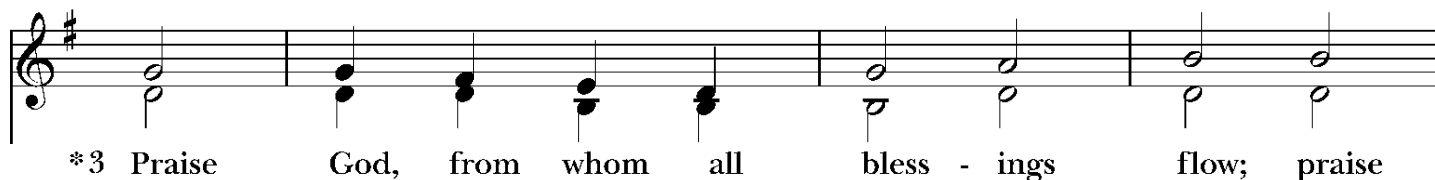
*8:00am - Gifts of pledges and other offerings may be placed in collection baskets at the steps of the altar.*

*10:15am - The ushers pass collection baskets to gather our gifts of pledges and other offerings. At the Presentation Hymn, all stand. The ushers present our gifts at the altar. The Eucharistic ministers join the clergy to prepare for Eucharist.*

### PRESENTATION HYMN (at 10:15)

#### Praise God, from whom all blessings flow

The Hymnal 1982, 380, v. 3



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## THE HOLY EUCHARIST

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*Presider* God be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; You have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

### **SANCTUS**

*All (spoken at 8:00am)*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel*

Holy, holy, holy (*sung at 10:15am*)

The Hymnal 1982, S129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of four lines of music. The first line contains the lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and'. The second line contains 'might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -'. The third line contains 'san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who'. The fourth line contains 'comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_'. There are three triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above a bracket) over the notes 'heaven', 'full of your', and 'san - na'.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine.

By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that †we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit

and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

*The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread*

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD/FRACTION ANTHEM

Lamb of God

The Hymnal 1982, S161

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

Presider These are the gifts of God.

People **And we are the people of God.**

Presider Behold who you are and become what you receive.

*This is Christ's table, and Christ is our host at this feast. Everyone who comes to the altar seeking Christ will be welcomed. The wafers are gluten-free.*

## COMMUNION HYMN

Surely it is God who saves me

The Hymnal, 1982, 679



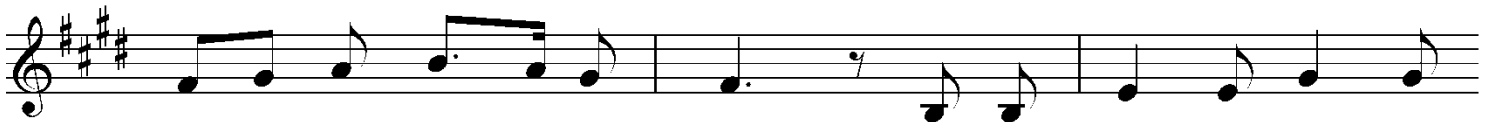
1 Sure - ly it is God — who saves me; trust - ing him, I shall not  
2 Make his deeds — known to the peo - ples; tell out his ex - alt - ed



fear. For the Lord de - fends and shields me and his sav - ing  
Name. Praise the Lord, who has done great things; all his works his



help is near. So re - joice as you draw wa - ter from sal -  
might pro - claim. Zi - on, lift your voice in sing - ing; for with



va - tion's liv - ing spring; in the day of your de -  
you has come to dwell, in your ve - ry midst, the



liv - erance thank the Lord, his mer - cies sing.  
great and Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944); para. of *The First Song of Isaiah*. Copyright © 1982 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Thomas Merton*, Ray. W. Urwin (b. 1950). Copyright © 1984 Ray W. Urwin.



# On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

The Hymnal 1982, 76

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -  
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make  
 3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our  
 4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and  
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
 2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -  
 3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we  
 4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy  
 5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.  
 2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.  
 3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.  
 4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.  
 5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), after John Chandler (1806-1876); alt. Music: *Winchester New*, melody from *Musicalishes Hand-Buch*, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.

## **SENDING FORTH OF LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS**

*Clergy* In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

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

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*All stand and pray.*

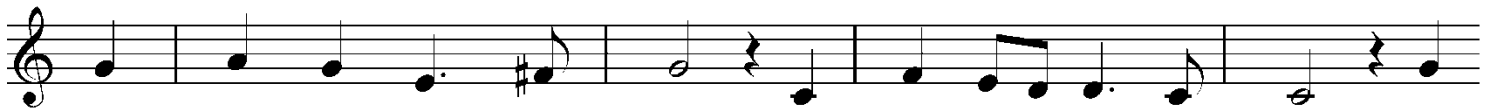
**Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness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

## **BLESSING**

# RECESSIONAL HYMN

## Rejoice, the Lord is King!

The Hymnal 1982, 481



1 Re - joice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore! Mor -  
2 The Lord the Sa - vior reigns, the God of truth and love: when  
3 His king - dom can - not fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven; the  
4 Re - joice in glo - rious hope! Our Lord the Judge shall come, and



tals, give thanks and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more.  
he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove. Lift  
keys of death and hell to Christ the Lord are given.  
take his ser - vants up to their e - ter - nal home.



up your heart! lift up your voice! Re-joyce! a - gain I say, re -



joyce! up your heart! lift up your voice! Re-joyce! a -



gain I say, re - joyce!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: *Gopsal*, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); arr. John Wilson (1905-1992).  
Arrangement, By permission of Oxford University Press.

## DISMISSAL

*Clergy* Go in peace, live in love, seek to be holy in all that you do.  
*People* Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

## Ministers of Today's Service: The People of St. John's

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8:00am Lectors	Sarah Blanck – First Lesson and Psalm; Bill Weide – Second Lesson and Prayers of the People
8:00am Acolyte	Brian Craft
8:00am Greeter/Usher	Joey Spano
8:00am Greeter during service	Dennis Spatafora
8:00am Eucharistic Ministers	Bob Lazich, Barbara Lugger
8:00am Healing Minister	Janet Craft
8:00am Altar Guild	Bob Lazich, Kate Weide
10:15am Lectors	Daniel Wright-Cuschieri – First Lesson; Debbie Smith – Psalm; Jamiel Dado – Second Lesson; Mary Adams– Prayers of the People
10:15am Acolytes	Ian Babcock, Julian Griffin, Ryley Griffin
10:15am Greeter	Lisa Philips
10:15am Greeter during service	Greg Taub
10:15am Ushers	Chris Davis, Bruce Donigan, Marie Donigan, Lisa Philips
10:15am Eucharistic Ministers	Sandy Curtis, Cindy Fellner, Nicole Stewart
10:15am Healing Minister	Mary Adams
10:15am Altar Guild	Martie Falconer, Bette Ann Wright
Bread Baker	Christy Scott
Coffee Hour Set Up	Katie Kourtakis
Coffee Hour Clean Up	
Tech Team	Chris Bosley, Barbara Jones, Laurie McLaughlin, Mark Miliotto
Acolyte Verger	Kevin McLogan
Opener/Closer	Dennis Spatafora, Pete Kelly
Parking Lot Attendants	Greg Barnett, Richard Le Jeune
Musicians	Steven McGhee, <i>Music Director</i> ; Brynn Ward; Bex Conway, Alek Mirinov, Brooklyn Pfeffer, <i>Choral Scholars</i> ; St. John's Chancel Choir
Associate Priest	The Rev. Gerardo Aponte-Safe
Rector	The Rev. Beth Taylor

### Altar Memorials and Thanksgivings

In memory of  
**Roseanne and Thomas Gmerek**  
by Greg Gmerek

In loving memory of  
**Darold Safe**  
on the first anniversary of his passing  
by Dean and Gerardo Aponte-Safe

## With Thanks for Pledges to the 2025 Annual Stewardship Campaign

### “Walk in Love”

The following households have made pledges for the coming year. Thank you for your participation. This list is current as of Tuesday, December 10. Thank you for your support of the ministries of St. John’s through the 2025 Annual Stewardship Campaign.

Anonymous	Ellen Ehrlich & Linda Northcraft
Carol Aaron	Bernadette Ethridge
James & Mary Adams	Steve & Mary Fairman
Safyan Afzal & Robert Stevens	H. Michael Falconer
Rachel Andrews & Kathleen Battles	Martie Falconer
Gerardo & Dean Aponte-Safe	Cheryl Fehan
Askari Asante	Cynthia Fellner
Jonatan Ascarruz-Asencios	Jeanne Findlater
Paulynn Auger	Allyson Frank
Krystn Aversa	Anjela & Keith Freeman & family
Eric Babcock	Rich & Jenny Galat & family
Anne & Peter Baird	Dale & Barbara Gilbertson
Charles & Shelley Baker	Mary Gilhuly
Gregg & Denise Barnett	Greg Gmerek
Jennifer & Erich Bartleman & family	Gail Gordon
Geoff & Kristen Benes	Jim & Liz Gordon
Carol Berousek	Diana Graor
Jo Anne Bigler	Anne Graziano & Tom Richards
George Blair	Abby Gustafson & Alex Zagorski
Sarah Blanck & Michael Saggau	Darci Gutfreund
Rosalie Boerkoel	Barbara Heath
Susan & Clarence Bonnen	Cathy Holcomb
Chris Bosley	Waymon Howard
Dayton & Stasi Brown	Karen and Paul Johnson
Kathy Brooks & Obie Burch	Barbara Jones
Jennifer Bruns	Mark Jones & Jessica Worden-Jones
Erica Clites	Yve Jones
Jessica & Danado Colella	Elaine Kapelanski
Janet & Clarence Craft	Barbara & James Karchon
Jamiel Dado & Elizabeth Isakson-Dado & family	Sharon & Brian Kennedy
Dallas & Monica Deyampert & family	Jeff Kidder
Peg Cury & Lisa Dion	Mary Kimber
Sandra Curtis	Kellie & Erik Kornmiller & family
Carolyn Darling	Katie & Zachary Kourtakis
Ann Davis	Ray & Diana Kwiatkowski
Chris Davis & Lonnie Shelton	Robert Lazich
Robert Davis & Linda Watkins	Maryann LeComb & Kathy Stricker
Bruce & Cheryl Donigan	Sarah Lee
Marie Donigan & Kevin McLogan	Richard Le Jeune

Tales Lima  
Jane Linn  
Kayleigh Long  
Barbara Luggen  
Melanie & Ned Macey & family  
Dan & Lisa Machesky  
Maryann Maiuri & Kim Unrau  
Kelly Mankin & Michael Tonda  
Daniel Martin  
Karen Mauck  
Brent & Joan McFeaters  
Holly McNeal & family  
Mark Miliotto & Beth Taylor  
Justina Misuraca  
Barbara & Chris Moran  
Joyce Morey  
LeeAnn & Tim Morgan  
Mary Ann Morrow  
Larry & Betsy Morton  
Alexandra Mueller  
Aubrey & Sarah Muth  
Kelly & Gary Neighbors  
Lisa Oakes & family  
John Oginsky & Jelane Richardson & family  
Scout Osborn & Kris Sprague  
Jeff Parent  
Janice Pedersen  
Michael & Elyse Pelfrey  
Mike Perry & John Trace  
Ann Marie Piwonski & Maria Walter  
JoAnna Prudden  
Marilyn Robinson  
Bruce Robson  
Anna Ruggirello & Marsha Tuck

Mendie Russell  
Bobbie Schillag  
Christy & Colin Scott & family  
Martha Shea  
Deborah Shepherd  
Debbie Smith  
Kim Smith  
Joey Spano  
Dennis & Rosemary Spatafora  
Jacquelyn Speer  
Eliza Stewart  
Nicole & Andy Stewart  
Angela & Jayson Stough  
Chris & Carol Swan  
Kristen & Nick Swan & family  
Elizabeth Swanchara  
Greg & Jennifer Taub  
Beth & Perry Threatt  
Susan Tower  
Sarah Troyer & family  
Chuck & Linda Tucker  
Mark & Becky Valenti  
Robert Walsh  
Bill & Kate Weide  
Cheri Whalen  
James Whipple  
Kathy White  
Kirk Wicker  
Jennifer Wofford  
Paul & Bette Ann Wright  
Daniel and Christopher  
Wright-Cuschieri & family  
Tamra Zakar

## Additional Prayer List

### Persons being prayed for:

Sarah  
 Briana, Wettona, Ezra, Vic, Jackie  
 Sandi  
 Willa  
 Edward  
 Matthew, Heather, India, Joann, Jim  
 Larry, Lois  
 Gary, Patrick  
 Jeanette, Evelyn  
 Angelina, Jamie  
 Donna, MaryPat, Linda, Debbie  
 Kae , Dorothy, Lois. Tammy, Peggy, Pam  
 JoAnn, Edgar, Mary Lou, Natalia  
 Lorie, Patty, Betty, Gail, Dot, Wilma, Nan, Mike  
 Jennifer, Richard, Mark  
 Mike  
 Linda  
 Nikki  
 Bill, Dorothy  
 Arthur, Dan, Winnie  
 Patty, Jim, Ron, David, Maria  
 Dave, Kate, Evie, Caroline, Rhonda, Joe, Dennis, Norma, Ashley, Jake, Carson  
 Gail, Phil, Steven, Paul  
 Randy, Kelly, Charlotte  
 Jeanne, Danny  
 Adam, Don  
 Bob, Paul, Scott  
 Barbara, Bob, Cathy  
 David, David  
 Dominic, Pam, Nancy, Miles, Tom, Troy, Frankie, Hadi  
 June  
 Brian  
 Gabrielle  
 Debbie, Marion, Harvey

### Requested by:

Rachel Andrews  
 Gloria Brown  
 Jen Bruns  
 Janet Craft  
 Sandy Curtis  
 Carolyn Darling  
 Chris Davis, Lonnie Shelton  
 Ann Davis  
 Cheryl Donigan  
 Allyson Frank  
 Diana Graor  
 Elaine Kapelanski  
 Kathy Kustowski  
 Maryann LeComb & Kathy Stricker  
 Richard LeJeune  
 Leah Lynady  
 Kelly Mankin & Michael Tonda  
 Holly McNeal  
 Barbara & Chris Moran  
 Janice Pedersen  
 Mapley Extended Family  
 Mary Ann Morrow  
 Bob & Trudy Nagaj  
 Marilyn Robinson  
 Scout Osborn & Kris Sprague  
 Jeff & Nancy Sever  
 Joey Spano  
 Bob Stevens  
 Elizabeth Swanchara  
 The Sykes Family  
 Barbara Thornton  
 Bob Walsh  
 Pam Lupinski  
 Tamra Zakar



# Advent and Christmas at St. John's

**Christmas Pageant Rehearsal**  
Saturday, December 21 | 10:30am

**Christmas Pageant** | Sunday, December 22 | 10:15am  
**Greening of the Church** | immediately following

**Christmas Eve** | Wednesday, December 24  
5:00pm Carols | 5:30pm Worship (family-oriented)  
10:00pm Carols | 10:30pm Worship

**Christmas Day** | Thursday, December 25  
One Service | 9:30am

**Blessing of the Calendars**  
Tuesday, December 31 | 5:00pm

