



**Worship Plan for December 12, 2021**

The Third Sunday of Advent

The Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 10:30 am

St. James Episcopal Church  
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*People are in prayer. Please maintain silence in the sanctuary.  
We really appreciate your putting mobile devices on silence or vibrate.*

# The Word of God

## PRELUDE

**PASTORALE; J.S. BACH**

## LIGHTING OF ADVENT WREATH

Celebrant	Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.
People	Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.
Celebrant	Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved:
People	O Lord God of hosts.
Celebrant	Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
People	Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.
Celebrant	Show us your mercy, O Lord:
People	And grant us your salvation.

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

**#68 Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers**

*If you are unable to stand for any portion of the service where standing or kneeling is expected or invited,  
please feel free to remain seated.*

## COLLECT FOR PURITY (BCP p. 355)

*The Celebrant may say*

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

## OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE (Hymn # S-279)

*The following is sung, all standing*

*Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,*

*we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 234)**

Celebrant      The Lord be with you.  
People         And also with you  
Celebrant      Let us pray

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Zephaniah 3:14-20**

*The people sit.*

Reader         A reading from the book of Zephaniah.

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;  
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter Jerusalem!

The Lord has taken away the judgments against you,

he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;  
you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion;  
do not let your hands grow weak.

The Lord, your God, is in your midst,  
a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness,  
he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing  
as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,  
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

I will deal with all your oppressors  
at that time.

And I will save the lame  
and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you home,  
at the time when I gather you;

for I will make you renowned and praised  
among all the peoples of the earth,

when I restore your fortunes  
before your eyes, says the Lord.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people  
People: Thanks be to God

## PSALM

## R-122 First Song of Isaiah

### SECOND READING: Philippians 4:4-7

*The people sit.*

Reader A Reading from the first book of Philippians.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people  
People: Thanks be to God

*Silence may follow*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

## #56 VS 3 AND 4

*All stand.*

### GOSPEL: Luke 3:7-18

*All stand.*

Deacon The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has

food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

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

## **THE SERMON:**

**Fr. Roderick Pierce**

## **THE NICENE CREED (BCP p. 358)**

*All stand.*

*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 (BCP p. 388 Form IV)**

*All remain standing.*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Have compassion on and those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*The People may add their own petitions.  
Please pray for these members with ongoing concerns silently*

Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect, or the following Doxology*

For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

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

*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 stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

## **THE PEACE (BCP p. 360)**

*All stand.*

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

*People:*         And also with you

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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BIRTHDAY PRAYER**

Watch over thy children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **ANNIVERSARY PRAYER**

O gracious and everliving God, look mercifully on your children who come to renew the promises they have made to each other. Grant them your blessing, and assist them with your grace, that with true fidelity and steadfast love they may honor and keep their promises and vows; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

# The Holy Communion

## Offertory Sentence (BCP p. 376)

*The Celebrant chooses the sentence from BCP*

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

**Watchman, Tell Us of the Night; John Ness Beck**

### DOXOLOGY - 380 vs. 3

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

## The Great Thanksgiving

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B

**BCP 367**

*The People remain standing.*

<i>Celebrant:</i>	<i>The Lord be with you</i>
<i>People:</i>	<i>And also with you</i>
<i>Celebrant:</i>	<i>Lift up your hearts</i>
<i>People:</i>	<i>We lift them to the Lord</i>
<i>Celebrant:</i>	<i>Let us give thanks to the Lord our God</i>
<i>People:</i>	<i>It is right to give him thanks and praise</i>

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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

*Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.*

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 Hymn S-124

*Celebrant and People*

*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.*

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

*We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;*

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 364)**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

*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.*

*People and Celebrant recite The Lord's Prayer*

# The Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia*

## INVITATION (BCP p. 364)

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## DISTRIBUTION (BCP p. 365)

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people. The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

*If you would like a Gluten-Free host, cross your hands with palms down to let the clergy know your preference. If you do not wish to receive, you are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. You can indicate this by crossing your arms on your chest. Our Prayer Partner will meet with anyone who would like private prayers for healing during Holy Communion by the doors of the Parish Hall.*

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

## What is spiritual communion - page 457 BCP

*If a person desires to receive the Sacrament, but, by reason of extreme sickness or physical disability, is unable to eat and drink the Bread and Wine, the Celebrant is to assure that person that all the benefits of Communion are received, even though the Sacrament is not received with the mouth.*

*My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Come spiritually into my heart and stay with me.  
I embrace You as You are already there and unite myself wholly to You.  
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.*

## COMMUNION HYMN

**R-276 Soon and Very Soon**

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 365)

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*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.*

**BLESSING (BCP p. 366)**

*The Priest blesses the people*

*Children are invited to join the deacon and celebrant at the back of the sanctuary for the closing prayer and dismissal.*

**RECESSIONAL HYMN      #59 HARK! A THRILLING VOICE IS SOUNDING**

**PEACE PRAYER (BCP p. 833)**

*Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.*

**DISMISSAL (BCP p. 366)**

Celebrant	Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.
People	Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**POSTLUDE**

**Once He Came in Blessing; J.S. Bach**

## **Volunteers Schedule Today**

**Altar Guild:** Amie Ramsfield, Tessa Eggers

**Celebrant:** Fr. Jos Tharakan

**Deacon:** Rev. Suzy Lynch

**Preacher:** Fr. Roderick Pierce

**Eucharistic Minister 1:** Brett Durbin

**Eucharistic Minister 2:** Astry Rivera-Amigon,

**First Reading:** Sam Hamra

**Psalm:** Lisa Pruitt

**Second Reading:** Bob Lanning

**Gospel:** Rev. Suzy Lynch

**Prayers of The People:** Dc. Suzy Lynch

**Crucifer:** Lisa Pruitt

**Usher/Greeter:**

**Choir Director:** Jeremy Chesman

**Hospitality:** Elaine Atkinson

## **Happy Birthday**

Chris Dodson December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Blair Claxton Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Latesa Holder Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>.

June Hamra Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>

Gabriel Tackett Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>.

Jim Eggers, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>.

Mark Alderfer, Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>.

Shirley Hendricks Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>.

Sarah Dodson December 16<sup>th</sup>.

Sophia Alderfer Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Dorothy Haratyk Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Lazelle Atkinson Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>.

Vickie Hamilton Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **Happy Anniversary**

Fred and Helen Allen, Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>

Steve and Joyce Haberman, Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>.

## **Prayers for Families This Week**

Stuckey, Terry, Tharakan

## **Flower Dedications**

Given by Janice Carney in loving memory of her sister, Jolene Carney