

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT
ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



THE HOLY EUCHARIST — 10:15 A.M.
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2022

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Welcome to St. John's! We invite you to help create the experience of silence before our service. Our hope is to calm our hearts as we prepare to enter into an intensity of shared presence.

Preludes **A Song of Peace** Opus 113, No. 4 **C.V. Stanford**
Freu dich sehr, o meine Seele Partitas 1, 2, 4 **G. Böhm**

All rise at the sound of the church bell.

Hymn **Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding** **Hymnal 59**

Presider Blessed are you, holy and living One.
People **You come to your people and set them free.**

The Collect of the Day

Presider God be with you
People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

You may be seated.

The First Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,

the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
 and a little child shall lead them.
 The cow and the bear shall graze,
 their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the
 ox.
 The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
 and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
 They will not hurt or destroy
 on all my holy mountain;
 for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
 as the waters cover the sea.
 On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of
 him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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

Psalm 72 *Deus, iudicium*

Tone I.1

A cantor sings the antiphon at the beginning, then the congregation and choir immediately repeat it, singing it again where indicated; a cantor sings the verses to plainchant.

Antiphon

Tell it out among the nations, and say;
 "Be - hold, he comes, our God and Saviour,"

- 1 Give the King your justice, Ó God, *
 and your righteousness / to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously *
 and the / poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
 and the little / hills bring righteousness.

Antiphon

- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush / the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation / to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that / water the earth.

Antiphon

- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the / moon shall be no more.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!
- 19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
/ Amen. Amen.

Antiphon

The Second Lesson: Romans 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name";

and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";

and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him";

and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn **Comfort, comfort ye my people**

Hymnal 67

Holy Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12, standing

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

 "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume 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.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Kate E. Wesch

Silence and stillness are kept after the sermon.

The Nicene Creed, standing

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 worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People, *standing*

Intercessor Holy God, ever with us and ever on your way towards us, we look to you this Advent, willing your kingdom to come, knowing it is not ours to take. Come to us in the many guises of love; meet our longing, enter our waiting, give life to our hoping. Your kingdom come.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Advent God, Hope of the hopeless, you alone give reason to move forward. Give hope to those throughout the world who this day are hungry for basic gifts ---- food, to those who are aching from hunger. A home, to provide shelter and safety. Education, to provide opportunities for jobs. Justice, to give all a chance. God of hope. Your kingdom come.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Advent God, Love of the loveless, you are the One who never fails to love beyond boundaries. You love all without question; the loveless and unloving. May we bring your love to those whom we may reject because of what they have done to us or what they may represent to us. Open our hearts to know them now. Give us strength to love, give them strength to respond. Give us the gentleness to love ourselves as well. God of love, help us love. Your kingdom come.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Advent God, Joy of the joyless. You are the source of all delight. In a world of desperate pleasure and stale smiles, move us to the place where true joys are to be found. We pray for those who face this season of joy with deep apprehension, knowing it is a season where true poverty may be revealed; poverty of love, of friends, of family, of purpose, of spirit. God of joy, help us bring your joy. Your kingdom come.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For all from our parish who serve in the Armed Forces, especially Douglas Hamillton, Carl Heise, Molly and Jon Hilzinger, Andrew Moeller, Andy

Morgado, Joshua Robeson, Spencer Russo, Brian Tewart, and Kyle Webb, that they will be strong in your power, shielded by faith, and kept from all harm. Your kingdom come.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For all who suffer in mind, spirit, heart, or body, especially, Kathy Arthur, Peter Bierrie, Jinny Buracchi, Helen Chatman, Connie Cliffe, Sandra and Tony Custodio, Roger Deakin, Jim Emig, Erica, Robert Fresher, Nancy Gould, Mike Hawley, Kelly Kimball, Glenn Jacobsen, Michaela, Jim Scala, John Schumacher, Joan Squelia, Donna Stutts, and Kathy Wesch, asking that you will comfort, heal, and hold them, keeping them always in the knowledge of your love and the security of your presence. Your kingdom come.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For all who have died and now dwell in your light, that they may rest in peace and rise in glory. Your kingdom come.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Presider God of Advent, we set ourselves to longing again, longing, waiting and hoping. We long for your kingdom to come and for the transformation of the world, for it to be on earth as it is in heaven. The glimmerings of that new world needs to become real in us. Come, Advent God with the promise of new birth in Emmanuel, Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin, kneeling

Presider Let us confess our sins to God.

A moment of reflective silence is kept.

People **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives.**

We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.

Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

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, standing

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you!

People **And also with you!**

Then the ministers and people may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Sentence

Presider Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.
The congregation's offering for the mission and ministry of the church is received. Please be seated.

Anthem **Be peace on earth**

W. Crotch

Presentation, *standing*

The congregation's gifts of bread, wine, and money are presented and placed on the Holy Table. Weekly donations to the Shoreline Pantry are placed before the Altar.

The Great Thanksgiving: *Eucharistic Prayer 2, Enriching Our Worship*

Presider The Lord 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 God thanks and praise.**

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing (say):

Sanctus *from Missa De Sancta Maria Magdalena*

H. Willan

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - - ly, Lord God of power and might,
Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he that comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel, as the Presider continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, 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.

Again, he gave thanks to you, 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."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. 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.**

Presider And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

The Lord's Prayer, said by all

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem *from Missa De Sancta Maria Magdalena*

H. Willan

Musical score for the Fraction Anthem. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace." The music features a simple melody with some phrasing slurs and repeat signs.

The Invitation to Communion

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God. Holy things for holy people. All seeking God are welcome at Christ's Table to receive Holy Communion or a blessing. For a blessing, cross your hands over your chest. We are not allowing intinction at this time. Gluten-free bread is available for those requiring it. Please indicate this by holding one arm across your chest. If you are unable to come forward, ask an usher or someone nearby to request that communion be brought to you.

Hymn **There's a voice in the wilderness crying**

Hymnal 75

Prayer after Communion, standing

Presider Let us pray.
People **Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Sending of Eucharistic Visitors, as requested

Presider In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.
People **We, who are many, are one body, for we all share one bread, one cup.**

Blessing, standing

Presider May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from
before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the
Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn Prepare the way, O Zion

Hymnal 65

The Dismissal, standing

Presider Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude Freu dich sehr, o meine Seele Partitas 5, 7

G. Böhm

ALTAR FLOWERS THIS SUNDAY

Today's altar flowers are given by Peggy and Howard Tuttle in loving memory of Peggy's
sister, Betsy Clarke and Howard's brother, David Tuttle.

CLERGY & PARISH STAFF

The Rev. Kate E. Wesch, *Rector*
 Chelsea DiDonato, *Parish Administrator & Communications Director*
 Anthony Pandolfe, Jr., *Director of Music*
 Mairi Graham-Shaw, *Intern for Liturgy & Preaching*
 Manuel Matute, *Sexton*
 Dayle Larson, *Bookkeeper*

VOLUNTEER PROFESSIONALS

Allison Fresher, *Liturgical Coordinator & Serving Ministry*
 Bill Scharfenstein, *Building and Grounds*
 Greg Perruccio, *Stewardship Chair*
 Howard Tuttle, *Treasurer*

VOLUNTEER MINISTRY LEADERS

Barbara Stacks, *Prayer Shawl Ministry*
 Mary Bowers & Paulette Rider, *Rummage Sale*
 Marlene Going, *Weekly Food Collection*
 Stephanie Patterson, *Altar Guild*
 Peggy Tuttle, *Pastoral Care Card Ministry*
 Jennifer Miller, *Meal Ministry*

THE SAINT JOHN'S BIBLE CORE TEAM

The Rev. Kate E. Wesch
 Allison Fresher
 Dan Taylor-Stypa
 Jennifer Miller
 Maggie Walden

OUTREACH PARTNERS

Mary Bowers	<i>Shoreline Soup Kitchen and Pantries</i>
David Evangelisti	<i>Middlesex Habitat for Humanity</i>
Ed Shyloski & Charlie Walden	<i>Ministry to Veterans and Active Military Personal</i>
Jenifer Grant	<i>Sister Cities Essex Haiti</i>
Jim Myslik	<i>The Witness Stones Project</i>
Karen van der Horst	<i>Nursing Ministry</i>
Rhode van Gessel	<i>A Sacred Place</i>

VESTRY

Karen Kaestle, *Warden*; Dan Taylor-Stypa, *Warden*; Nat Eddy, *Vestry Clerk*; Howard Tuttle, *Treasurer*; Carol Beisser, Lee Gaby, Darrell Jones, Scott Konrad, Sandy Loether, Stacie Padelli, Ellen Pfarr, Patricia Pittsinger, Rob van der Horst

Serving Today at 10:15 AM

Organist & Choir Director	Anthony Pandolfe, Jr
Lectors	Nat Eddy & Chris Woodside
Intercessor	Scott Konrad
Ushers	Sharon Craig & Walter Rasmussen
Eucharistic Minister & Crucifer	Karen van der Horst
Videographer	Nat Eddy
Saint John's Gospel Bearers	Carol Richmond & Rob van der Horst
Altar Guild	Carol Beisser & Stephanie Patterson
Counters	Clio Coles & Rob van der Horst
Liturgical Coordinator & Verger	Allison Fresher
Intern for Liturgy & Preaching	Mairi Graham-Shaw
Presider & Preacher	The Rev. Kate E. Wesch

WORSHIP & STUDY TIMES

TUESDAYS | Bible Study — 10:30 AM
WEDNESDAYS | Morning Prayer — 10 AM
SUNDAYS | Holy Eucharist — 8 & 10:15 AM
 "Come As You Are" Worship Service — 5 PM

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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