First Sunday of Advent



November 28, 2026 • 5 pm & November 29, 2026 · 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.

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.
- **Restrooms are accessible** on both levels of the parish house.
- 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 worshiping 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.
- 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.
- 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.

To find out more about St. Mary's use the QR code below or find us online at www.smcportsmouth.org and on Facebook.

The Holy Eucharist

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Opening Hymn: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Hymnal 1982, 56

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Kyrie: Lord, Have Mercy 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 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence--

as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil--

to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,

no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.

You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.

But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.

We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.

We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;

for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

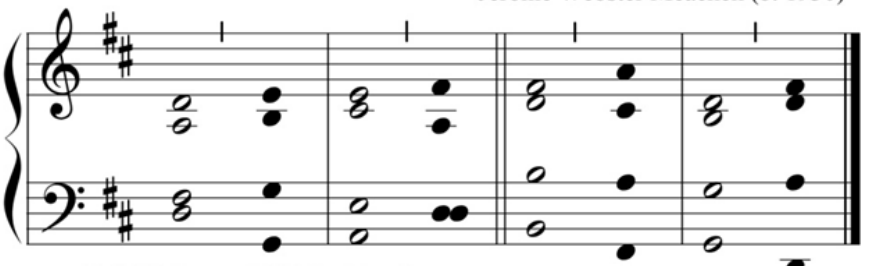
Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.

Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

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

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

Jerome Webster Meachen (b. 1930)

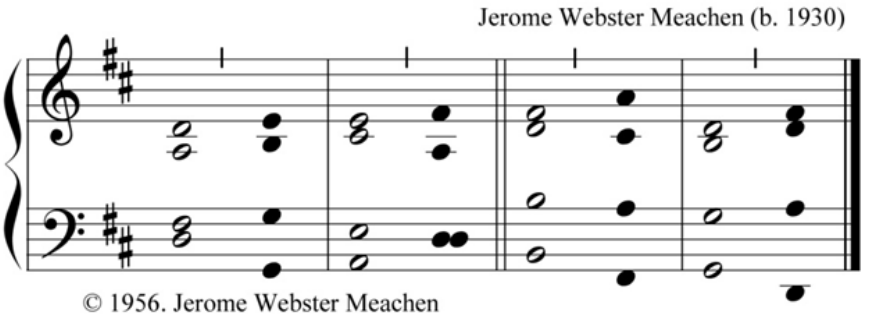


© 1956. Jerome Webster Meachen

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a **flock; ***
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the **cherubim.***
2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and **Manasseh, ***
stir up your strength and come to help **us.***

3 Restore us, O God of **hosts; ***
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be **saved.***
4 O Lord God of hosts,
how long will you be **angered***
despite the prayers of your **people?***

5 You have fed them with the bread of **tears; ***
you have given them bowls of tears to **drink.***
6 You have made us the derision of our **neighbors, ***
and our enemies laugh us to **scorn.***



7 Restore us, O God of **hosts; ***
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be **saved.***
16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right **hand, ***
the son of man you have made so strong for **yourself.***

17 And so will we never turn away from **you; ***
give us life, that we may call upon your **Name.***
18 Restore us, O Lord God of **hosts; ***
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be **saved.***

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

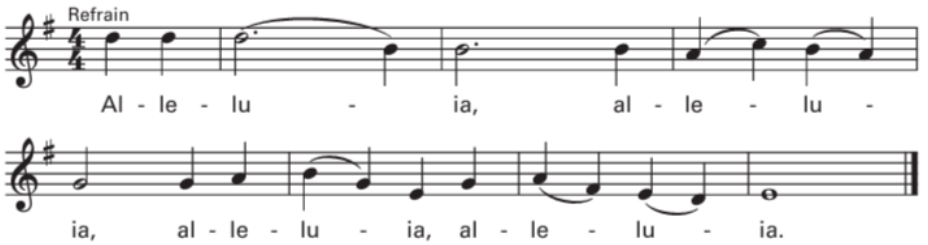
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

All may stand for the Alleluia and Holy Gospel.

Alleluia *Tune of Come, O Come, Emmanuel.* Prendergast, Sullivan



Note: Verses available in accompaniment books. Music © 2006, Michael R. Prendergast and Joseph B. Sullivan. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

Holy Gospel: Mark 13:24-37

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come.

It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch.

Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

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

Sermon The Rev. Jennifer Pedrick

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.**

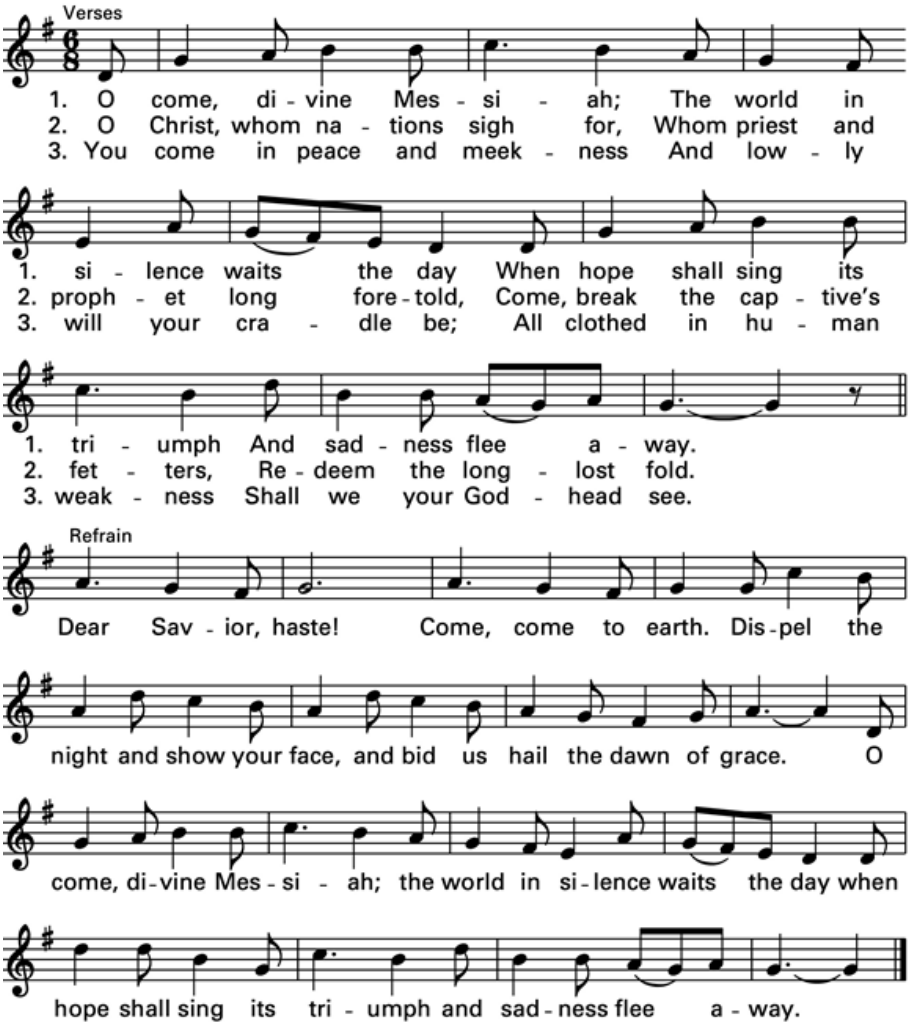
Peace

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: O Come Divine Messiah



Text: 78 76 with refrain; Abbé Simon-Joseph Pellegrin, 1663–1745; tr. by S. Mary of St. Philip, 1877.
Music: Trad. French Carol, 16th cent.

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 Holy, Holy Hymnal 1982, S124

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

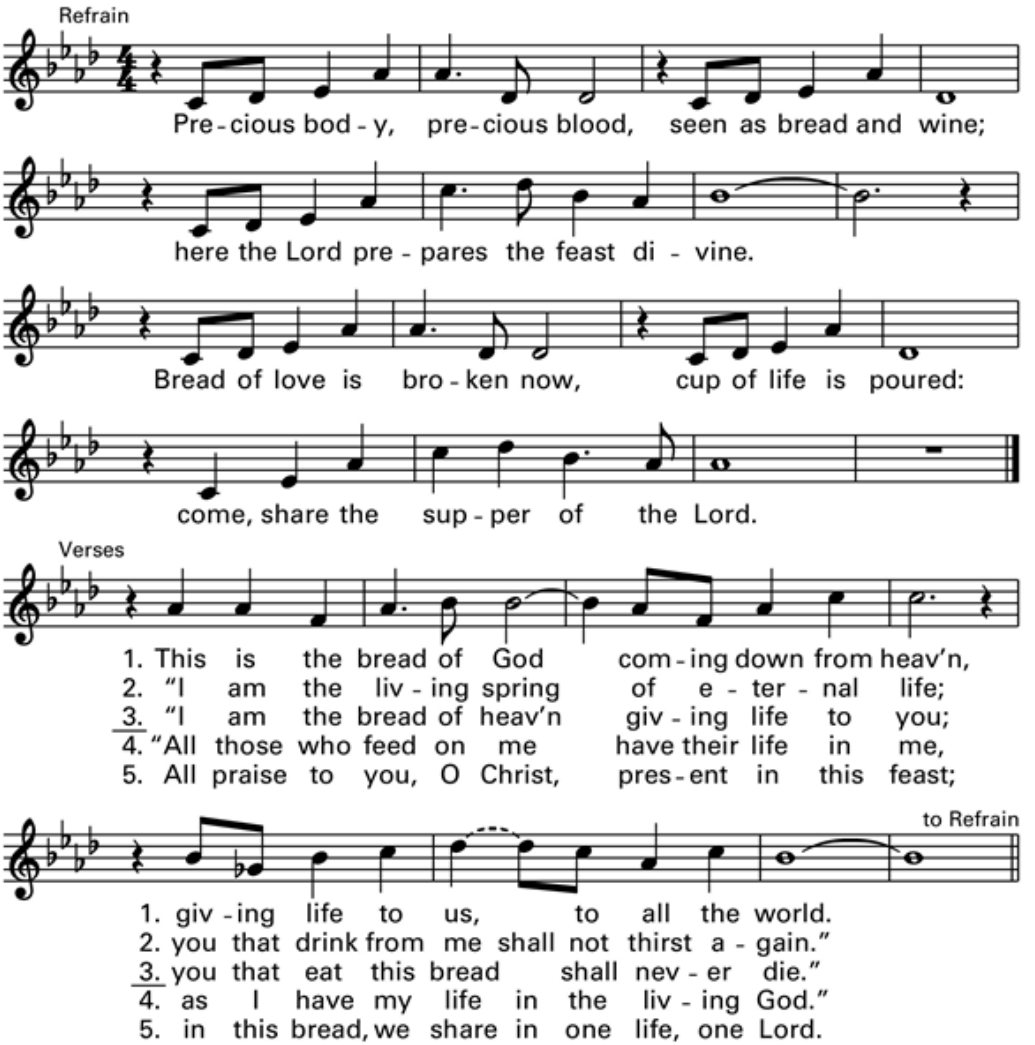
A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Lamb of God Hymnal 1982, 161

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

Communion Choir Anthem A Time for Advent S. Harris

Communion Hymn The Supper of the Lord L. Rosania



Text: Verses 1–4 based on John 4, 6.

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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 Sarawyn Berrett, Lauren Lema, Chrystal Hunter-Hadley

Greeters: 5 pm Marlo Pratt, Cory Thurston
10 am Ron Machtley, Lee Ferreira

Lector and Intercessor: 5 pm Lauren Lema
10 am David Burke

Crucifer/Server: 5 pm Dave Laroche
10 am Jennie Nestlerode

Acolytes: 10 am Connor Legassie, Levi Howland, Isaac Nestlerode

Audio Visual: 10 am Jeff Dugan

Vestry Leadership and Members

Senior Warden - Richard Updegrove (2027)
Junior Warden - John Corbishley (2027)
Treasurer - David Brierley (2027)
Assistant Treasurer – David Burke (2027)
Clerk - Mattie Gustafson (2029)

Sara Barker (2027)
Jason DeFalco (2027)
David Burke (2027)
Jerry Culver (2028)
Murry Edwards (2028)
Nancy Kimble (2028)
Sheila Collins (2029)
Jeff Dugan (2029)
Elizabeth Ripley (2029)

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Staff

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*