

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2020



The Episcopal Church of the Annunciation

1673 Jamerson Road Marietta, GA 30066

www.ecamarietta.org

Welcome to all who are watching online services. The Episcopal Church of the Annunciation is here "to bear witness to God's love and invite, encourage, and prepare God's people to share that grace with others". You may notice rubrics in place throughout the service for kneeling or standing, as well as singing along to hymns. You are invited to participate however you wish.

Daily Morning Prayer/Communion: Rite One

Prelude

Processional Hymn 438 (vs. 1&4) *Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord*

1 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice; tender to me the promise of his word; in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.

4 Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word! Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord to children's children and for evermore!

The Lighting of the Joy Candle

The Opening Acclamation

BCP 38

Presider † Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. *Isaiah 40:3*

Confession of Sin

BCP 41

Presider Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Presider and People together

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy 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. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy 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 thy holy Name. *Amen.*

Presider 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.*

The Invitatory and Psalter

BCP 42

Presider O Lord, open thou our lips.

People **And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

Presider and People

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

Presider Our King and Savior draweth nigh: O come, let us adore him.

Jubilate Psalm 100

BCP 42

Presider and People

Be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands;
serve the Lord with gladness and come
before his presence with a song.
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God;
it is he that hath made us and not we
ourselves; we are his people and the sheep
of his pasture. O go your way into his

gates with thanksgiving and into his
courts with praise; be thankful unto him
and speak good of his Name. For the
Lord is gracious; his mercy is everlasting;
and his truth endureth from generation to
generation.

The First Lesson

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

The Response: Canticle 15 *The Song of Mary Magnificat* Luke 1:46-55

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name. He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy, The promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever.

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

The Second Lesson

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn 69 (Vs. 1&4)

What is the crying at Jordan

1 What is the crying at Jordan?
Who hears, O God, the prophecy?
Dark is the season, dark our hearts
and shut to mystery.

4 Now comes the day of salvation,
in joy and terror the Word is born!
God gives himself into our lives;
O let salvation dawn!

The Holy Gospel

John 1:6-8,19-28

Priest † The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who

are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

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

The Homily

Rev. Paul

The Nicene Creed

BCP 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.

The Prayers

Suffrage A

BCP 55

V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

R. And grant us thy salvation.

V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

R. And make thy chosen people joyful.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in thee can we live in safety.

V. Lord, keep this nation under thy care;

R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

V. Let thy way be known upon earth;

R. Thy saving health among all nations.

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

The Collect of the Day

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.*

Collect for Peace

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom: Defend us, thy humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Collect for Guidance

O heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray thee so to guide and govern us by thy Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget thee, but may remember that we are ever walking in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Administration of the Holy Communion

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 336

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

People and Presider

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.

Celebrant 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.

Communion is given to the communicants with these words:

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

The Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.***

The General Thanksgiving

BCP 58

Presider and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Recessional Hymn 539 (v. 1,2&4)

O Zion, haste

1 O Zion, haste, thy mission
high fulfilling, to tell to all the
world that God is Light; that he
who made all nations is not
willing one soul should fail to
know his love and might.

*Refrain: Publish glad tidings:
tidings of peace, tidings of
Jesus, redemption and release.*

2 Proclaim to every people,
tongue, and nation that God, in
whom they live and move, is
Love: tell how he stooped to
save his lost creation, and died
on earth that all might live
above.

Refrain

4 He comes again! O Zion, ere
thou meet him, make known to
every heart his saving grace;
let none whom he hath
ransomed fail to greet him,
through thy neglect, unfit to
see his face.

Refrain

The Blessing

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor everyone; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; And the blessing of God Almighty, † the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

BCP 60

Priest Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit

People **Thanks be to God.**

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen. *Romans 15:13*

Postlude

Prayer List

Susan, John, Elizabeth, Milton, Lauren, Liz, Foster, Kevin, Jennifer, Ed, Sherrie, Connie, Irene, Tom, Dick, Nick, Chris & AJ, Lynda, Elizabeth, Christine, Jess, Joan, Scott, Pam, Bill, Dianne, Todd, Michael, Nick Ramsey, Lethia, Paula, Sarah, Noel, Jessie, John, Dolly, Craig, Jackie & Bruce, Parker, Mark & Chrissie, Bill, Sadie David & Elizabeth Still, Lee & Wanda Farmer, Greg, Josalyn & the Stinchcombs; The Meeks Family, and Gabriella; For all those affected by COVID-19, For our country and the division, for our Vestry; for those in the armed forces especially: Donnie, Geoff, Bob, Lawrence, Matt, Tod, Nathan, Ryan, Mark, Daniel, and Sean; and for any unspoken prayers.

Prayer for the deceased: On this third anniversary of the passing of John Sivret, we pray, O Lord, that you grant unto the souls of thy servants the anniversary day of whose burial we are keeping, a place of solace, of peaceful rest of glorious light. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Birthdays

Henry Peterson 12/15

Anniversaries

Cal & Sharon Beck 12/17

Christian Formation Class Today at 9:40

Christian Formation is held Sundays at 9:40am. Contact Ron Allen at ronallenga@yahoo.com or contact Fr. Paul for Zoom meeting information. Current topics have been about how to adjust to the current COVID-19 climate as a faithful Christian in a divided community.

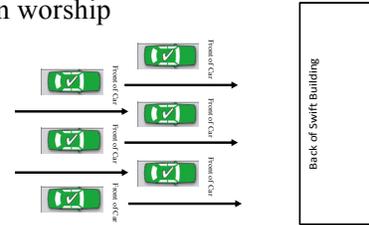
Angel Tree Giving Opportunity: We've added another Family!

Because of the great success of our Angel Giving Tree last week, we have added one more family. This year, we are using a sign-up genius to 'take an angel' digitally. [Click here to participate](#). Each slot is for a different gift. All gifts need to be returned to the Church by 12-20-2020. These gifts may be wrapped. Thank you for your kind donations to help these families have a memorable Christmas!

New: Drive-In Sunday Service with Communion

While we are still not allowed to gather for large crowds for in person worship inside, providing opportunities for worship is still our top priority.

Currently, we are offering a Drive-In Service to allow parishioners to stay in their warm vehicle for services. Please see parking diagram to the right (please park straight and not diagonal). *All in-person activity and group meetings at ECA must still go through Fr. Paul to ensure contact tracing measures. Here is the latest information we have. Click on the links below to review:*



- Gathering Guidelines for Phase I limited outside Sunday Service as of 9/10: [Click Here](#)
- Click here for [Guidelines for Activities at ECA during COVID -19](#)
- Latest bishop's directive as of August 19, 2020. Please click on the link [HERE](#)

Volunteers being Sought for Sunday Service including Counters and Readers!

While we are still not allowed to meet in our worship space, we continue to stream a Sunday service to our parish and cyber community. If you are interested with helping during the service, please contact Fr. Paul at pcm09@bellsouth.net. There are several minor tasks we need help with in order to make sure we are able to live stream and record for parish members. I look forward to hearing from those who may be interested. *Volunteers needed to read the Sunday lessons.

Christmas Poinsettias & Flower Contributions for Christmas Season

If you would like to make a contribution for Christmas poinsettias, greens, etc. please email your request to ecaparish@gmail.com. Even though we are limited on our in-person meetings, we are still decorating for the season for our online streaming. Simply indicate whether your gift is "in memory" or "in thanksgiving for." The amount is voluntary, but the suggested donation is \$25. Thank you for your gift! Thank you and blessings to you during Christmas!

Pavilion Update: We finally have our building permit, Construction has begun

Construction has begun on the pavilion. If everything goes according to schedule, we hope to be complete before Christmas. In order for work to progress, please be careful on the site and stay away from the area until construction is complete.

Fr. Paul featured in Pathways, the Diocesan Magazine

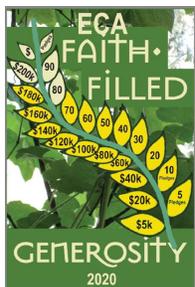
Our diocesan magazine "Pathways" did a story recently about chaplains in the diocese. The article begins, "Chaplains are spiritual paramedics who tend to the soul. They enter hospital rooms behind physicians who deliver devastating prognoses. They counsel soldiers, prisoners, executives, factory workers, students, athletes, and law enforcement personnel. They lean on their own faith while respecting the beliefs of those who need their support. Theirs is to comfort, not to convert. During 2020, many have been near the front lines of the biggest news stories of the year. Some have had to push their own fears and concerns aside to be available to the people they serve. Others have had to shift their emphasis as their fields of ministry became unsustainable. Within a few weeks, the Rev. Paul McCabe went ... To read more, [Click here](#)

Vestry Nominations Open for 2021, We are SEEKING those who Feel Called to Serve.

Those interested in serving on Vestry at ECA please contact Wanda Ziembinski, Chris Renaud or Fr. Paul. Vestry is a 3-year commitment and meets once a month with a retreat in January. Vestry members serve in a leadership role with a ministry within the parish. Vestry qualifications are: any confirmed communicant in good standing of the parish not less than 18yrs of age, a regular attendant of church services the preceding year before election, and known by the treasurer to have made and fulfilled a stated financial commitment for church support throughout preceding year before election.

Christmas Services at ECA are still in the Planning stages awaiting Pavilion Status.

Stay tuned for updates regarding Christmas Services at ECA. Currently, we are hoping to have the pavilion complete and ready to use for outside services. Additionally, we may incorporate a drive-in service, and online streaming.



2021 Pledge Campaign "Faith filled Generosity" Numbers to Date

During these unusual times, collecting our pledges has been a little more sporadic than what we are use to. We appreciate those who have been able to turn in their pledges this year. As of the printing of the bulletin we have 86 pledges to date at \$213,934 in commitments. The Vestry will be approving the 2021 budget on Monday Dec. 14th, the stewardship drive will end. We understand the difficult

times we are in and ask that you prayerfully consider how you can support ECA’s ministry moving forward for 2021. There are multiple ways to send in your pledge, you can mail the envelope we sent back to ECA, you can email us at ecaparish@gmail.com or Fr. Paul if you wish, you can leave in the secure mailbox down at the street, or leave with us when you attend a service at ECA. We are deeply grateful for all who continue to support ECA and our ministry and worship together and we hope to be back together soon.

Stewardship Prayer: O Lord, Giver of Life and Source of Freedom

O Lord, Giver of Life and Source of Freedom; We know that all we have is received from your hand. Gracious and loving God, you call us to be stewards of your Abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us. Help us always to use your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. Send the Holy Spirit to work through us, bringing your message to those we serve. May our faithful stewardship be a witness to the love of Jesus Christ in our lives. We pray with grateful hearts in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

ECA Finances to Date

(YTD) Through NOV. 2020	Actual	Budget	+/-
<u>Revenues</u>	\$199,764	\$217,232	(\$17,468)
<u>Expenses</u>	\$190,264	\$210,025	\$19,761
<u>Net Year to date</u>	\$9,500	\$7,207	\$2,293

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