



Prepare
the way
for the
Lord

**Second Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2017**



ST. PATRICK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Ministry of the Diocese of North Carolina

Serving the Mooresville and Lake Norman area

The Reverend Dr. Sally M. Brower, Assisting Rector

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 10, 2017

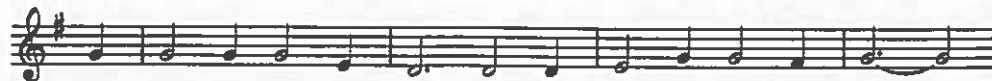
Liturgy of the Word

Processional Hymn: "Prepare the Way, O Zion"

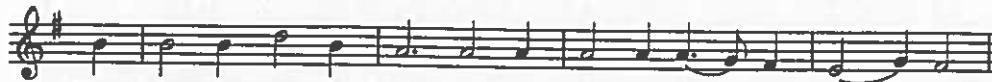
Bereden vag for Herran



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



Refrain
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

Watch and wait for Christ's coming!

Light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer.

We light this candle in hope. Light the first candle.

We light this candle for peace. Light the second candle.

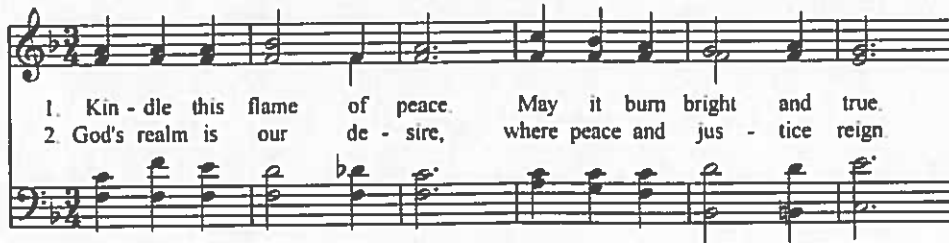
Let us pray:

Faithful God, you are at work to restore all of creation in its intended harmony.

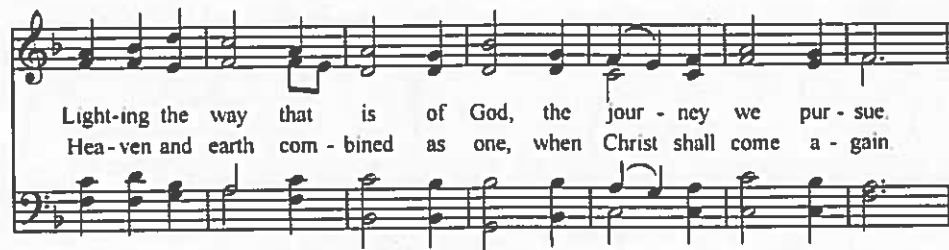
Give us your shalom that we may be reconciled to all enemies in the peace that passes all understanding through Christ Jesus our Lord.

God of promise, God of hope, come into our darkness.

Advent 2



1. Kin - die this flame of peace. May it burn bright and true.
2. God's realm is our de - sire, where peace and jus - tice reign



Light - ing the way that is of God, the jour - ney we pur - sue.
Hea - ven and earth com - bined as one, when Christ shall come a - gain

Collect

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Wild God of the wastes, whose gospel begins with a cry and a summons: take us to a pathless place where we can start again to taste creation's gifts anew and await the Spirit's touch; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. *Amen.*

The Lessons

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might,

and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

1. You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
2. You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.
8. I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.
9. Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.
10. Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
11. Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
12. The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
13. Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

A Reading from the Second Letter of Peter

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive

to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.


The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

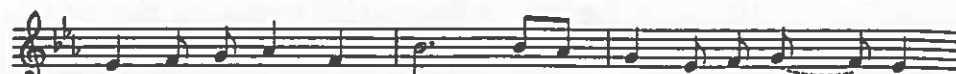
Sequence Hymn: "There's A Voice in the Wilderness"

Ascension

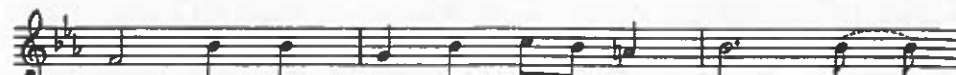
Verse 1 before the Gospel; verses 2 and 3 after the Gospel




1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a —
2 O — Zi - on, that bring - est good tid - ings, get thee
3 but the word of our God — en - dur - eth, the —



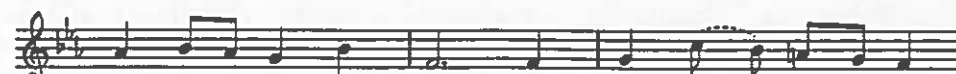
call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a
up to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late
arm of the Lord is strong; he stands in the midst — of




high - way, a high - way for our God! The —
peo - ple the com - ing of their King. Like the
na - tions, and he will right the wrong. He shall



val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the
flowers of the field they — per - ish, like
feed his — flock like a shep - herd, the



lof - ty hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed
grass our works de - cay, the power and — pomp of
lambs he'll gent - ly hold; to pas - tures of peace he'll



pla - ces where the Lord our — God — may go!
na - tions shall — pass like a dream — a - way;
lead them, and — bring them — safe to his fold.

*The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark
Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

*Santo Evangelio de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo según San Marcos
¡Gloria a ti, Cristo Señor!*

Principio de la buena noticia de Jesús el Mesías, el Hijo de Dios. Está escrito en el libro del profeta Isaías: «Envío mi mensajero delante de ti, para que te prepare el camino. Una voz grita en el desierto: "Preparen el camino del Señor; ábranle un camino recto."» Y así se presentó Juan el Bautista en el desierto; decía a todos que debían volverse a Dios y ser bautizados, para que Dios les perdonara sus pecados. Todos los de la región de Judea y de la ciudad de Jerusalén salían a oírlo. Confesaban sus pecados, y Juan los bautizaba en el río Jordán. La ropa de Juan estaba hecha de pelo de camello, y se la sujetaba al cuerpo con un cinturón de cuero; y comía langostas y miel del monte. En su proclamación decía: «Después de mí viene uno más poderoso que yo, que ni siquiera merezco agacharme para desatarle la correa de sus sandalias. Yo los he bautizado a ustedes con agua; pero él los bautizará con el Espíritu Santo.»

El Evangelio del Señor.

Te alabamos, Cristo Señor.

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Sally M. Brower

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

Please sit, kneel, or stand as is your custom, and for your comfort.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, Samuel and Anne our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers:
For all who serve God in his Church.

Send your comforting and healing presence upon all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit.
Naming those closest to our hearts, we pray especially for ...
Are there others for whom you wish to pray?

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Especially we pray for

Are there others for whom you wish to pray?

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life and for the mystery of love.

We remember the birthdays of

Are there more thanksgivings to offer to our gracious and generous God?

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Mary the God-bearer, Patrick and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.
To you, O Lord our God.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The priest pronounces God's mercy and forgiveness.

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 Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Visitor Welcome and Announcements

Should you desire healing prayer for yourself or for a loved one, please feel free to take a seat at the healing station anytime during Holy Communion. The appointed healing minister will listen to your request and then proceed to pray. You also have the option of being anointed with consecrated healing oil. Please know that all prayer requests are kept strictly confidential. The healing station is located at the back far corner of the sanctuary, next to the votive candle prayer station.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Invitation: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

Offertory Music: "A Light in the Wilderness"

written by Randall Sprinkle

The Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise him all creatures here below
Praise him above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. The parts alternate between the Presider and the Congregation.

Presider: The Lord be with you. **Congregation:** And al - so with

Presider: you. **Congregation:** Lift up your hearts. **We**

Presider: lift them to the Lord. **Let us give**

Congregation: thanks to the Lord our God. **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; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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:

Found in the Hymnal S-125 Found in the Hymnal

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
 There - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

Communion Hymn: "My God, Thy Table Now is Spread"

Rockingham

1 My God, thy ta - ble now is spread, thy cup with
 2 O let thy ta - ble hon - ored be, and fur - nished
 3 Drawn by thy quick - ening grace, O Lord, in count - less
 4 Nor let thy spread - ing Gos - pel rest till through the

love doth o - ver - flow; be all thy chil - dren
 well with joy - ful guests; and may each soul sal -
 num - bers let them come and gath - er from their
 world thy truth has run, till with this Bread shall

thith - er led, and let them thy sweet mer - cies know.
 a - tion see, that here its sa - cred pledg - es tastes.
 Fa - ther's board the Bread that lives be - yond the tomb.
 all be blessed who see the light or feel the sun.

Communion: "Wait For the Lord"

Taize

The musical score is written for piano and voice. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near." The second system also has a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp and a common time signature. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!"

Em C Am⁶ B

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Em D G Am B Em

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Post Communion Prayer

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

The Blessing

Priest:

Life is short.

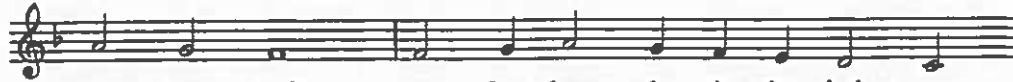
We have not much time to gladden the hearts of those who journey with us.

Therefore, be swift to love, make haste to be kind and seek peace.

And the blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, be among you now and ever more. Amen.



1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus
2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert
3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er



saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -
since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry



ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



tell her that her sins I cov - er,
let the val - leys rise to meet him
and all flesh shall see the to - ken



and her war - fare now is o - ver.
and the hills bow down to greet him.
that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THIS WEEK AT SAINT PATRICK'S			
Monday, December 11	6:30 p.m.	EfM	Clergy Parlor
Tuesday, December 12	6:00 p.m.	Centering Prayer	Sanctuary
	7:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
Wednesday, December 13	9:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist	Sanctuary
	11:40 a.m.	Preschool Chapel	Sanctuary
	5:30 p.m.	Meditation Class	Sanctuary
	6:30 p.m.	Advent Program	Sanctuary

Welcome to Our Visitors and Newcomers

We are happy to have you with us. This service is part of our ongoing life of worship, learning and service. We are here to deepen our relationship with God and with one another, and to explore how to live our lives more fully and compassionately. Please know that you are invited to participate in all aspects of our worship, most importantly by sharing with us in our common meal at God's Table.

Regarding communion, please know that gluten free wafers are available upon request. When receiving wine, you may choose between dipping your wafer in the chalice or directly sipping from it. If you choose not to receive communion, but would like to receive a blessing, please come before the clergy with arms crossing your chest. Whatever your choice God's abundant grace knows no bounds.

We invite you to continue the journey with us; ask questions, attend our educational offerings, and otherwise participate in the activities of this community. Please know how grateful we are for your visit. Your presence enhances our worship and enriches our communal life. Thank you.

Those persons serving our community this morning:

- 8:30 a.m.** - LEM/Lector/Acolyte: Greg Smith.
- 10:30 a.m.** - Chalice Bearers: Drew O'Donnell, Scott Laughinghouse; Lectors: Tammy Laughinghouse, Colleen Ramsey; Psalm: Rita Azali; POP: Rick Krumel; Acolyte: Quentin Bondurant; Altar Guild: Bob and Karalee Millikin; Lay Minister of Healing: Linda Bondurant; Ushers: Cathy and Jim Hadden; Greeters: Carolyn and Don Rogers; Counters: Jim Hadden, Julie Lynch; Coffee Hour Team: Kat Sykes, Ginger Stensby.



ALTAR FLOWERS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD
 The flowers on the pedestal in front of the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God.

Weekly Announcements

BISHOP VISITATION NEXT SUNDAY

Bishop Suffragan Anne Hodges-Copple will be with us next Sunday, December 17th for Confirmation and Reaffirmation of Baptism. She will lead an Adult Forum at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary and will be the preacher, celebrant and officiant for the day. The offering will be designated for the Bishop's Discretionary Fund; checks can be made out to the Diocese of NC. There will be a reception for the Bishop following the 10:30 a.m. service. Please bring an appetizer to share.

NEW VESTRY MEMBERS NEEDED

The Annual Meeting of the Parish will be held on Sunday, February 11th, 2018. During that meeting we will need to elect three new persons to serve on the Vestry. The three leaders who are rolling off are: Charlotte Lafon (Outreach), Bob Smith (Buildings and Grounds) and Laurie Smith (Communications). If you feel called to serve in one of these ministries for a two-year term on the Vestry, please do speak with one of the Wardens or any member of the Vestry. You must declare your interest by January 14th.

PLEDGE CARD REMINDER

Thank you to those of you who have returned your financial Pledge Card for 2018. If you have not yet returned a pledge card, we ask you to prayerfully consider making a financial pledge commitment in support of St. Patrick's church in the coming year, by returning your Pledge Card, or alternatively contacting Julie Lynch directly as soon as possible. Your generosity will fuel St. Patrick's ministries and bless many people in the coming year—including yourself! Your prompt response will assist our leaders in planning and is much appreciated.

NEW TEXT TO GIVE OPTION

It is now easier than ever to give a gift or make a pledge payment to St. Patrick's, using your smart phone. As an easy alternative to check or cash you can use our new TEXT TO GIVE option. Simply send a text message to: 73256, type in the message GIVETOSTPAT and \$ amount. You will quickly receive a text in reply to your message, click on the message and follow instructions to complete your gift. First time users will need to complete the payment information; once you are set up, your account will automatically fill in. If you have any questions please see Ginny Stehle after the service.

ADVENT PROGRAM FOR DECEMBER 13

On Wednesday December 13th our Intergenerational Advent Program continues with making Luminaria. Last week we had 30 people aged from 3 to 83. Newcomers and long-timers came out to make Advent wreaths, so join in the fun. Individuals, couples, and families are invited to share supper at 6:30 p.m. followed by our Advent craft, with all materials and instruction provided. Sign up in the Narthex, or via the link in the Weekly Reminders. Please let us know how many are coming from your household. You can also sign up to bring something for supper.

ANGEL TREE MINISTRY

The Angel Tree ministry for 2017 kicked off this past Sunday, December 3rd. Our Angel Tree brings the joy and magic of Christmas to local children. Working through the Winnie Hooper Center, St. Patrick's is given a list of names of local children in need, along with their wish list for Christmas. Named tags are chosen by parishioners from the Angel Tree (located in the narthex) several weeks before Christmas. We purchase, wrap, label, and return gifts to St. Patrick's in time before Christmas. **REMINDER:** Angel Tree gifts are due back to church no later than **December 17th**. All gifts should clearly mark the CHILD'S NUMBER (1a, 1b, etc.) found on the tag. **TIP:** If purchasing multiple gifts, put all gifts into one larger bag or box for the child and affix the tag from the angel tree to the larger bag/box. Please contact Julie Klapp (303) 522-5152 or jklapp@gmail.com if you have questions or need assistance. Thank you to those of you who have already chosen a tag from the Angel Tree. Tags are still available and are going fast!

CHRISTMAS TREES, WREATHS AND POINSETTIAS

It is our tradition at St. Patrick's to decorate our worship space with beautiful Christmas trees, wreaths, and poinsettias for our services on Christmas Eve. We are able to continue this tradition each year thanks to the generous donations we get to the flower fund from our parishioners. You can donate in loving memory of a loved one, or in thanksgiving for someone. Suggested donation is \$15, with \$5 added for each additional name. The memorials and thanksgivings will be listed in our bulletin at the Christmas Eve services. Poinsettias may be taken home immediately following the 8:00 p.m. service. Deadline for donations is Wednesday, December 20th. Please complete the form in the Narthex or via the link in the Weekly Reminders. Thank you!

READING BUDDIES TRAINING AFTER SERVICE TODAY

St. Patrick's Hispanic Outreach Mission (HOM) announces a Reading Buddies volunteer-tutor training session from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. following the 10:30 a.m. Service today. Please call or email Steve Iglehart if you are interested at (704) 533-2869 or iglehars@gmail.com.

PICTURE ADVENT PHOTO CHALLENGE ONGOING

Our Picture Advent photo challenge is underway. You are encouraged to take a photo each day in Advent and share it to our Instagram account [@stpatslkn](https://www.instagram.com/stpatslkn), using the hashtag [#stpatsadventlkn](https://www.instagram.com/stpatsadventlkn). The theme and scripture reading for each day is listed on the forms in the Narthex, or via the link in the Weekly Reminders. Join us in posting a picture a day and remember to look at everyone's post and add some encouraging comments. All ages are invited and encouraged to participate and help make this a meaningful and joyous Advent season.

ROOM IN THE INN – NEXT ON DECEMBER 21

The time is now for St. Patrick's to help serve our homeless neighbors at Davidson United Methodist Church. We are hosting the first and third Thursdays from December 7th through March 22nd, 2018. Please consider contributing in whatever capacity you can. Food preparation, serving, cleanup and morning cleanup are a few of the tasks at hand. Overnight hosts are particularly needed. Sign up on our website now, do not delay. Contact Sigrid Gimla at sigridgimla@gmail.com or phone (704) 765-5709 if you have any questions. Look for the sign up links in the Weekly Reminders. Thank you in advance for your devotion to this ministry.

NEW VIDEO OF ST. PATRICK'S FOUNDERS UP ON WEBSITE

Our new video "The Seed Planters," that features a number of our church founders and that we watched as part of our celebrations of "Gathering Together" recently, can now be easily found by simply clicking on our website www.welcomestpat.org. Please enjoy!

GIVE HOPE GLOBAL - FEBRUARY TRIP TO HAITI

Are you ready for a life-changing trip to help the underserved? Your help is needed for construction, medical, teaching and orphan care. The trip is scheduled for February 24th through March 3rd, 2018. Thanks to generous donations we do have scholarship money available. Please go to www.givehopeglobal.org to start the application process. If you have questions, please speak with Lillian Ferdinands or Bill Flannery.

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY TODAY

The Youth Group Christmas Party will be held after the 10:30 Service today. We will have lunch at Subway and then shop for the Youth sponsored Angel Tree recipient. We will see the movie "Wonder" at the Amstar Theater and will also have a "White Elephant" gift exchange. Please bring money for the movie, a snack (we will provide the Subway lunch) and a wrapped \$5 gift.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

We are still looking for 3 Wise Men, Angel Gabriel, Lead Shepherd, Little Shepherds and Angels. See Georgia, Mark or Jennifer. If you wish to sing or play an instrument during the prelude you must audition with our Music Director Jayne Sprinkle this Sunday. The one rehearsal will be held next Sunday, December 17th following the Bishop's reception.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Inspiring and cultivating sacred connections with God and one another
as we embrace diversity of spiritual thought, practice and being.

Inspire-Connect-Embrace-Share

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love... No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and [God's] love is perfected in us.

1 John 4:7-8, 12