



THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Holy Eucharist ❖ December 12, 2021 ❖ 9:00 am



John the Baptist Preaching in the Wilderness, by Gustav Doré

[Zoom Link to Worship](#)

Zoom Meeting ID: 912 3096 9532

Passcode: 080100

Note to Zoom congregants: You will be muted throughout the service.

Continue to say all group responses, but you will only hear yourself and the people in the Sanctuary.

Prelude

Variations on "Veni Emmanuel"

Danel Pinkham (1923-2006)

All stand as the Ministers enter the Church.

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 ref - uge, 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.

LM

The Acclamation and Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Celebrant Our King and Savior now draws near;
People Come let us adore him.

While the first, second, and third candles of the Advent wreath are lit by Jane and Ed Woodson, they pray

ALmighty God, we praise and glorify your Name, knowing that the joy of your presence comes to the exalted and the humble alike. As we light these candles, help us to remember the joy of the shepherds in the fields, to whom the holy angels proclaimed the glad tidings of the birth of our Redeemer.

This response is said by all

WITH THEM, may we proclaim the Good News of Christ's presence among us, until every person sings your joyful song of love and peace. Amen.

Trisagion, said by all

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

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

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

The Salutation and 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. *Amen.*

All are seated for the Readings.

The First Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Lector A reading from the book of the prophet 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.

Hymn: 679, Surely it is God who saves me (from *Canticle 9 - The First Song of Isaiah*) Thomas Merton

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*
 Music: Thomas Merton, Ray W. Urwin (b. 1950)

87 87 D

The Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

Lector A reading from Paul's 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.

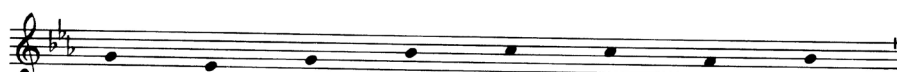
Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

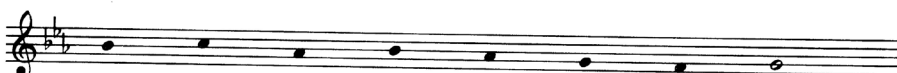
All then stand to sing this Hymn.

Sequence Hymn: 60, Creator of the stars of night

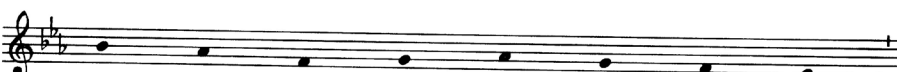
Conditor alme siderum



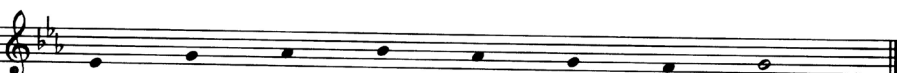
1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
 2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse
 3 When this old world drew on toward night,
 4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now
 5 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,
 *6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,



1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,
 2 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,
 3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,
 4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
 5 re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;
 6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,
 2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free
 3 not as a mon - arch, but the child
 4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,
 5 de - fend us while we dwell be - low
 6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



1 we pray you hear us when we call.
 2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.
 3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.
 4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.
 5 from all as - saults of our dread foe.
 6 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Words: Latin, 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt.
 Music: *Conditor alme siderum*, plainsong, Mode 4

LM

The Holy Gospel

Luke 3:7-18

✠ *Assisting Priest* The Holy Gospel of our Lord 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.

Assisting Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Susan Pinkerton

*A period of meditative silence follows the Sermon.
All then stand. The Nicene Creed, the ancient summary
of the Christian faith, is recited by all in unison.*

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.

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor God of many names, God beyond all names; the beginning and the end of every story, the meaning of every life; infinite Mystery both hidden and revealed:

People Hear us when we pray to you.

Intercessor Blessed are You who join us together in the communion of Christ's Body. Renew and energize your holy Church, in this parish and throughout the world, that we may be a resurrection people, manifesting your steadfast love in our common life of praise and service.

People Hear us when we pray to you.

Intercessor O perfect Wisdom, direct and rule the hearts of the leaders and shapers of society, raise up prophets of justice and peace, and empower your people for the holy vocation of repairing the world. May we entrust all our labors to the work of Providence.

People Hear us when we pray to you.

Intercessor O Deliverer, You unlock every door and make a way where there is no way. Set free all who are afflicted or distressed in body, mind or spirit. Resurrect their hope, grant them peace and refreshment, and restore their joy.

People Hear us when we pray to you.

Intercessor O compassionate One, hold us in your mercy: heal the sick, mend the broken, protect the vulnerable, shelter the refugee, strengthen the weary, rescue the lost, and give courage to all who struggle.

People Hear us when we pray to you.

Intercessor O Morning Star, bright splendor of the light eternal, illumining all things with your radiance: Come, enlighten all who sit in darkness, and those who dwell in the shadow of violence and death. Grant us your peace, and teach us to live in the dawn of your unfailing promise.

People Hear us when we pray to you.

Intercessor O Lover of souls, when we wander far away, lead us back to You; when we refuse your embrace, do not give up on us; when we forget You, do not forget us.

People Hear us when we pray to you.

Intercessor O Desire of every heart, the answer to every longing: You are the strong force that draws us into the mystery of love divine. Forgive us those things which distract and delay us, and lead us ever deeper into the Way, the Truth and the Life.

People Hear us when we pray to you.

Intercessor God who has come, God who does come, God who is yet to come: Make us an Advent people, ready and alert to welcome and receive You in the stranger's face, the loving act, the moment of grace, the presence of healing, the birth of possibility, the gift of wonder. Let every heart prepare You room.

People Hear us when we pray to you.

The Intercessor offers prayers of thanksgiving, repose of the soul, and need.

Intercessor Dear people of God, what else, or who else, should we pray for?

The People offer their particular concerns and thanksgivings, aloud or in silence.

The Celebrant concludes the Prayers.

O EMMANUEL, GOD-WITH-US, You show us the face of divinity, and reveal the fullness of our humanity. Come: renew your creation, restore us all in Christ, and enable us to become who we are, your faithful and loving people. We pray in the name of Jesus. *Amen.*

The Confession of Sin and Absolution

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

The People kneel, sit or stand as they are able. All then pray together

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.*

The Celebrant absolves the People, saying

ALMIGHTY GOD HAVE MERCY ON YOU, forgive you all your sins † through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

The People stand.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

All greet one another in the Name of the Lord. The Celebrant greets the People.

Offertory Music

Comfort, comfort ye my people

Tune by Claude Goudimel (1514-1572)

arr. by John Ferguson

*Comfort, comfort ye my people, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
comfort those who sit in darkness mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;
tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over.*

*Hark, the voice of one that crieth in the desert far and near,
calling us to new repentance since the kingdom now is here.
O, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God away;
let the valleys rise to meet him and the hills bow down to greet him.*

*Make ye straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain;
let your hearts be true and humble, as befits his holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad;
and all flesh shall see the token that the word is never broken.*

Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt., after Johann Olearius (17th century)

Offertory Hymn: 57, Lo! He comes with clouds descending

Bereden väg för Herran



1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
3 Those dear to - kens of his pas - sion still his
4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on



our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
 nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
 ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
 power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
 ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
 own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: *Helmsley*, melody Augustine Arne (1710-1778)

87. 87 12 7

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

IT IS RIGHT, AND A GOOD AND JOYFUL THING, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord; Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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:

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._____

WE GIVE THANKS TO YOU, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

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

After supper he 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
 we proclaim his resurrection,
 we await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Saint Michael and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People AMEN.

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

All then pray together

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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Host.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Music During Communion

Variations on Veni Emmanuel

Gerhard Krapf, Daniel Pinkham

Everyone is welcome to come forward at this time.

Please follow the direction of the ushers and come forward to gather around the circular altar, beginning with the first row while maintaining a social distance.

The Ministers will be happy to bring Communion to those who prefer to remain seated in the pews.

Please speak to one of the ushers and the Ministers will come to you.

Those who prefer not to receive the Eucharist may receive a blessing (please cross your arms across your chest).

Congregants worshipping on Zoom or Facebook may recite the following prayer since you are unable to partake of the Communion in person.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

JESUS, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come Amen.

The People stand at the Celebrant's direction.

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All then pray together

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLIVING GOD, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Advent Blessing

Celebrant May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin.

People Amen.

Celebrant May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love.

People Amen.

Celebrant May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life.

People Amen.

Celebrant And the blessing of God Almighty, ☩ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

People Amen.

Hymn in Procession: : 59, Hark! a thrilling voice is calling

Merton

Descant

2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age let us rise;
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,
1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing. "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age let us rise;
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, comes with par - don down from heaven;
4 so when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

1 "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness, O ye chil - dren of the day."
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
3 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for - given;
4 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, alt.
Music: *Merton*, William Henry Monk (1823-1889); desc. Alan Gray (1855-1935)

87. 87

The Dismissal

Assisting Priest Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People Thanks be to God.

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Celebrant	The Rev. Susan Pinkerton
Assisting Priest	The Rev. Dr. Barbara Stewart
Lighting the Advent Wreath	Jane and Ed Woodson
Layreaders and Intercessor	Clyde Dodge, Kim Montgomery, Stacie Tibbetts
Acolyte	Sebastian Faller
Organist	Dr. Ray Urwin
Altar Guild	Sue Ahearn
Flowers	Jill Faller
Zoom Host	Brooke Pauley
Zoom Co-Host	Ali Haghjoo
Godly Play and Formation Teachers	Anne Conover, Anne Warmington, Susan Caldwell
Ushers	Norm Bianchi, Mark Peterson



Parish Prayer List

London and Kimberly	Tom	Mark
Avery	Joni	Inge
Austin	Jack's children	Mary
Nadine	Julie	Peter and Dan
Pat and Denise	Elisabeth	Sally
April	Yvette	Amy and Phil
Linda	Ken	Jennifer
Charlotte	Katy	Daniel
Catherine	Corinne	Jamie
Sigrid	Barbara	Marilyn
Rebecca	Jane	



Welcome to St. Michael's In-Person and Online Worship!

It's a pleasure to welcome everyone to worship this morning. However you are joining us, the joy of being a Christian community is ours to receive and share. Thanks for being a part of our worship!

Office Hours

This week the church office will be open on Tuesday 8:00 am – 3:00 pm, Wednesday 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, and Thursday 9:00 am – 12:00 noon.



Music Notes, by Dr. Ray Urwin



In about 1984 I received a group of hymn texts for which music was still needed for the Hymnal 1982 (the year of a hymnal's title is the year the texts are given final approval by the House of Bishops, not the year of publication; our hymnal came out in 1985). I saw that one text was a paraphrase of Canticle 9, for which I'd previously composed a responsorial setting for choir and congregation. I went to the piano and immediately wrote what became Hymn 679, today's Canticle, in about 10 minutes; the first phrase is adapted from the refrain of my choral setting, the middle is a paraphrase of one of the verses, and the last phrase is the only new part. I submitted this tune, named *Merton* in honor of the great Roman Catholic monk, theologian and writer, and some other tunes. But when I received the acceptance, I was told that the name had to be changed. Hymn tunes all have tune names, which are not necessarily the first line of the texts, since different texts can be used (an old Lutheran hymnal I know included "O come, all ye faithful" with Easter words!). No duplications are allowed, and if you as the composer don't name your tune, some editor will! The General Editor's acceptance letter pointed out that the name *Merton* was already taken, by today's final hymn, the great Advent hymn Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding, and suggested I simply use both his names, *Thomas Merton*. Et voilà! The hymn has been one of the most popular and frequently sung of the new pieces in the book, and the same is true of my Fraction Anthem, My flesh is food indeed, S-169.

The other tune for these words, Hymn 678, was even more last-minute: it was written after mine was already accepted, and was among several written in 1985, I was told by composer David Hurd, by several composers on the committee all sitting on the floor with music paper outside the College of Preachers at the National Cathedral, at the committee's last meeting, trying to meet the final deadline! Thus its hasty tune name *College of Preachers!*

Sunday School Children Rejoining Holy Eucharist

During the passing of the peace, the Sunday school children will join the congregation in the pews and are most welcome to come to the altar during the distribution of Holy Communion.

Tuesday Morning Eucharist

You are invited to join us in the chapel on Tuesday mornings at 8:30 am for the celebration of Holy Eucharist. Please note that COVID precautions are in place.

COVID Guidelines for In-Person Worship

We are happy you are part of our in-person services at St. Michael and All Angels. We are following the current CDC guidelines as instructed by Bishop Taylor and request that all worshippers, even those vaccinated, be masked while indoors to protect the unvaccinated. In addition:

- All those who are vaccinated are welcome to shake hands and hug during the Peace.
- Holy Communion will continue to be bread only until further instruction.

Thank you for helping us make our worship services a safer place for all, especially those who are most vulnerable.

Tuesday Night @ Mike's

Join Tuesday Nights @ Mike's for the season of Advent! Barbara Stewart will guide us through Journeying the Way of Love as we await the coming of Christ by moving through the first two chapters of the Gospel of Luke. Luke's gospel provides a pattern for understanding how we can live the Way of Love as individuals, as families and friends, as a community, and out in the world.

- Dec 14: The Birth of John the Baptist: Journeying with Community
- Dec 21: The Birth of Jesus: Journeying with the World

To accompany the Journeying the Way of Love curriculum, download the Advent Calendar, which offers daily suggestions for engaging in the seven practices that encompass the Way of Love: Turn, Learn, Pray, Worship, Bless, Go, and Rest.

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2021/10/Advent-2021-Calendar.pdf>

Questions? Please contact Beth Bianchi.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83429763754>

Meeting ID: 834 2976 3754

Passcode: none required



Sunday School

The Godly Play story this week is "St Nicholas, Bishop of Myra". Anne Conover will be the Storyteller and Anne Warmington will be the Doorkeeper.

The Youth Formation Class, grades 5-8, topic for Sunday, November 21, is "Mary and Elizabeth", part 2 in the Advent series from Holy Moly, Sparkhouse Digital Curriculum. Susan Caldwell is the discussion leader.

Bible Challenge

The Bible Challenge meets on the 3rd Sunday of the Month at 8:00 am. The discussion of our book, **Angels of the Bible** by Kate Moorehead, continues. This book has been wonderfully engaging! If you would like to participate, please email Susan Caldwell, scaldwell@stmikescdm.org. The cost of the book is \$19.00.

December 19th, 2021 8:00 am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95819330475?pwd=YXh2ZVkvOUhUQnd4UXJaY1dTQndFdz09>

Meeting ID: 958 1933 0475

Passcode: 018474

The Inklings

Inklings will meet the third Thursday of the month, December 16, 9:30am-11:00am, Davis Library. We will continue our study of **Reflections on the Psalms** by C. S. Lewis. All are welcome to join. This is a hybrid event.

<https://zoom.us/j/93842505095?pwd=ZlpUcWUySEtNZXA5Y1o4N1ZVUVZsUT09>

Meeting ID: 938 4250 5095

Passcode: 573156



Drivers Needed!

St. Michael's has in the past arranged transportation to church for parishioners who are unable to drive or do not own a car. If you are willing to participate in this service, or are in need of transportation, please contact the church office or Steve Morris, Ombudsperson on the Vestry.

+++ We Are Active in Mission +++

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Interested in knitting? Want to learn? Please join us on Friday mornings at 10 as we work on prayer shawls. When completed, the shawls will be blessed and given to those needing a bit of comfort and compassion. Questions? contact Barbara Stewart, barbarastewart001@gmail.com or 949 378-9780.

Can't come on Fridays? You can knit anytime!

Questions? Contact Barbara Stewart barbarastewart001@gmail.com

Share Ourselves - Families in Need

Each year, St. Michael and All Angels helps provide a happy holiday to our neighbors in need. Because this has been an especially difficult year, we are working together to brighten Christmas for two families. Thank you for joining us and for your generosity! Today is the deadline for turning your gift cards.

Family 1 - Manuel and his family are really struggling right now. The house that they had been living in with their three children has been sold and they need to find a new place to live. In order to move into a new apartment they need to put down two months rent as a deposit. Manuel is so

grateful for his full-time job, but they are still having trouble coming up with the money for their new apartment. Gabriela has only been able to find part time jobs which is not enough to help and also keep up with their monthly payments of utilities and food. The family is very thankful for any help they can get during this difficult time. Mom and Dad would love to be able to buy Christopher, James and Bryan each a new toy for Christmas.

Family 1 Wish List

Bryan (Son), 4 Years, Male

Wish: Gift Card to Marshalls, Ross or Walmart for clothes, household items, and a toy

Christopher (Son), 5 Years, Male

Wish: Gift Card to Marshalls, Ross or Walmart for clothes, household items, and a toy

James (Son), 6 Years, Male

Wish: Gift Card to Marshalls, Ross or Walmart for clothes, household items, and a toy

Gabriela (Mom), 27 Years, Female

Wish: Gift Card to Marshalls, Ross or Walmart for clothes and household items

Manuel (Dad), 34 Years, Male

Wish: Gift Card to Walmart or WSS (for shoes)

Jesus (Uncle), 37 Years, Male

Wish: Gift Card to Ross or Walmart for clothes and household items

Family 2 - Adrian and Loreno are doing the best they can to provide for their family of five. Adrian is the sole provider and they face a continuous struggle to keep up with the basic costs of living. Their younger children Kaylene and Andrew are in special education and require extra attention, making it difficult for Loreno to hold down a steady job or rely on others for childcare. These are dedicated parents with very limited resources who have had to accept both food and uniform assistance when offered by the school. Donations of gift cards to help with groceries and warm clothing for the family and something more personal for Kaylene, Andrew and Jahir would make for a very special Christmas. Whatever you are able to provide will be so meaningful to this family who has so little. Please know your donations will go a long way to bring relief, cheer and encouragement. We know that these times are hard for everyone and appreciate your generosity.

Family 2 Wish List

Adrian (Dad), 40 Years, Male

Wish: Gift Card to JC Penny for clothing

Wish: Gift Card to Target for household essentials and hygiene supplies

Wish: Gift Card to Food 4 Less or Northgate for groceries

Loreno (Mom), 37 Years, Female

Wish: Gift Card to Target for household essentials and hygiene supplies

Wish: Gift Card to Food 4 Less or Northgate for groceries

Wish: Gift Card to JC Penny for clothing

Jahir (Son), 16 Years, Male

Wish: Gift Card to Walmart or Target for clothing and hygiene supplies

Wish: Gift Card to WSS for shoes

Kaylene (Daughter), 9 Years, Female

Wish: Gift Card to Walmart or Target for clothing and art supplies

Wish: Gift Card to Vans for shoes

Andrew (Son), 10 Years, Male

Wish: Gift Card to Game Stop

Wish: Gift Card to Walmart or Target for clothing

Wish: Gift Card to WSS for shoes

Important information for both families:

No food items. No actual gifts of any kind.

Drop off gift cards at the church office by Sunday, December 12.

Include gift card receipts



Christmas Flowers

Help beautify the sanctuary for Christmas worship. You can donate by placing your donation in one of the envelopes located on the back railing in the sanctuary, or online. \$15 is the suggested donation.



Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church

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The Reverend Susan Pinkerton
Interim Priest in Charge
susan.pinkerton@stmikescdm.org

The Reverend Barbara Stewart, Ph.D.
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Burton Karson
Organist-Choirmaster Emeritus



The Vestry

Louise Stover *Senior Warden*

Jim Palda *Junior Warden*

Mary Bailey *Mission*

Gail Haghjoo *Fellowship*

Susan Brown *Clerk*

Anne Conover *Christian Education*

Jan Faller *Finance*

Steve Morris *Ombudsperson*

(Open) *Buildings and Grounds*

Keith Lumpkin *Stewardship*

(Open) *Evangelism*

Clyde Dodge *Communications*

Saint Michael & All Angels

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Celebrate Christmas With Us!

Fri., Dec. 24
5:00pm
Christmas Eve
Family Service

Fri., Dec. 24
7:30pm
Christmas Eve
Christmas Choral
Music

Fri., Dec. 24
8:00pm
Christmas Eve
Holy Eucharist

Sat., Dec. 25
10:00am
Christmas Day
Holy Eucharist

www.stmikescdm.org