

First Sunday of Advent



Holy Eucharist

November 29, 2025 • 5 pm & November 30, 2025 • 10 am

WELCOME TO ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH!

Our mission is to be a Christian community of all ages
grounded in worship, well-being and service.

We hope you will experience God's own welcome here and return again and again. Find us online at www.smcportsmouth.org and on Facebook.

NOTES ABOUT WORSHIP AT ST. MARY'S

- If you are our guest today, please complete a welcome card and put it in the offering plate or give it to the greeter. This will give us a chance to learn your name welcome you more personally.
 - It is our pleasure to welcome children and their parents at all services. We understand that children's energy and voices are gifts they may share during worship. That is how God made them and we are grateful they are worshipping with us. Feel free to step out and step back in as needed. Sitting as close to the front as possible helps them to see.
 - If you have need, restrooms are accessible on both levels of the parish house.
 - Text written in **bold** in this bulletin is to be spoken by all. When printed, the ✠ indicates an appropriate time to make the sign of the cross.
 - All Christians are invited to the Holy Table to receive communion. If it is difficult for you to walk, please notify a greeter, and we will bring communion to you. If you do not wish to receive communion, you may come forward for a blessing. If you are interested in Holy Baptism, please speak with our rector, Jennifer. We welcome the opportunity to prepare people of all ages for baptism.
-  We have a hearing loop system to assist with hearing during worship. Please ask a greeter if you would like to use a receiver with headphone, or you may prefer to use your own ear buds. If you have hearing aids with the T-coil function, adjust to that setting.
- Music Notes:
Our music books for worship include Wonder Love and Praise, WLP & The Hymnal 1982. Both can be found in the pew. Additional music can be found in the bulletin.

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The Holy Eucharist

Lighting of the Advent Wreath 5 pm Ted & Rene Bierman
10 am Chrystal Hunter-Hadley & Allyce Hadley

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn: Blessed be the King whose coming Hymnal 1982, 74

Opening Acclamation

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

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Kyrie: Kyrie eleison WLP, 840

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The People may be seated.

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come
the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.
Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord!

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 122

Jerome Webster Meachen (b. 1930)



© 1956. Jerome Webster Meachen

1 I was glad when they said to **me**, *
"Let us go to the house of the **Lord**."*

2 Now our feet are **standing** *
within your gates, O **Jerusalem**.*

3 Jerusalem is built as a **city** *
that is at unity with **itself**.*

4 To which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the **Lord**, *
the assembly of Israel,
to praise the Name of the **Lord**.*

5 For there are the thrones of **judgment**, *
the thrones of the house of **David**.*

6 Pray for the peace of **Jerusalem**: *
"May they prosper who love **you**.*"

Jerome Webster Meachen (b. 1930)



© 1956. Jerome Webster Meachen

7 Peace be within your **walls** *
and quietness within your **towers**.*

8 For my brethren and companions' **sake**, *
I pray for your **prosperity**.*

REPEAT 2ND HALF OF PSALM

9 Because of the house of the Lord our God, *
I will seek to do you good."

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All may stand for the Alleluia and Holy Gospel.

Alleluia

A. Wright

*Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Verses for each Sunday of Advent are available in the accompaniment books.

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Holy Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

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

Jesus said to the disciples, “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

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

All may stand for the Nicene Creed

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The leader will say, “Maranatha,”

Our response will be
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Confession

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Celebrant and People

**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.**

The Celebrant, 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.**

Peace

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

Greet one another with a sign of God's peace.

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn:

Come thou long expected Jesus

Hymnal 1982, 66

If you would like to make an offering there is a plate at the rear of the church, or if electronically, please use the QR code below.



Please stand as the gifts are brought forward.

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 our thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant continues....

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

Hymnal 1982, S-125

The Celebrant continues...

Celebrant Therefore, according to his command, O Father

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

The Celebrant continues...

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

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant 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 *A period of silence is kept.*

Fraction

Hymnal 1982, S-154

Please come forward at the invitation: "The gifts of God for the people of God . . ."

Communion Hymns:

Creator of the stars of night

Hymnal 1982, 60

Wait for the Lord

Taizé

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Wait for the Lord'. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The first system contains the lyrics 'Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.' The second system contains the lyrics 'Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!'. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

Text: Isaiah 40, Philippians 4, Matthew 6-7; Taizé Community, 1984
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
© 1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Let us pray.

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 and Dismissal

Celebrant The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Procession Hymn: Lo! he comes with clouds descending Hymnal 1982, 57

Liturgical Ministers

Altar Guild: 5 pm & 10 am Stacy Mello, Sydney Mello,
Jennie Nestlerode

Musicians: 10 am Michael DiMucci, St. Mary's Choir

Greeters: 5 pm Alex Simmons, Marlo Pratt
10 am Lisa Lyons, Murry Edwards

Lector and Intercessor: 5 pm Jon Edwards
10 am Anne Wood

Crucifer/Server: 5 pm Lauren Lema
10 am Jennie Nestlerode

Acolytes: 10 am Connor Legassie, Jude Somarriba, Lilly Fischer

Audio Visual: 10 am Paul Westrom

Lay Eucharistic Visitor: Murry Edwards, Alex Allardt

To find out what's happening at St. Mary's this week and in the coming weeks, visit our on line calendar by scanning the QR code below!



St. Mary's Episcopal Church
324 East Main Road, Portsmouth, RI 02871
(401) 846-9700 ♦ www.smcportsmouth.org
The Reverend Jennifer L. Pedrick, *Rector*
The Reverend Dr. John Gregory Prior, *Associate Rector*
Michael DiMucci, *Pastoral Musician*
Karen Laroche, *Pastoral Associate of Administration*
Jon Walker, *Property Manager*