

The Fourth Sunday of Advent
22 December 2024
10:15 A.M.



All Saints' Episcopal Church

16 All Saints Road, Princeton, NJ 08540
www.allsaintsprinceton.org

Rector

Rev. Dr. George Rambow

Priest Associates

Rev. Canon Joan Fleming

Rev. Dr. Karl Morrison

Rev. Megan Thomas

Staff

Kevin O'Malia, *Director of Music*

Priscilla Bostock, *Parish Administrator*

Brian Kirby, *Sexton*

Annie Thomas, *Cemetery Manager*

Lisa Sia, *Nursery Care*

Our Vestry

Bob Bostock (*Senior Warden*)

Suzanne Thompson (*Junior Warden*)

Shereka Banton

Jim Barringer

George Barrood

Doty Horn

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Welcome to All Saints' Church!

We seek to be a grace-filled refuge where you can be who you are today. Wherever you happen to be on your spiritual journey—wherever you have come from, wherever you are going—your presence enriches us, and we are very glad you are here. As flawed and imperfect people, we come together to look to God for healing and for the strength to become, like Christ, healers in a broken world. May you find here the grace and peace that you need today.

If you are a parent trying to balance worship with caring for young children, we know this can be a special challenge! Nursery care is available, and we understand if you need to step out of the service for a few minutes to care for restless young ones—but we do encourage you to bring them back in when you can! Our congregation welcomes the young, and we believe that the act of worship is important for everyone, regardless of age or any other consideration. Though we are quite proud of our liturgy, preaching, and music, we view them as acts of communal worship rather than performance, and we understand that a toddler squirming during a sermon, or an infant “singing along” to a choral anthem, are in fact signs that our congregation is thriving and young people are in our midst!

Our Mission

*We seek to celebrate and participate in
God's creative and healing work in the world
through liturgical worship,
the cultivation of our minds, works of love,
and the experience and co-creation of beauty.*

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Prelude from “Antiphons for Organ, Magnificat: He Remembering
His Mercy, hath Holpen His Servant Israel.”
Marcel Dupré

Choral Introit Advent Prose (IV), *Rorate Caeli*
traditional Plainsong

*Rorate caeli desuper, et nubes pluant iustum.
Consolámini, consolámini, pópule méus:
cito véniet sálus túa:
quare mæróre consuérís,
quia innovávit te dólor?
Salvábo te, nóli timére,
égo enim sum Dóminus Déus tíus,
Sánctus Israë́l, Redémptor tíus.*

Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour forth righteousness.
Comfort ye, comfort ye my people;
my salvation shall not tarry:
why wilt thou waste away in sadness?
why hath sorrow seized thee?
Fear not, for I will save thee:
For I am the Lord thy God,
the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer.

Procession

The ministers and choir process in silence.

The family lighting the Advent wreath approaches the front of the Sanctuary.

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Leader Today, we light the fourth candle of Advent, the candle of
love.

All four advent candles are lit.

People **Light of the world, mirror of God’s eternal face, transparent
flame of love, in grace and beauty you bring salvation to
humankind.**

Leader Holy God, we have kindled this candle with thanksgiving for
the revelation in the coming birth of Jesus Christ that you are
love.

People

Holy Immortal One, grant us grace and strength to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with you. May our lives reflect the brightness of your glory into the dark spaces of this world, that all who feel lonely or unworthy may know that they are loved unconditionally by you. Amen.

Hymn

#56, O come, O come Emmanuel
v.7-8



(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. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

The Opening Acclamation & Collect for Purity BCP 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Celebrant continues

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

Trisagion S-102

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

Music: Ver. *Hymnal 1982*, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Collect of the Day BCP 212

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.

Invitation to Children's Church

Children in kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to meet their Children's Church teacher at the back of the sanctuary and then process to the library.

The congregation is seated for the Lessons and the Psalm.

The First Lesson

Micah 5:2-5a

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;

and he shall be the one of peace.

Lector **The Word of the Lord.**

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 15

Magnificat

Antiphon



Sing the prais - es of the Lord, for he has done great things.

**Choir sings antiphon, congregation repeats, choir chants psalm, all sing antiphon at conclusion*

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Second Lesson

Hebrews 10:5-10

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 The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

#268, Ye who claim the faith of Jesus

Introduction/Interlude

Descant

4 "Mag - ni - fi - cat

1 Ye who claim the faith of Je - sus, sing the
 2 Bless - ed were the cho - sen peo - ple out of
 3 There-fore let all faith - ful peo - ple sing the
 4 "Mag - ni - fy, my soul, God's great - ness; in my

an - i - ma me - a

won - ders that were done when the love of God the
 whom the Lord did come; bless - ed was the land of
 hon - or of her name; let the Church, in her fore -
 Sa - vior I re - joice; all the a - ges call me

Do - mi - num. Mag -

Fa - ther o - ver sin the vic - tory won, when he
 prom - ise fa - shioned for his earth - ly home; but more
 shad - owed, part in her thanks - giv - ing claim; what Christ's
 bless - ed, in his praise I lift my voice; he has

ni - fi - cat, mag - ni - fi - cat."

made the Vir - gin Ma - ry mo - ther of his on - ly Son.
 bless - ed far the mo - ther, she who bore him in her womb.
 mo - ther sang in glad - ness let Christ's peo - ple sing the same:
 cast down all the might - y, and the low - ly are his choice."

Conclusion

Words: Sts. 1-3, Vincent Stuckey Stratton Coles (1845-1929), alt.; st. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984) metrical *Magnificat*.
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The Holy Gospel

Luke 1:39-45

Gospeler 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."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

Fr. George

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

The congregation stands.

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

Seasonal Prayers

The Leader and People pray responsively

Leader We wait in the darkness, expectantly, longingly, anxiously, thoughtfully. In the darkness of the womb, we were all nurtured and protected. In the darkness of the womb, the Christ-child was made ready for the journey into light.

People **You are with us, O God, in darkness and in light.**

Leader It is only in the darkness that we can see the splendor of the universe—blankets of stars, the solitary glowings of distant planets. It was the darkness that allowed the magi to find the star that guided them to where the Christ-child lay.

People **You are with us, O God, in darkness and in light.**

Leader In the darkness of the night, desert people find relief from the cruel relentless heat of the sun. In the blessed darkness, Mary and Joseph were able to flee with the infant Jesus to safety in Egypt.

People **You are with us, O God, in darkness and in light.**

Leader In the darkness of sleep, we are soothed and restored, healed and renewed. In the darkness of sleep, dreams rise up. God spoke to Jacob and Joseph through dreams. God is speaking still.

People **You are with us, O God, in darkness and in light.**

Leader In the solitude of darkness, we are reminded of those who need God's presence in a special way—the sick, the unemployed, the bereaved, the persecuted, the homeless; those who are demoralized and discouraged, those whose fear has turned to cynicism, those whose vulnerability has become bitterness. In the darkness, we remember those who are near to our hearts—family, friends, coworkers, and neighbors. We thank God for their presence and ask God to bless and protect them in all that they do—at home, at school, as they travel, as they work, as they play.

People **You are with us, O God, in darkness and in light.**

Leader Sometimes, in the solitude of darkness, our fears and concerns, our hopes and our visions rise to the surface. We come face to face with ourselves and with the road that lies ahead of us. In that same darkness, we sometimes allow ourselves to wonder and worry whether the human race is going to make it at all. But in that same darkness we find companionship for the journey.

People **We know you are with us, O God, yet we still await your coming. In the darkness that contains both our hopelessness and our expectancy, we watch for a sign of Hope.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Confession of Sin and Absolution

BCP 352

The Celebrant or Deacon says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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 Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says

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 Laying on of Hands and Anointing

BCP 455

Celebrant Savior of the world, by your cross and precious blood you have redeemed us;

People **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech you, O Lord.**

Any who wish to have a prayer of healing said over them and to be anointed with holy oil are invited to come to the chancel rail.

The Celebrant concludes

The Almighty Lord, who is a strong tower to all who put their trust in him, to whom all things in heaven, on earth, and under the earth bow and obey: Be now and evermore your defense, and make you know and feel that the only Name under heaven given for health and salvation is the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Peace

BCP 360

The congregation stands.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

O Radiant Dawn
Sir James MacMillan

O Radiant Dawn, Splendour of eternal Light, Sun of Justice:
come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.

Isaiah had prophesied,

The people who walked in darkness have seen the great light
upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.

Amen.

(Final "O Antiphon" translated)

Presentation Hymn

#76, On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
v.5

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

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

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

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

The Great Thanksgiving

BCP 367

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 him thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is said.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus & Benedictus

Mass in the Lydian Mode

Richard Webster

All voices

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

High voices

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na,

Low voices

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
- san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Then the Celebrant continues

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;**

The Celebrant continues

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 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. **AMEN.**

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

**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 Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem

Mass in the Lydian Mode
Richard Webster

All voices

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

The Celebrant offers the following Invitation
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All who seek a closer relationship with Christ are invited to His Table.

To receive the Bread, stand or kneel and the priest will place the Bread in the palm of your hand. The Wine may be received either by intinction (by dipping the Bread into the Wine) or by sipping carefully from the chalice. If it is not your custom to receive communion, we invite you to come to the altar, cross your arms over your chest and bow your head for a blessing.

If you have difficulty moving from the pews to the altar rail, please notify an usher, and Communion will be brought to you.

Gluten free wafers are available.

Communion Motet

Mary's Magnificat

Andrew Carter

Softly a light is stealing,
Sweetly a maiden sings,
Ever wakeful, ever wistful,
Watching faithfully, thankfully,
Tenderly her King of kings.

My soul doth magnify,
Doth magnify the Lord:
And my spirit hath rejoiced,
Rejoiced in God my Saviour.

Mary her song to Jesus
Softly serenely sings:
"I will love you, I will serve you,
May my lullaby glorify,
Magnify my King of kings".

Lullaby, lullaby.
(Andrew Carter)
Julia Fernandez, solo

The Postcommunion Prayer

BCP 366

All stand.

Celebrant and People

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 Blessing

BOS 22

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. **Amen.**

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

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

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

#438, Tell out my soul



1 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!
 2 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his Name!
 3 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his might!
 4 Tell out, my soul, the glo-ries of his word!



Un-num-bered bless-ings give my spi-rit voice;
 Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
 Powers and do-minions lay their glo-ry by.
 Firm is his prom-ise, and his mer-cy sure.



ten-der to me the prom-ise of his word;
 his mer-cy sure, from age to age the same;
 Proud hearts and stub-born wills are put to flight,
 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord



in God my Sa-vior shall my heart re-joice.
 his ho-ly Name—the Lord, the Might-y One.
 the hun-gry fed, the hum-ble lift-ed high.
 to chil-dren's chil-dren and for ev-er-more!

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926); based on *The Song of Mary*. Copyright © 1962 by Hope Publishing Company Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Woodlands*, Walter Greatorex (1877-1949), alt. By permission of Oxford University Press.

The Dismissal

BCP 366

Priest Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Postlude

Meine Seele Erhebt den Herren

BWV 733, J.S. Bach

During Advent, in keeping with the reflective nature of the season, the congregation is enjoined to refrain from applauding after the postlude.

Parish Prayer List

For our World: for justice and peace—especially in Ukraine and the Middle East; reverence for the earth, that we may use its resources rightly and have care for the climate

For our Country: for safe travel during holidays to friends and families and safe return home

For our Diocese: *Clergy celebrating ordination anniversaries:* The Revs: Sharon Patterson, Daniel Scott Russell The Very Rev. Deborah A. Cook, G. Douglas Eberly, Canon Martin Gutwein, Dr. Jeffrey M. Kirk
Churches: St. Stephen's Church in Beverly, Mullica Hill, Riverside, Waretown, and Whiting, Church of Sts. Stephen and Barnabas, Florence, St. John's Church in Avalon, Avon-by-the-Sea, Bernardsville, Chews Landing, Elizabeth, Little Silver, Maple Shade, New Brunswick, Somerville, and Woodbridge, Church of the Holy Innocents in Beach Haven

For our Parish: the timely completion of the renovation of the Kitchen and South Room; this week we give thanks for those who serve as our Wardens & Vestry.

Parishioners and Friends with Ongoing Needs or Who are Ill:
Roger Barrett, Lewis Barringer, Megumi Barringer, Jack and Sandy Belmont, Penny Burgoon, Michael Bushnell, Lynn Chamberlain, John Collins, Mary Daetwyler, Priyanka Daniel, John Fleming, Carol and Jim Gould, Gary Harned, Stephen Hegarty, Dave Hewins, Karon Higgins, Wendy Johns, Allie Kowalski, Brooke Kelly, Olga Kronenberg, Jan Logan, Karl Manger, Tony Manning, The Rev. Karl Morrison, Muriel Schmidt, Grace Oldfield, Jack Owen, Joe Nyce, Adrienne Rodewald, Doug Soncrant, Cathy Stroup, Ruth and Jim Varney, Kelley Waters, Howie Zumbun

For Parish Family Members Serving in the U.S. Armed Forces:
MAJ Ian MacPherson (Active Duty, Army)

For Those Celebrating a Birthday in December:
Duncan Beesley (3), Amna Malik (6), Ruth Varney (9), Brian Kirby (16), Trent Walradt (16), Suzanne Thompson (24), Noelle Rambow (31)

Announcements

Pageant (with Live Animals): Immediately following the 10:15 am service, there will be a rehearsal for the 4:00pm Christmas Eve Pageant.

Office Closure: The parish office will be closed through January 3. If you have any pastoral emergencies, please contact Fr. Geoge.

Women's Bible Study: The Women's Bible Study which is regularly scheduled for Wednesdays at 4:30 pm will not meet the next two weeks and will resume on January 8.

Men's Bible Study: The 7:00am Tuesday morning men's Bible study will not meet on Dec. 24 or Dec. 31. It will resume on January 7.

Tuesday Morning Book Study: The 8:00am Tuesday morning book study on Zoom will not meet on Dec. 24 or Dec. 31. It will resume on January 7.

Children's Church: Children's Church will not gather during the 10:15 am service on December 29 or January 5. It will begin again for the spring semester on January 12. Nursery care will still be available.

Adult Forum: There will be no Adult Forum on December 29 or January 5. The Forum will resume on January 12.

Child Care at 9:00am: Starting on January 12, childcare will be provided on Sundays at 9:00 for parents who wish to attend the Adult Forum or rehearse with the choir.

About the Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath is believed to have originated with a Lutheran pastor working among the poor in Germany in the late 1800s. According to tradition, the children whom he served would ask every day if Christmas had arrived, so he arranged candles (four large candles for the weeks and smaller ones for the days) to help the children mark time and journey with Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem without leaving Germany. The wreath came to appear as it does today through the adoption of the practice by German Catholics, who decreased the number of candles to four. Different traditions attribute different meanings to the candles, and even use different colors, but the purpose remains the same: to provide Christians with a way of marking time through the season of anticipation until we reach the birth of Jesus.*

**Taken from the "Preparing to Become the Beloved Community" Advent liturgy for the home, published by the Episcopal Church in 2021.*

St. Augustine's Corner

Advent IV – a foreshadowing of the joy to come!

Today, we hear music connected to the Gospel passage, which narrates the story of the angel Gabriel's Annunciation to Mary, and her own recitation of the Magnificat. For centuries and centuries, the Magnificat has served as a focal point of Christian worship in the season of Advent and in the Divine Office (especially at Evensong and Compline). We hear it in context today, as proclaimed by the Gospel, and have programmed choral and congregational recitations accordingly.

For the communion motet, we hear music of contemporary British composer Andrew Carter, and his setting of his own text "Mary's Magnificat." Rather than set the canticle to music, Carter uses his own through composed text in the first person (as Mary) chanting her song, above the story as it is told. The music is set in lush harmony, with a lilting organ accompaniment. High above the choral parts, a soprano solo, depicting Mary, soars above the four-part choral setting.

For the anthem, we hear the stirring setting of the final of the "O Antiphons," O Radiant Dawn (O Oriens). Traditionally, in Advent, the O Antiphons are recited or chanted throughout the season. These vignettes are images from the prophet Isaiah (O Emmanuel, O Key of David, O Wisdom, etc). This is most commonly sung to the hymn "O Come, O Come Emmanuel." Today, we hear the stirring setting of contemporary British composer, Sir James MacMillan. His cutting harmonies and abrupt choral passages give ear to the anticipation and urgency of the Redeemer's coming. We will reprise this on Christmas Eve, at the onset of the service, to serve as a call to worship.

We bookend the service with two organ pieces, from across the centuries. Set in the tradition of French organ and choral antiphony, the prelude is taken from a set of 5 organ versets to be played in alternatum with a choir singing the Magnificat chant. In today's setting, we hear a both stark and meditative setting taken from the conclusion "He Remembering his Mercy." And for the postlude, we hear a full four-part fugue of Bach, taken from his mature master period in Leipzig. The same Magnificat chant from the prelude is now again heard in the postlude, in long and booming pedal notes over a fluid manual counterpoint!

Liturgical Panels

Mako Fujimura

In Advent, we anticipate the birth of Christ, and the panels are “open” (with slight space in between the diptych) to indicate God’s “crack” in time and space to bring our Savior into our domain. At Pentecost, these panels will reappear “closed”, with no space in between, indicating the power of the Holy Spirit’s act to close all communication gaps between us and God, as well as each other.

The south wall (to the right as you enter the sanctuary) will be filled with the resplendence of Japanese gold on top of cinnabar and dark red.

Because the microscopically thin Japanese gold is gilded on top of canvas, there will be an intentional “distressed” effect when the surface is washed down. The north wall canvases “catch” the flowing river of gold as I had placed them beneath the south wall paintings. In Christmas, such a flow reminds us of divine birth, giving us another New Birth in us. I hope these liturgical panels act as a portal to connect with the New Creation.

Participants in this Service

Celebrant & Preacher: *The Rev. Dr. George Rambow*

Assisting: *The Rev. Dr. Karl Morrison*

Crucifer: *Nicholas Higgins*

Lay Eucharistic Minister: *Liz Colagiuri*

Lectors: *Paulette Forber-Rader, John Allen*

Intercessor: *Louise Gross*

Ushers: *Paul Murphy, Steve Voorhees*

Altar Guild: *RoMa Johnson*

Streaming & Sound: *Roland Patterson*

Coffee Hour Host: *Shereka Banton*

Director of Music: *Kevin O'Malia*

All Saints' Parish Choir

Upcoming Services & Events

Tuesday, December 24

4:00 PM Family Service with Live Animal Pageant

7:30 PM Carol Sing

8:00 PM Christmas Choral Eucharist

Wednesday, December 25

10:15 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, December 29

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10:15 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Alcoholics Anonymous meets daily at 7:30 AM www.cjiaa.org



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