ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

IN THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

THE SECOND SUNDAY *of* ADVENT

Holy Eucharist Rite II – 9:30 a.m.

December 7, 2025

SUNDAY SERVICES

8:00 Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:30 Holy Eucharist Rite II

Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent, for this is the house of God.
Before the service speak to the Lord; during the service let the Lord speak to you;
after the service speak to one another.

THE RECTOR'S WELCOME

Welcome to St. John's as we enter this holy season of Advent—four weeks set aside by the Church to help us prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus Christ. While the world around us rushes toward December with noise, hurry, and busyness, Advent gently invites us to slow down, to breathe, and to remember what (and whom) we're truly waiting for.

This season calls us to preparation and reflection: the same kind of hopeful readiness we see in Mary and Joseph as they awaited the birth of Jesus, and the same readiness we are called to as we look forward to Christ's return and the fulfillment of God's Kingdom. Our liturgy shifts to help us make that space—penitence, quiet expectation, and a renewed desire to walk more closely with Jesus.

So let this place be your refuge from the rush of the world. Come, pray, sing, listen, and let the Holy Spirit draw you into deeper relationship with God. As we await the joy of Christmas, may we also let the humility and love of Christ shape the way we live, love, and shine his light into the world.

May this Advent bring you peace, wonder, and a holy stillness in which you can hear the voice of Jesus calling you home.

Faithfully,



The Rev. Christian M. Wood
Rector

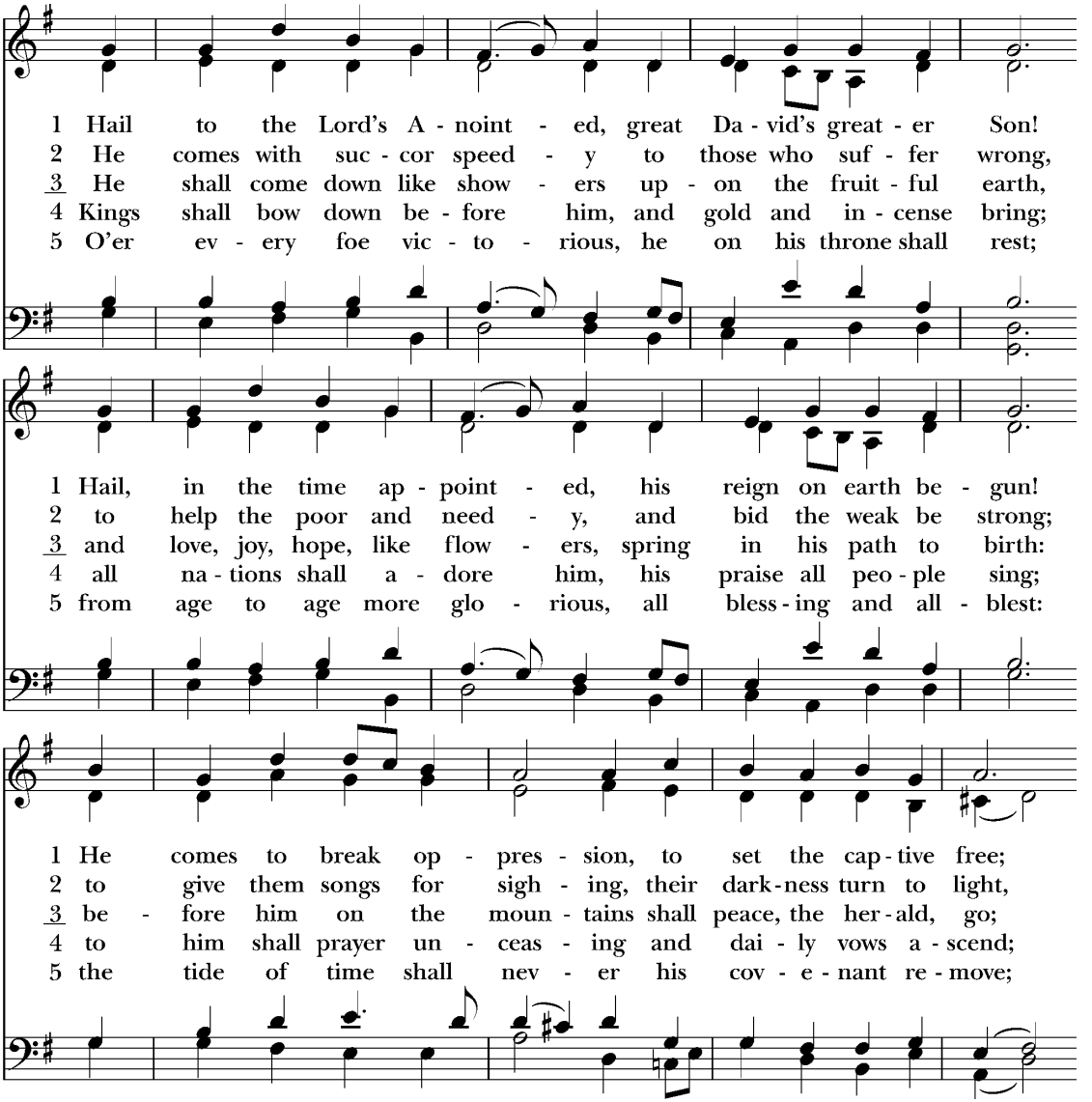
Organ Voluntary

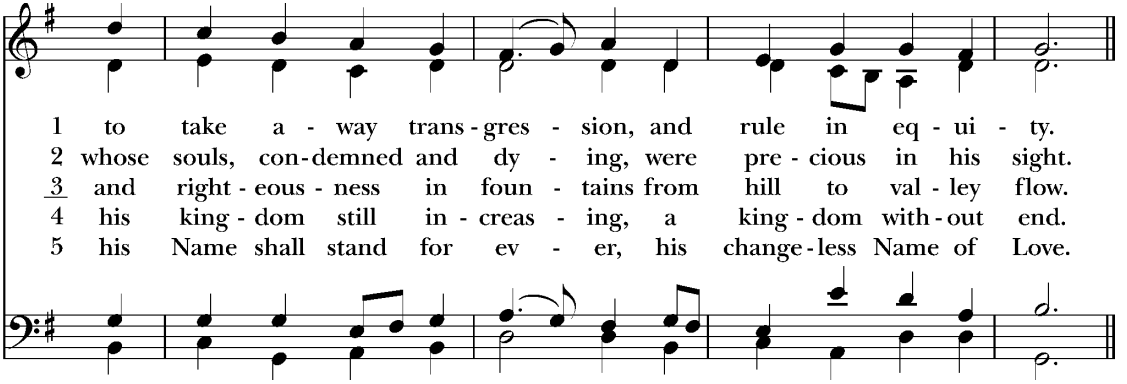
Chorale Prelude "Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland" (BWV 659) — J.S. Bach

The people stand as the ministers enter

Processional Hymn 68

Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein





PROPER ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;
People **His mercy endures for ever.**

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

Celebrant

Seeing that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4:14,16*

Deacon

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

The people kneel

Celebrant and People

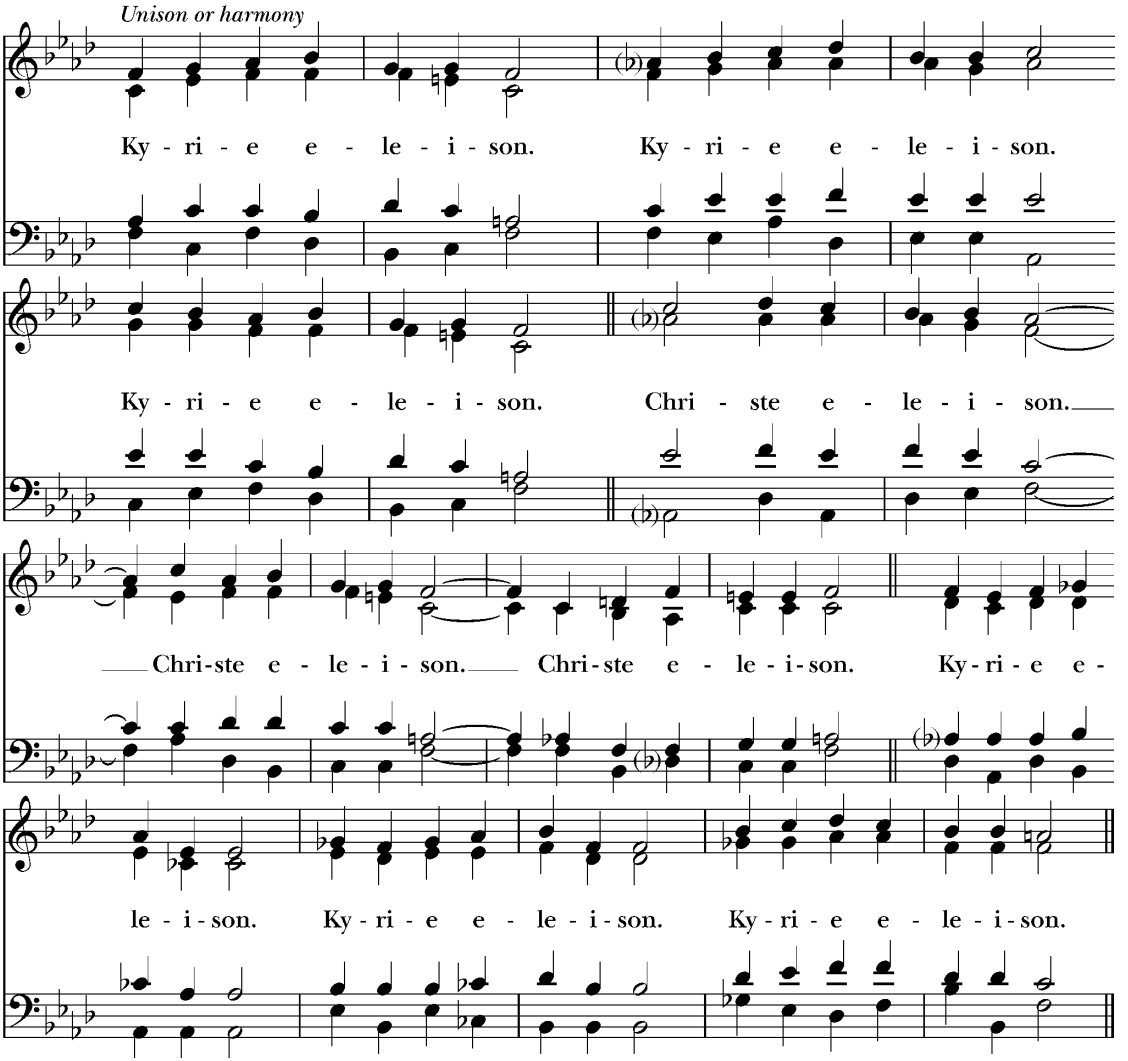
Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.
We have offended against your holy laws.
We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.
O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare all those who confess their faults, restore all those who are penitent, according to your promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,

**that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.**

Celebrant

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

KYRIE S-89 Hans Leo Hassler



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 people sit

THE LESSON Isaiah 11:1-10

Lector A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked. Righteousness shall be the girdle of his waist, and faithfulness the girdle of his loins. The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall feed; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The sucking child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. In that day the root of Jesse shall stand as an ensign to the peoples; him shall the nations seek, and his dwellings shall be glorious.

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

GRADUAL: PSALM 72:1-7,18-19 Sir Edward Bairstow

Sung by the choir

Give the King thy judgments, O God,
and thy righteousness unto the King's son.
Then shall he judge thy people according unto right,
and defend the poor.
The mountains also shall bring peace,
and the little hills righteousness unto the people.
He shall keep the simple folk by their right,
defend the children of the poor, and punish the wrong doer.
They shall fear thee, as long as the sun and moon endureth,
from one generation to another.
He shall come down like the rain upon the mown grass,
even as the drops that water the earth.
In his time shall the righteous flourish;
yea, and abundance of peace, so long as the moon endureth.
Blessed be the LORD God, even the God of Israel,
which only doeth wondrous things;
And blessed be the Name of his majesty forever:
and all the earth shall be filled with his majesty. Amen, Amen.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

THE EPISTLE Romans 15:4-13

Lector A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to con-firm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise thee among the Gentiles, and sing to thy name"; and again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and further Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, he who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

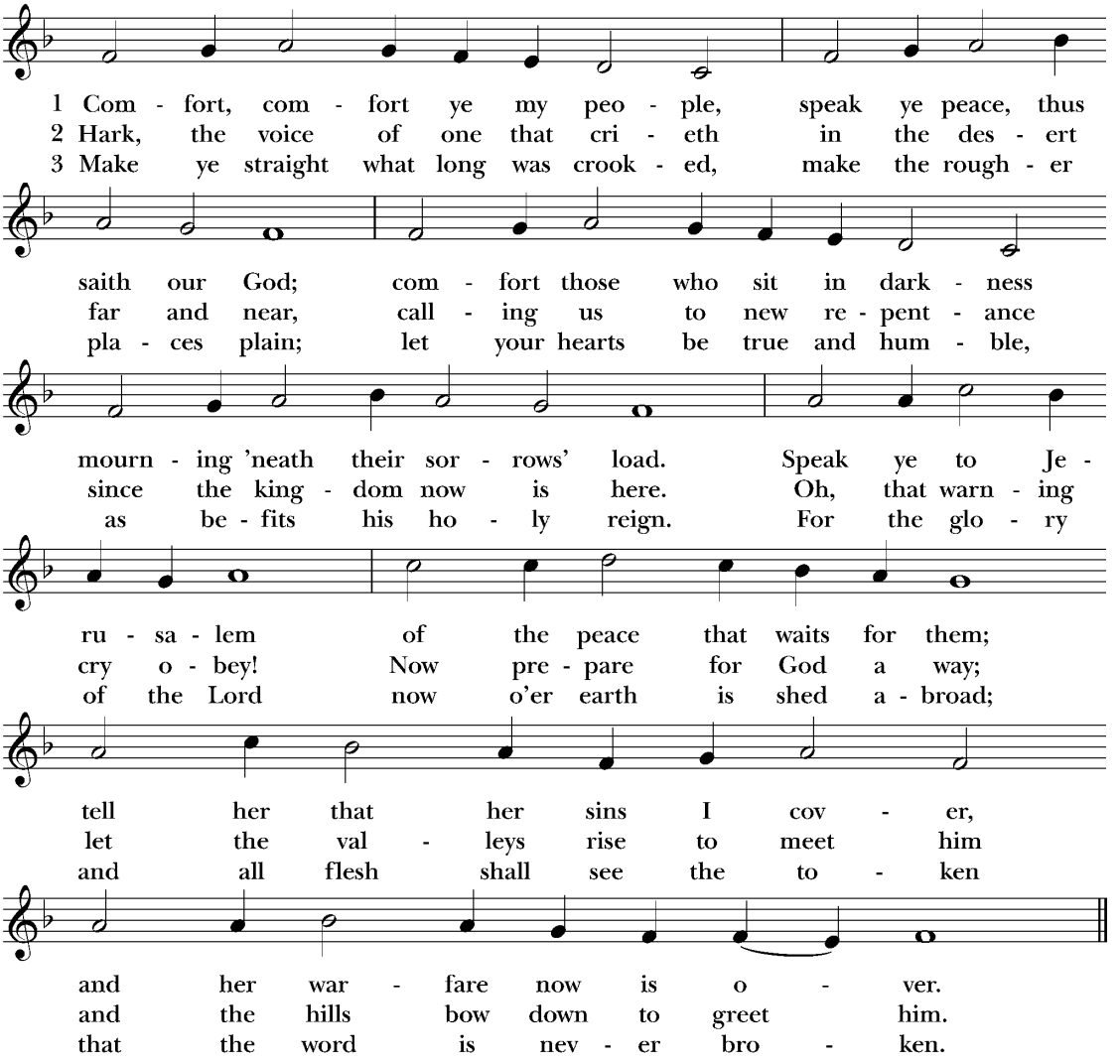
Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand

All elementary-aged students will now follow the cross down the center aisle and process to Children's Chapel in the Parish Hall

SEQUENCE HYMN 67

Psalm 42



THE GOSPEL Matthew 3:1-12

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." Now John wore a garment of camel's hair, and a leather girdle around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then went out to him Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit that befits repentance, and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. "I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

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

The people sit

THE SERMON Father Andrew Lazo

THE NICENE CREED *(standing)*

Celebrant and People

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 *(Form V)*

The people kneel

Deacon or other leader

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury elect, Sean, the Presiding Bishop, Douglas, our Bishop, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For for Donald, our president, Ron, our governor, Jane, our mayor, and those in positions of public trust that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For all who live and work in this community, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For this congregation, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For ourselves; for the forgiveness of our sins, and for the grace of the Holy Spirit to amend our lives, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For those in hospital and those in hospice, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the recent faithful departed; [for _____ in whose memory the Altar Flowers are given today;] for all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed John, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.
To you, O Lord our God.

The Celebrant adds this concluding Collect
Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All stand

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

All greet one another with the sign of peace then sit for any necessary announcements

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Offertory Sentence

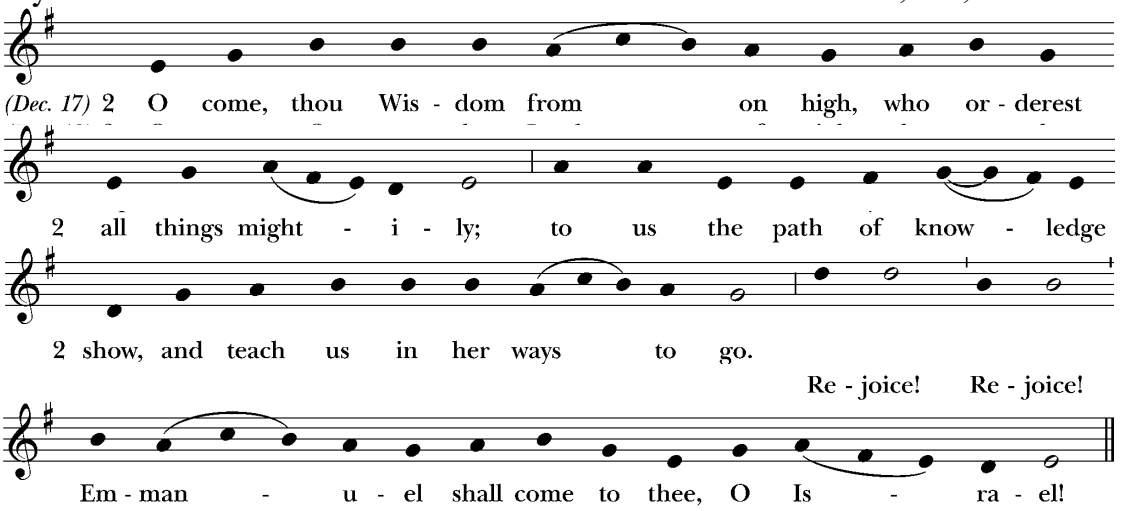
Offertory Anthem

We wait for thy loving kindness, O God — Sir William McKie

We wait for thy loving kindness, O God in the midst of thy temple, Alleluia. O God, according to Thy name, So is Thy praise unto the world's end, Thy right hand is full of righteousness, Alleluia. We wait for thy loving kindness, O God, In the midst of thy temple. O Lord, send us now prosperity. Amen. Amen.

All stand

Hymn 56 Stanza 2 *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *Eucharistic Prayer B*

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.

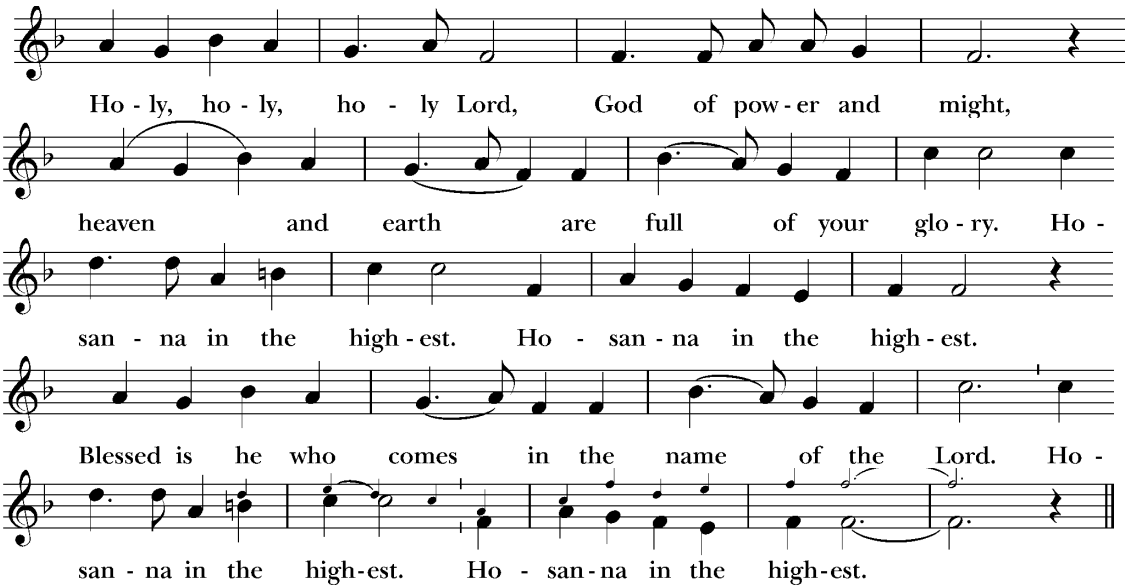
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant 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 sung or 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 and Benedictus S-125 Richard Proulx



The people kneel

Celebrant

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;

Celebrant

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 the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed John, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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

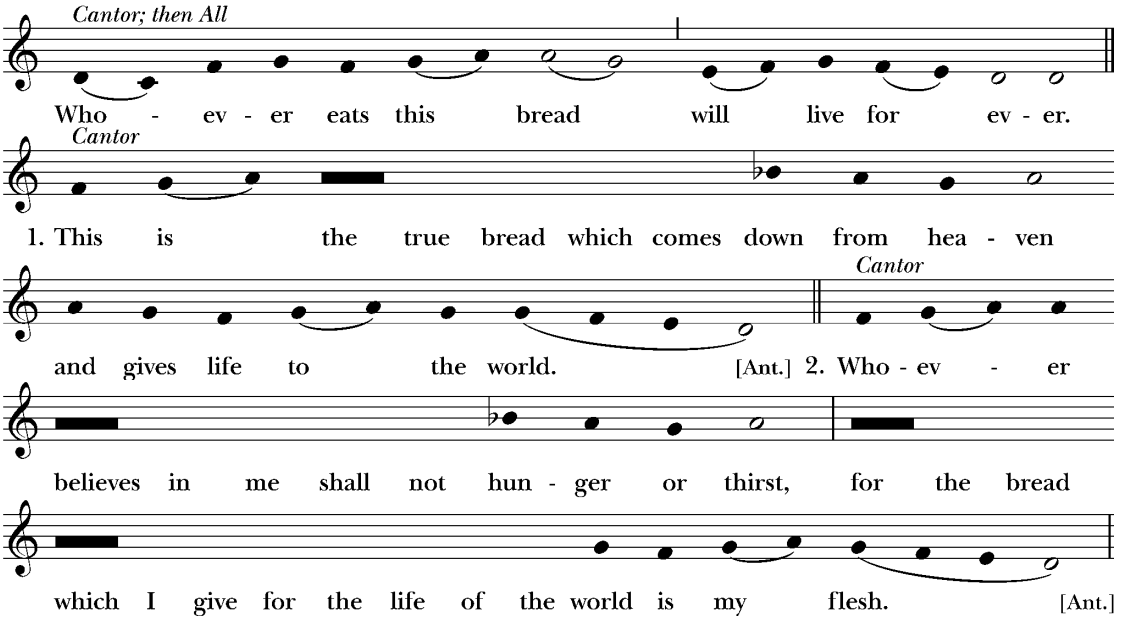
Celebrant and People

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, forever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread after which the following is sung

Fraction Anthem S-170 Mason Martens



Celebrant

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's Table. If you are not receiving, you are invited to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest. Please follow the direction of the ushers, and inform them if you need communion brought to you. Gluten-free hosts are available upon request.

Communion is offered in both kinds (bread and wine). You may receive the host and then sip from the chalice, receive the host only, or receive by intinction. For intinction, a member of the clergy or a chalice bearer will dip the host into the chalice and place it directly on your tongue. Even if receiving in one kind, please remain at the altar rail until the chalice has passed.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words:

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen.**
The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen.**

or with these words

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. **Amen.**

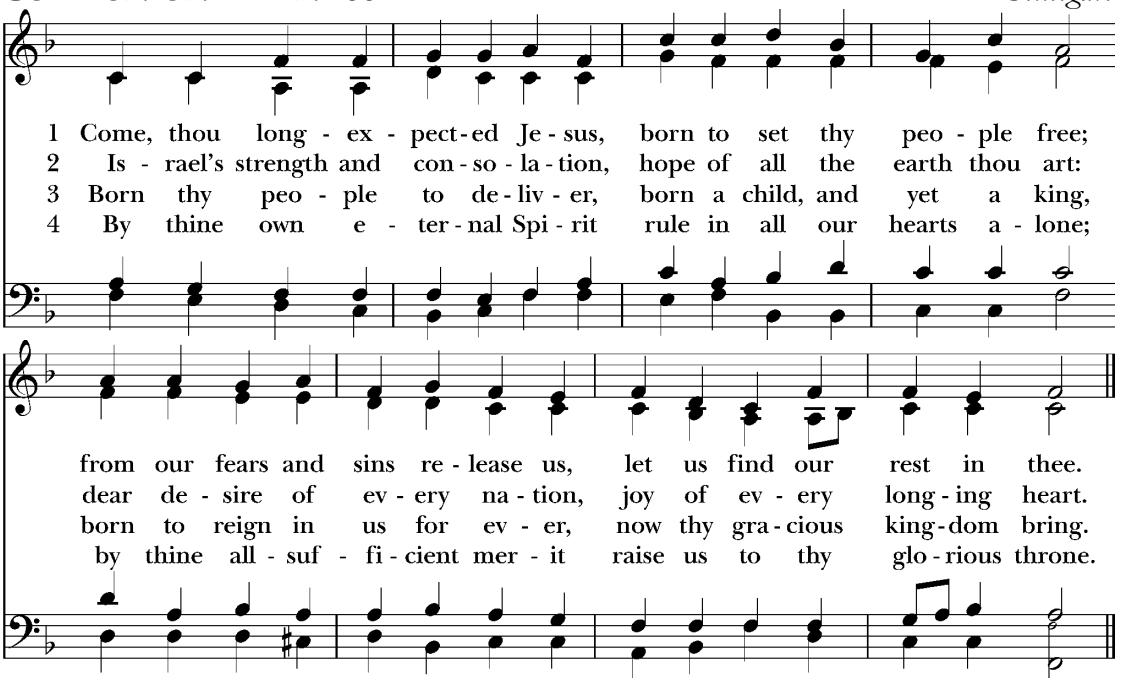
Communion Motet

Boris Ord The truth from above — Arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams

This is the truth sent from above, The truth of God, the God of love, Therefore don't turn me from your door, But hearken all both rich and poor. The first thing which I do relate Is that God did man create; The next thing which to you I'll tell Woman was made with man to dwell. Thus we were heirs to endless woes, Till God the Lord did interpose; And so a promise soon did run That he would redeem us by his Son And at that season of the year Our blest Redeemer did appear; He here did live, and here did preach, And many thousands he did teach. Thus he in love to us behaved, To show us how we must be saved; And if you want to know the way, Be pleased to hear what he did say.

COMMUNION HYMN 66

Stuttgart



POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

The people kneel

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant gives the Blessing

People **Amen.**

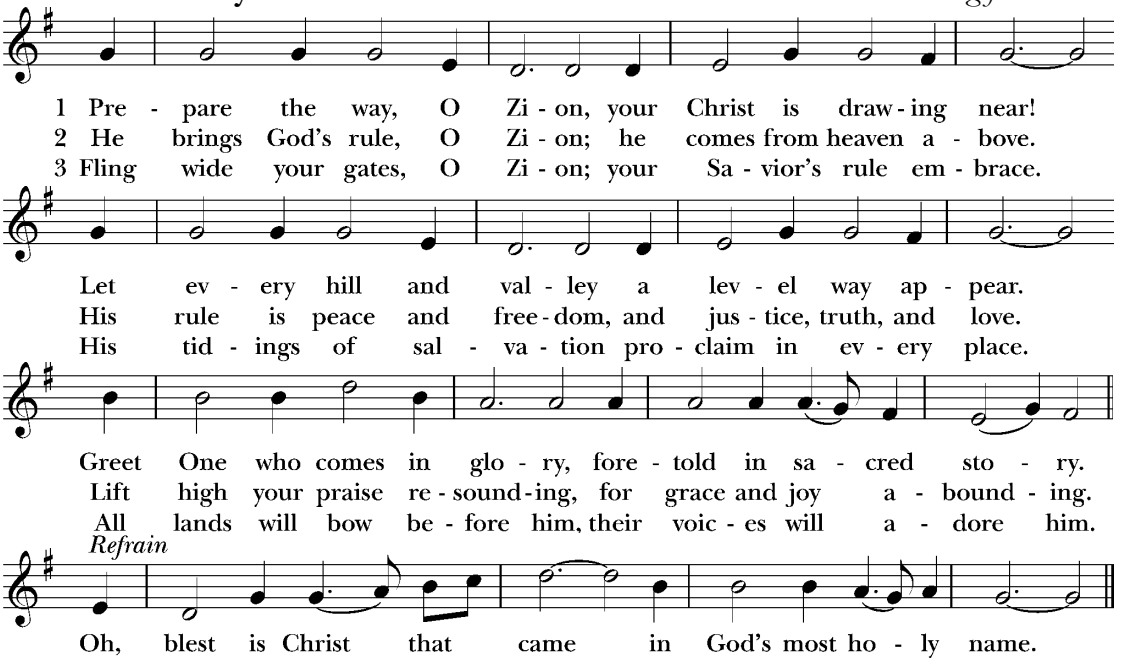
THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon gives the Dismissal

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand

Processional Hymn 65 *Bereden väg för Herran*



Organ Voluntary

Improvisation on "Angelus ad Virginem"

Assisting in Today's Services

Altar Guild: Laura Silva, Francie Brooks, Lelia Clewis, Katey Brown, Lois Smith, Jeannie Kenyon, Pam Divers, Phyllis Mitchell, Miriam Faircloth

Linens: Laura Silva

Acolytes: 8:00 Helen Turnquist

9:30 Maggie Wood, Michael Wood, Martha Wood, James Graff, Witt Graff

Chalice: Andy Brown, Dallas Coffield

Lectors: 8:00 Betsy Wood

9:30 Norm Allen, Andy Brown, Dallas Coffield

Ushers: 8:00 Ben Nelson, Jr., Frank J. Reif III

9:30 Jim Whittlesey, Lee Casey, Tom Cassedy, Brett Divers, John Marston, Jeff Mitchell

Verger: Helen Turnquist **Subdeacon:** Bailey Turnquist

Prayer Requests

Your prayers are bid today and throughout the week for:

All bishops and other ministers: Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury elect; Sean, the Presiding Bishop; Douglas, our Bishop; and the clergy and staff of our Parish

Those who govern: Donald, our President; Ronald, our Governor; and Jane, our Mayor

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Mary's, Bonita Springs; St. Mark's, Marco Island; St. John's, Naples; St. Monica's, Naples; St. Paul's, Naples, and Trinity-by-the-Cove, Naples

Our Companion Dioceses: Dominican Republic, Georgia, South Carolina, and Western Louisiana

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church of Bangladesh

Also remembering in prayer: Our Parish Day School, our Pastoral Care Team, healthcare workers, first responders, and all who serve the common good, peace in Ukraine and the Holy Land

Members of our armed forces deployed abroad and their families: Rich, Mike, Jake, Matthew, David, and Tyler (Libya)

Those celebrating the anniversary of their birth:
December 7: Jim Voss
December 8: Sydney Braun, Scott Johnson, Mark Schabacker
December 9: Samuel Colby, Thomas Conlee, Jack Koch
December 10: Ann Abney, Chandler Bexley, Benjamin Buchholz, Nicole Hasselbach, Kevin Johnson, Reese Kenney, Grayson Stone
December 11: Corbin Bexley, Ingalls Witte
December 12: Christie Burnett, Steve Galloway, William O'Donnell Jr., Ellie Taylor, Christopher Walker, Jack Walker
December 13: Natalie Smith

The sick and others for whom our prayers have been especially requested:

Maureen and Ken Johnston; Jackie Faircloth and family; Pam, Shailee, and Courtney; Anna, her family and her medical team; Jayce Hicks, Jeff LeVines, Richard, Michael Wood, Tor, Collin, Lee, David, Sam, Absley, Jim B., Katy, Ron, Carey, Scott, Nancy C., Lane, Jack, Miriam, Suzanne, Laine, Grace, Minnie, Will, Peter, Armando, Berta, Mary, Susan, Ellie, Patrick, Ann, David W., Craig, Gwen, Helen, Joseph, David W. Reffue, and all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

For all the faithful departed

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
AND Episcopal Parish Day School

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STJOHNSTAMPA.ORG

THE DIOCESE OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

THE RIGHT REVEREND DOUGLAS FREDERICK SCHARF
VI Bishop of Southwest Florida

THE WARDENS, VESTRY, AND OFFICERS OF THE PARISH

JOHN H. MCKAY (2025)
Senior Warden

ANDREW M. BROWN (2025)
Junior Warden

DOUGLAS F. ARTHUR
Treasurer

ELIZABETH S. GRAHAM
Assistant Treasurer

AMY YOST
Clerk of the Vestry

NORMAN F.J. ALLEN III (2027)
ROBERT O. ALTER (2026)
RODDY D. BELFATTI (2025)
CARY R. BROWN (2026)
C. TWEED ECKHARD (2025)
LYNN L. FLUHARTY (2027)
ANDREW B. GALAVIS, SR. (2027)
JEFFREY M. HUNT (2026)
LISA J. LEAL (2026)
CHRISTINA C. MCADAMS (2027)

CLERGY AND STAFF

THE REVEREND CHRISTIAN M. WOOD
XVII Rector

THE REVEREND ANDREW LAZO
Associate Rector

THE REVEREND CAROLINE F. DEVITT
Priest Associate for Evangelism & Communications

THE REVEREND MARY ALICE LOPEZ
Deacon

SIMON J. MORLEY
Organist and Director of Music

LAURIE D. LAWTHER
Parish Administrator

AYANA S. GRADY
Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries

SAMANTHA SANTOS
Parish Coordinator

THE REVEREND DONALD P. GOODHEART
Retired Priest in Residence

THE REVEREND CHARLES E. CONNELLY
Retired Priest in Residence

HUGH A. R. JEBSON
Head of St. John's School

NOAH SCRIBNER
Sexton