



The Second Sunday of Advent

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

December 10, 2023

9:15 IN THE MORNING (AND LIVE-STREAMED)

Prelude: Partita on Savior of the Nations, Come
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Jacob B. Weber

Welcome & Announcements

Hymn 74

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Valet will ich dir geben

**Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
For him let doors be opened, no hearts against him barred!
Not robed in royal splendor, in power and pomp, comes he;
but clad as are the poorest, such his humility!**

**Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
By those who truly listen his voice is truly heard;
pity the proud and haughty, who have not learned to heed
the Christ who is the Promise, who has atonement made.**

**Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
He only to the humble reveals the face of God.
All power is his, all glory! All things are in his hand,
all ages and all peoples, till time itself shall end!**

**Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
He offers to the burdened the rest and grace they need.
Gentle is he and humble! And light his yoke shall be,
for he would have us bear it so he can make us free!**

The Opening Acclamation

BCP, p. 355

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Franz Peter Schubert, adapt by Proulx;
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Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy, have mercy.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: 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 First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11

Reader: 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 for ever. 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13

Carl P. Daw, Jr. & Kevin Hackett

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- 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. **Antiphon**

- 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. **Antiphon**
- 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. **Antiphon**
- 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. **Antiphon**

The Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

Reader: 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 75

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Ascension

**There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
a call from the ways untrod:
Prepare in the desert a highway,
a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted,
the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places
where the Lord our God may go!**

**O Zion, that bringest good tidings,
get thee up to the heights and sing!
Proclaim to a desolate people
the coming of their King.
Like the flowers of the field they perish,
like grass our works decay,
the power and pomp of nations
shall pass like a dream away;**

**but the word of our God endureth,
the arm of the Lord is strong;
he stands in the midst of nations,
and he will right the wrong.
He shall feed his flock like a shepherd,
the lambs he'll gently hold;
to pastures of peace he'll lead them,
and bring them safe to his fold.**

The Holy Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People: **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."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Ven. Jan Brown

The Nicene Creed

BCP, p. 358

**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.**

Prayers of the People, Form I

BCP, p. 383

Deacon: With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

Leader: For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For Justin the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, Susan our Bishop, Chris, Lauren, Charlie, and Jan our clergy, and for all clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For Joe, our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For this city of Williamsburg, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For reasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: We pray for peace, justice, reconciliation, and an end to the wars in Ukraine and Russia and Israel and Gaza.

We pray for our *Journey to Asylum* family, for all refugees, and for an end to conflicts around the world especially in the Middle East, Africa, and Central America, and for all who are victims of violence.

We pray for those whose lives and homes have been devastated by natural disasters.

We pray for an end to disease, hunger, and thirst.

We pray for those suffering from the destructive power of addiction.

We pray for the students, faculty, and staff of William & Mary.

We pray for those listed on our parish prayer list and for those whom we name now.

Leader: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, especially Sandy Lenthall and Helen Phillips, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: In the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

People: **To thee, O Lord our God.** *Silence.*

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence may be kept.*

**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.**

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

BCP, p. 360

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

People: **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Anthem: Glory to God from *Messiah*

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G.F. Handel

Presentation Hymn 59 (v. 5)

Public domain

Merton

**Honor, glory, might, and blessing
to the Father and the Son,
With the everlasting Spirit
while unending ages run.**

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer B

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.**

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

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.

We join our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name:

Sanctus

Hymnal S 130

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**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.**

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,

**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 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

BCP, p. 364

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S 164

Franz Peter Schubert, adapt by Proulx; © 1985, 1989, GIA Publications, Inc., One License A-736324

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:
give us your peace, give us your peace.**

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Spiritual Communion

A spiritual communion is a prayer that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

My 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.

Music during Communion: Once He Came in Blessing
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Michael Burkhardt

Hymn during communion: 53

Public domain

Gottes Sohn ist kommen

**Once he came in blessing,
all our ills redressing;
came in likeness lowly,
Son of God most holy;
bore the cross to save us,
hope and freedom gave us.**

**Still he comes within us,
still his voice would win us
from the sins that hurt us,
would to Truth convert us:
not in torment hold us,
but in love enfold us.**

**Thus, if thou canst name him,
not ashamed to claim him,
but wilt trust him boldly
nor dost love him coldly,
he will then receive thee,
heal thee, and forgive thee.**

**One who thus endureth
bright reward secureth.
Come, then, O Lord Jesus,
from our sins release us;
let us here confess thee
till in heaven we bless thee.**

Hymn during communion: 67

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Psalms 42

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

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

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

Hymn During Communion: People, Look East

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Besañon

**People look east. The time is near
of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Guest, is on the way.**

**Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
one more seed is planted there.
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
that in course the flow'r may flourish.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Rose, is on the way.**

**Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim,
one more light the bowl shall brim,
shining beyond the frosty weather,
bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Star, is on the way.**

**Angels announce with shouts of mirth
him who brings new life to earth.
Set ev'ry peak and valley humming
with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Lord, is on the way.**

Sending Forth of Eucharistic Visitors (9:15)

Celebrant: 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, because we share in one bread, one cup.**

The 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 Advent Blessing

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 76

Public domain

Winchester New

**On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings.**

**Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within,
and let each heart prepare a home
where such a mighty guest may come.**

**For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge, and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away
like flowers that wither and decay.**

**To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let thy light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.**

**All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
whose advent doth thy people free;
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Spirit evermore.**

The Dismissal

Postlude: Carillon on The Advent Carol, People Look East!

Rebecca Groom te Velde

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The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory
of Dr. George Petoe by his wife Lenore Petoe, Stewart and Catherine.

In your prayers this week, please remember persons for whom our prayers are asked, especially Alexander, Alice, Bill, Bill K., Bob, Brittany, Byrne, Carole, Caulder, Chison, Chuck, Cliff, Darlene, Dave, David, Derek, Dianne H., Doug, Erica, Genrose, Harry, Helen, Joan, John, Judith, Larry, Laura, Leslie, Margaret W., Marcia, Mark, Mindy, Nancy V., Paige, Raj, Reginald, Ruth, Scottie, Steve, Vernon, Viola Cleo, Will; for all caregivers; **all who serve in the armed forces**, especially Billy, Cameron Blount, Matt Bosworth, Michael Boyle, Ned Burgwyn, Matthew Burleson, Willard Burleson, Cameron Butler, Corydon Butler, Dane Butler, Justin Chalkley, James Coffey, Hunter Colt, Jeff Colt, Sam Colt, Jake Cooley, Andrew Cox, Charles Cox, Chris Davis, Kyle Defibaugh, Patrick Diehl, Connor Diesing, Duane Diesing, Sean Doherty, Monte Dunard, Robert Elmore, Daniel Faughnan, Eli Forbes, Ryan Frantz, John Gaston, Abby Goetsch, Joshua Hays, Rob Hodgson, Michael Holm, Scott Howe, Jeff Hunter, Chip Huntsberry, Eric Inman, Dane Jansson, Jason Kelly, Michael H. Manson Jr., Patrick Menkhaus, Courtney Miyamasu, Daniel Miyamasu, Katherine Miyamasu, Timothy Moffitt, Stephen Mongold, Jordan Morgan, Phillip Morrison, Joshua Mullen, Logan O'Donnell, Spencer O'Donnell, Steven Paul Pearce, Donald Ernest Perkins III, Tom Pluim, Jeremy Provencher, Jonathan Rogers, Lauren Rogers, Trevor Rogers, Michelle Rose, Mike Rose, Conner S., Sean Garand, Jasper Smith, Carson Strassels, Peter Strassels, Ryan Suders, Henry White, John Wilkes; and **we pray for the dearly departed**, especially Sandra S. Lenthall and Helen A. Phillips.

Announcements

Join us for Coffee Connections between the 9:15 and 11:15am services outside the Tower door or at the Custis House across the street, depending on the weather. In addition to coffee, we have water, food, and fellowship! To volunteer to help with this ministry, please email coffee@brutonparish.org.

Waiting with Mary: Music, Prayer and Reflections for Advent: All are welcome to join us in the church at 4pm this afternoon, December 10. During what is often a busy season, the Women of Bruton invite everyone to spend a Sabbath hour listening to Advent-themed readings and harp music. Led by the Rev'd Lauren McDonald and accompanied by Courtney Birkett, this program will provide a time of prayer and reflection as we wait with Mary for the coming of the Christ child.

Advent Lessons & Carols will be held tonight at 5:30pm! Canterbury: the Episcopal Church at William & Mary will offer a traditional service of Advent Lessons & Carols. Filled with congregational singing of Advent hymns, the service will include scripture readings to invite us into the richness of the Advent season. All are welcome!

Bruton Choirs will perform their annual Advent and Christmas concert with a chamber orchestra on Tuesday, December 12, at 8pm. A newly-composed *Magnificat* by Taylor Scott Davis and Alan Bullard's *A Light in the Stable* will be the featured music. *A Light in the Stable* includes readings and congregational participation on some well-known carols. Doors will open at 7:30 p.m.

Poinsettias for the Christmas Altar: The deadline is Friday, December 15, for receiving the names to be included in the bulletin as a memorial, a thank offering, or in honor of someone special. Please make checks payable to Bruton Parish Church (with Altar Guild in the memo) and mail them to Dianne Spence at 102 Walnut Hills Drive, Williamsburg, VA 23185-3427. *Please do not send the checks to the church office* and be sure to include your telephone number on the correspondence and/or check. Please contact Dianne directly at either dsspence@widomaker.com or 757-870-3154 or if you have any questions.

The Greening of the Church will take place on Friday & Saturday, December 15 & 16. Join us to build wreaths on December 15 from 8-12ish at the Parish House in Lewis Hall. No experience required. Please bring your own clippers. On December 16 we will be hanging the newly built wreaths at the church starting at 8am until we are finished. Contact Sarah Darling at 757-871-7259 with any questions. All are welcome!

There is No Rose of Such Virtue: A Recital Honoring the Virgin Mary will be held on Thursday, December 21, at 8pm in the church. Join us for this candlelight concert sung by Sarah Taylor, Lauren Clay & Claudia Kessel, Voice; Brian Blair, Voice & Cello; and Dr. JanEl Will, Organ & Harpsichord.

Christmas Eve & Day Worship: Join us in the church for Holy Eucharists on Sunday, December 24, at **8am and 10am** (celebrating Advent IV); **4pm** for the Children's Christmas Pageant & Eucharist (and live-streamed; nursery available *only* for this service); **6:30pm** for Holy Eucharist (also live-streamed), and at **8:30pm and 10:30pm**. We'll make two lines for entry: visitors are asked to line up outside the Duke of Gloucester Street Gate, and parishioners should line up at the Palace Green Gate (please wear your Bruton nametag). Parishioners in line will be seated first, and then the church will be filled with visitors. There will also be a service of Holy Eucharist on **Christmas Day at 11am**. All are welcome!

The Churchyard is open for Visitation on Wednesdays from 9:30-11am for those who would like to visit loved ones who may be interred there, followed by a **Service of Holy Eucharist at 11am**, with healing prayer, which continues in-person at the church.

Bruton Parish Gift Shop: Do you know how the candy cane originated? Germans decorated their Christmas trees with sticks of sugar candy. In 1670 a choirmaster was directing a creche. In order to keep the children quiet, he passed out candy canes in the shape of a shepherd's crook or, if you turned it the other way, a letter "J" for Jesus. In the 1920's the candy cane got its stripes with the red color added. It is said that the white signifies purity and the red the blood that Christ shed for each of us. The shop is brimming with red and green: trees, wreaths, Christmas poppers, ornaments, and Christmas candies. Santa Lucia's feast day is December 13. Stop in to see our Lucia and learn her story. Remember that your purchases benefit people in need in our community. We offer a 10% discount for Bruton parishioners.

Friends of Bruton's purpose is to provide a way for individuals and families, who may live throughout the United States and indeed around the world, to participate in the preservation and promotion of the unique history and spiritual legacy of Bruton Parish Church. *Friends of Bruton* is open to all who share this vision. Become a Friend of Bruton and a Cornerstone Circle Member by visiting www.brutonparish.org/fobowc, where you can also read the current issue of *The Bruton Fount*, our quarterly electronic newsletter.

A/V Ministry is in need of more teams to run the A/V equipment for Sunday services, weddings, funerals, the First Fridays Recovery Service, and for any other events that require live-streaming. It is good to have a two-member team with some experience running A/V equipment, but training will be available for those who will be dedicated to the ministry. Since you will be using church equipment and will have keys to the A/V room, you must be a member of Bruton Parish Church. Please contact Bill Dugge at Bgdugge19@hotmail.com.

Guide Ministry Invitation: The Guide Ministry is an expression of God's love through hospitality to all who visit the Church. Our mission is to welcome visitors and share with them the rich history of Bruton Parish Church and the adjacent churchyard, its architecture, as well as the religious history and continuing life of our parish. We have some new interested Guides, but we could always use some more help! If you would like to volunteer for a two-hour shift once a week to serve as either a Guide or Guide Ministry Greeter, please email the Guide Masters, Larry & Peg Zensinger, at guides@brutonparish.org or call them at either 703-298-9874 (Larry) or 703-346-2651 (Peg).

Mission & Outreach

Williamsburg House of Mercy (HOM): Each year, HOM hosts a Christmas Market filled with gift items. "Santas" (parents) then "shop" for their families. If you would like to donate a gift. Christmas Market Volunteers are needed on Wednesday, December 14, to staff the Christmas Market. Shifts will be from 8:30am-12:30 pm and 12:30-4pm. Please sign up at bit.ly/BPCHOM2023. If you have any questions, please contact Lynn Smyth at 305-720-4963 or The Rev. d Lauren McDonald at lmcdonald@brutonparish.org.

COFM Warm Up Williamsburg, a fundraiser for the Winter Shelter Program. For a donation of \$35, you will receive three 12 oz. containers of soup; one each of vegetable, tomato, and chili/stew. Donate early, as there are only 200 tickets and sell out fast! To pre-order your soups, please go to cofm.info. Distribution of the soups is scheduled for Saturday, January 27, between 10:30am and 12pm under the portico at Williamsburg Community Chapel (3899 John Tyler Highway). Contact Victoria Whortor for further information at victoriawhortor@cofm.info.

Children & Youth Formation

Nursery for newborns through age four is available in the Parish House during the 9:15 and 11:15am services this Sunday. If you have any questions, please contact Meghan Brewer at either mbrewer@brutonparish.org or (252) 347-7078.

Children's Church will be held this Sunday in St. Mary's Chapel at 9:15am; they join the congregation during the Peace. **Sunday School** for children from K-8 grades continues at 10:30am upstairs in the Parish House, and our **Children's Choirs** rehearse in the Parish House from 11-11:30am.

Youth Mission Trip to Asheville, North Carolina from July 14-19, 2024. For our summer 2024 trip, we are headed to Asheville Youth Mission in Asheville, North Carolina! The trip will be an amazing adventure. It will be challenging and a lot of fun. Please visit bit.ly/BPCASHEVILLENC and complete the registration form and join us!

Candlelight Concerts in the Church @ 8pm

Tuesday, December 12 - Holiday Choral Concert:
Magnificat by Taylor Scott Davis & A Light in the Stable by Alan Bullard
Bruton Parish Choirs & Orchestra - Rebecca Davy, Director

Thursday, December 14 - Holiday Choral Concert
Manassas Chorale - Becky Verner, Director

Friday, December 15 - Holiday Handbell Concert
First Presbyterian Church Handbell Choir from
Goldsboro, North Carolina - Chris Watkins, Director

Saturday, December 16 - Holiday Choral Concert
Tabernacle Baptist Church Choir from Richmond, Virginia - Judy Fiske, Director

Historical Organ Recitals William & Mary Wren Chapel @ 10am

Monday, December 11 - Thomas Marshall
Thursday, December 14 - Norman Elton
Friday, December 15 - Rebecca Davy
Saturday, December 16 - Thomas Marshall

Clergy & Staff

The Rt. Rev. Susan B. Haynes, *Bishop, Diocese of Southern Virginia*

The Rev. Christopher L. Epperson, *Rector*

The Rev. Charles H. Bauer, *Associate Rector - Christian Formation*

The Rev. Lauren M. McDonald, *Associate Rector
Outreach & Women's Ministries*

The Ven. Jan M. Brown, *Archdeacon*

Meghan Brewer, *Coordinator for Children's & Youth Ministries*

Rebecca E. Davy, *Music Director & Organist*

Dr. JanEl B. Will, *Organist*

Vestry Members

Colly Burgwyn, Carlyle Campbell, Judi Dorn,
Margaret Driscoll (Senior Warden), Bill Dugge (Junior Warden), Ginny Elwell,
Sara Fogarty, Joyce Haines, Steve Hibbitts (Treasurer),
Diane Howerton, Leith Mullaly (Register), Lynn Smyth, and Sue Warner

Website: www.brutonparish.org | Email: BPC@brutonparish.org

www.YouTube.com/BrutonParish