



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Holy Eucharist ❖ December 19, 2021 ❖ 9:00 am



The Visitation (detail), by Phillippe de Champaigne

[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

Motet, *Ecce, concipies*

Jakob Handl (1550-1591)

The St. Michael's Section Leaders

Ecce concipies et paries filium, et vocabis nomen ejus Jesum. Hic erit magnus, et filius Altissimi vocabitur. Super solium David et super regnum ejus sedebit et regnabit in domo Jacob in aeternum, et regni ejus non erit finis.

Behold, you will conceive and bear a son, and you will call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the son of the Most High. He shall sit upon the throne of David and upon his kingdom, and he shall reign in the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there shall be no end

All stand as the Ministers enter the Church.

Processional Hymn: 436, Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates

Truro

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
 2 O blest the land, the ci - ty blest, where Christ the
 3 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
 *4 Re - deem - er come! I o - pen wide my heart to
 5 So come, my Sov - ereign; en - ter in! Let new and

1 King of glo - ry waits! The King of kings is
 2 ru - ler is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and
 3 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
 4 thee: here, Lord, a - bide! Let me thy in - ner
 5 no - bler life be - gin; thy Ho - ly Spi - rit

1 draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the world is here.
 2 hap - py homes to whom this King of tri - umph comes!
 3 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
 4 pres - ence feel: thy grace and love in me re - veal.
 5 guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

Words: Georg Weissel (1590-1635); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)
 Music: Truro, melody from *Psalmody Evangelica, Part II*, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872), 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 Sunday School children light all four Advent candles, a leader prays

ALmighty God, your Son Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem of Judea, into a world that had no room for him. As we light these candles, help us to open our hearts to his presence, that our minds may be filled with his light and our hearts with his love.

All then pray as follows

O God, as we enter the blessed season of Christmas, may our Advent preparations open our hearts to the love you bring to the world. Let these days be for us a new beginning, that our lives may show forth your hope, your peace, your joy and your love. 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.

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 for ever. *Amen*

All are seated for the Readings.

The First Reading

Micah 5:2-5a

Lector A reading from the book of the prophet Micah.

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth; he will exult over you with loud singing
as on a day of festival.

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

Psalm: Canticle 15 — The Song of Mary (*Luke 1:46-55*)

Lector My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

People From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.

Lector He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

People He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

Lector He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.

People He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.

Lector He has come to the help of his servant Israel,
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

People The promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children for ever.

The Second Reading

Hebrews 10:5-10

Lector A reading from Paul's letter to the Hebrews.

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

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

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: 265, The angel Gabriel

Gabriel's Message

1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came,
2 "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head,
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born

his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee,
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,
in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,

"All hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,
thy Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name."
and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say—

most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!

The Annunciation (March 25).

Words: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)
Music: *Gabriel's Message*, Basque carol; harm. Edgar Pettman (1865-1943)

♩ - 66
10 10. 12 10

The Holy Gospel

Luke 1:39-45

+

Assisting Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

+

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

IN THOSE DAYS MARY set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

Assisting Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

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

Canticle, Magnificat, the Song of Mary

Anglican Chant by Hubert Parry (1848-1918)

*My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.*

*For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.*

*He hath showed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the
imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat,
and hath exalted the humble and meek.*

He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent empty away.
 He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, as he promised to our
 forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
 As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

Offertory Hymn: 72, Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes

Richmond

Descant

4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

1 Hark! the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior
 2 He comes, the pris - oners to re - lease in Sa - tan's
 3 He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

prom - ised long; let ev - ery heart pre -
 bond - age held; the gates of brass be -
 soul to cure; and with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

pare a throne, and ev - ery voice a song.
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

Words: Philip Doddridge (1702-1751)

Music: *Richmond*, melody Thomas Haweis (1734-1820); adapt. Samuel Webbe (1740-1816);
 harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern, Revised*, 1950; desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971)

CM

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:

S 129, *Sanctus*

Robert Powell

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

Ave Maria

Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643)

*Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum. Benedicta tu in mulieribus,
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus. Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,
ora pro nobis peccatoribus nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.*

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.

Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

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: 56, O come, O come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

Introduction by Daniel Pinkham (d. 2005)



(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
(Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
(Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
(Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from
(Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
(Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us
(Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the
(Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to
5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions
8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.
8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt.

Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, *Processionale*, 15th cent.;
adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890)

LM with Refrain

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	Sunday School Children
Layreaders and Intercessor	Richard Zevnik, Julie Jenkins, Jill Draffin
Acolyte	Colette Spence
Organist	Dr. Ray Urwin
Altar Guild	Cathy Dunlap
Flowers	Julie Sheffield, Lynn Headley
Zoom Host	Brooke Pauley
Zoom Co-Host	Kim Montgomery
Godly Play and Formation Teachers	Anne Conover, Anne Warmington, Susan Caldwell
Ushers	Laird Blue, Russ Hardt, Jim Headley



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	Gail



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!

Stewardship Update

We have received 50 renewals out of the 86 received last year. Many of those have generously increased their pledge over the prior year. Also, we have 7 new pledges! We are 86% of our way to the goal of \$290,000. For the Finance Committee to complete the budget for next year, it is very important to receive all the pledges for 2022. I encourage you to please submit your pledge for 2022 if you haven't already.

Also, a reminder to please complete your pledge commitment for 2021 before December 31, 2021.

Thank and Bless You,
Keith R Lumpkin
Stewardship

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: Canticles



As many of you know, the Episcopal Church follows a three-year schedule of readings, beginning each Advent. This year's lectionary prescribes canticles instead of psalms for the last three Sundays of Advent. A canticle is a text from the Bible but not from the psalms, and is often like a psalm or a poem. Like psalms they can be sung in many ways - by a choir (today's Offertory music), responsorially (cantor or choral verses, congregational refrain), by chanting to plainsong or Anglican chant, or as a metrical paraphrase of the original, sung as a hymn. Canticles have a very long history in both Eastern and Western Christianity, dating almost to the very beginnings of the Church; in fact, many of the canticles listed for use in our Prayer Book are from the Old Testament (also true of much of the Christmas portion of Handel's Messiah), and one of those (Canticle 8, for Easter) includes what may be the oldest verse in the entire Bible. While little used in today's Eucharist services, canticles are routinely used in other Anglican liturgies, especially Evening Prayer or Evensong. In fact, some of the most glorious music of the Anglican choral tradition (both then and now) has been written to sing the canticles Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis for use at this beautiful service, unique in Christendom. Today our section leaders sing the Magnificat, Mary's song after Gabriel's announcing to her the coming birth in today's Gospel, to an Anglican chant in the King James Version translation. The Magnificat is often used on the later Sundays of Advent in our lectionary. The text is based on the Old Testament's Song of Hannah, 1 Samuel 2:1–10, a prayer delivered by Hannah giving thanks to God for the birth of her son Samuel. There are 21 Canticles in our Prayer Book (in various places between pages 47 and 95), and Hannah's song is now among the canticles more recently approved for Episcopal use since the publication of the prayer book (1979) and hymnal (1982).

We also sing one of the greatest Advent hymns, O come, O come, Emmanuel, Hymn 56, to close the Advent season. Look at the beginning of the printed hymn and you'll see December dates for each verse; these are the dates when the original verses, known as the "O" Antiphons, were sung in monasteries and convents (in fact, the original was discovered in a book used in convents, thus it may well have been composed by a woman). The hymn is based on these antiphons. Also, many of the petitions in the Prayers of the People we have been using this Advent season begin with "O," as they are loosely based on these antiphons and the hymn; some of these petitions almost even quote the hymn text (O Wisdom/vs. 2; , O Desire/vs.7; O Emmanuel/vss. 1 and 8). There are also some beautiful Advent services constructed around the antiphons, and I'd love to do one here some year.

Finally, the Choir sings some Continental Annunciation music, from Czechoslovakia (prelude) and Italy (Communion), as well as Anglican (Offertory).

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 and State of California mandate, as instructed by Bishop Taylor and require 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 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

In Godly Play this week we share Advent one more time before Christmas, in a circle around Bethlehem instead of the straight journey we've been on. Kristy Kiper and Anne Conover lead.

The Youth Formation Class, grades 5-8, topic for Sunday, November 21, is "The Birth of Jesus", 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, January 20, 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

The Prayer Shawl Ministry group will be working at home for the next two weeks (December 24 and 31). We'll meet again in person on Friday, January 7, at 10 am.

Questions? Contact Barbara Stewart barbarastewart001@gmail.com



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. Today is the deadline for submitting your donation.



Rector Search Update



One year ago in Advent, St. Michael's began the rector transition process for the third time in our 53 year history. One year later, we are excited to announce that the Transition Committee led by Lynn Headley is nearing completion of Phase 2, a major milestone that includes completion of our parish profile. Look for St. Michael's Parish Profile to be published to the parish at the start of the new year.

The completion of this important milestone moves us closer to the point when we will graduate to Phase 3 and begin receiving candidate names. In preparation, a Search Committee is being formed to review candidate applications, interview applicants; and recommend a shortlist to the vestry.

We are blessed and privileged to have Susan+ as a devoted Interim Priest in Charge and she is committed to supporting us as we prayerfully and intentionally discern what's next for our community.

A big thank you from the Vestry to every parishioner and committee member for taking part in this important process and remaining steadfast as we move through the proscribed steps. We ask for continued prayers as we continue this journey of discovery.



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

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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*