



Worship with Communion

The First Sunday of Advent

VIDEO: Participate on any device at 10AM on November 29

go.mysjec.com/facebook or go.mysjec.com/youtube

You can watch the videos at any time after their premier.

Welcome! We're glad you chose to worship with us today!

♪ **People, Look East**

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.

Make your house fair as you are able; trim the hearth and set the table.

People, look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there.

Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.

People, look east and sing today: Love, the Rose, is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled.

Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledging time has chosen.

People, look east and sing today: Love, the Bird, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim,
shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.

People, look east and sing today: Love, the Star, is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth.

Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.

People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Words: Eleanor Farjeon, 1928. ©1960 D Higham Assoc. All rights reserved. Music: *BESANÇON*, French folk melody.

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People You come to your people and set them free. **AMEN!**

Celebrant 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.

People **AMEN!**

Trisagion (Thrice-Holy)

Ho - ly God, ——— ho - ly and might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

Trisagion, from the Greek meaning “thrice holy”. Setting: version *Hymnal 1982*, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924).

Celebrant God 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.

People **AMEN!**

Old Testament

Reader 1 A reading of Isaiah chapter 64, verses 1 through 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 1 Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

Unison Reading

Reader 1 Let us read in unison Psalm 80, verses 1 through 7 and 16 through 18.

All Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim. In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us. Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved. O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people? You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink. You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn. Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Let your hand be upon the one at your side in honor, the one you have made so strong for yourself. And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your Name. Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Epistle

Reader 2

A reading of First Corinthians chapter 1, verses 3 through 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 2

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Mark 13. 24-37

Celebrant

The Holy Gospel of our Lord 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.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Nicene Creed

Celebrant Let us join in the words of the Nicene Creed.

All 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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

adapted from The Episcopal Diocese of Newark

Reader 3 Stirred to keep watch and keep awake, that we may see the coming of the Lord, let us call all of God's people to watchful and wakeful prayer.

For the holy churches of God in every place, especially for Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Matt our Bishop, for all lay leaders and clergy, and for the unity of all, we pray:

All **Come to us, Lord Jesus.**

Reader 3 As we watch and wait and heed the Baptist's cry to "Prepare!", may you form us anew in this season of Advent. That we may be prepared to behold your coming at Bethlehem, in our lives, and in glory, we pray:

All **Come to us, Lord Jesus.**

Reader 3 For the world and its leaders, especially for Donald, our President, Joe, our President-elect, Tony our Governor, Justin our Mayor; and for our nation and its people, we pray:

All **Come to us, Lord Jesus.**

Reader 3 For all those who are suffering during this pandemic, for all victims of COVID-19, for all who are sick, and for those who are dying, we pray:

All **Come to us, Lord Jesus.**

Reader 3 For all those providing care at this time, for doctors, nurses, staff, technicians, social workers, counselors, therapists, first responders, and essential workers, that you may safeguard them as they work on our behalf, we pray:

All **Come to us, Lord Jesus.**

Reader 3 For research scientists and lab technicians; for all those seeking a vaccine for this virus and those seeking enhanced treatments for this illness; for healing and restoration; we pray:

All **Come to us, Lord Jesus.**

Reader 3 For all who suffer from violence and discrimination rooted in white supremacy and racial injustice; for all those who benefit from systems of oppression, whether by intention or by circumstance. That all may be called to the vision of reconciliation and love that heals wounds of division and hatred, we pray:

All **Come to us, Lord Jesus.**

Reader 3 For all victims of violence, for those in danger and need, for the oppressed; for all those who face these concerns, now magnified; for those who suffer for any reason, and for all other illnesses, we pray:

All **Come to us, Lord Jesus.**

Reader 3 For all the blessings of this life and for all those we love, we pray:

All **Come to us, Lord Jesus.**

Reader 3 For all those who mourn, for those who grieve, separated at the last hour from their loved one; for those who face death without the consolation of family at their side; for all those who have died, we pray:

All **Come to us, Lord Jesus.**

Reader 3 Come, Lord God: change us and we shall be changed. Come, increase our awareness of your presence, strengthen our love for you, and fill our hearts with holiness. Come, awaken us to be ready and watchful for your coming. Come, Lord God: change us and we shall be changed; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All **AMEN!**

Reader 3 Let us confess our sins to God.

All **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. AMEN!**

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

All **AMEN!**

Celebrant Let us join in prayer for all those who have celebrated or will be celebrating their birthdays.

All **O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN!**

Celebrant Let us join in prayer for all those who have celebrated or will be celebrating their anniversaries.

All **O God, you teach us through the example of Jesus that love is the fulfilment of the Law; help those couples celebrating anniversaries to persevere in love, to grow in mutual understanding, and to deepen their trust in each other; that in wisdom, patience and courage, their life together may be a source of happiness to all with whom they share it. AMEN!**

Celebrant To all of you celebrating milestones: May the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you to guide and protect you and all those you love, today and always!

All **AMEN!**

Passing the Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Invitation to Communion

from the Iona Community, Scotland

Celebrant The table of bread and wine is now to be made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate. So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed; come.

♪ **When Nations Turn Toward Trouble**

When nations turn toward trouble and hope seems all but gone,
 When threats and conflicts double, what can we count upon?
 When truth becomes distorted and love is pushed aside
 When hatred is supported, God, open heaven wide!
 Tear open wide your heavens; bring down your mighty throne!
 Shake up the highest mountains and make your presence known —
 Till justice flows like water, till rulers humbly pray,
 Till all know you're the potter, till all know we are clay.
 Christ, may we learn the lesson that you are coming here,
 For just as fig trees blossom we know that summer's near.
 Like guards remaining watchful all night, until the dawn,
 May we who love the gospel find strength to carry on.
 May Christians march for justice, may peace prayers fill the streets,
 May churches put in practice the Christ-like ways we teach,
 May we oppose what's hateful and stand for what is true —
 And so may we be watchful as we wait here for you.

Words: based on Isaiah 64.1-9 & Mark 13.24-37, ©2017 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. Music: *AURELIA*, S S Wesley, 1864.

Offering Our Gifts

Celebrant Gifts and offerings may be mailed to the church, dropped off in the church mail slot, or sent through your bank. There are also online giving options on our web site at mySJEC.com/donate. We are grateful for your continued financial support of our ministry and mission.

Celebrant Inspire us to always share your love through action, O God:

People **Strengthen us to always be an inviting safe community for all.**

Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer 3

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; you brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; and so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

♪ **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord**

Setting: from *A Community Mass*, Richard Proulx (b 1937).

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take... Eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection, and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

All **Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life. Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Celebrant Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

All **Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN!**

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

All **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. AMEN!**

Breaking Bread

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

All We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

♪ Lamb of God

Setting: from *New Plainsong*, David Hurd (b 1950).

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

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.

The Celebrant gives the invitation to spiritual communion to all participating near and far.

People In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you, and, since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself with you, and embrace you with all the love of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live in you, and may you live in me, both in this life and in the life to come. AMEN!

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. AMEN!

Seasonal Blessing for Advent

Celebrant May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin.

All **AMEN!**

Celebrant May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love.

All **AMEN!**

Celebrant May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life.

All **AMEN!**

Celebrant And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

All **AMEN!**

♪ Sleepers, Wake! A Voice Astounds Us

"Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us,
the shout of rampart-guards surrounds us:

"Awake, Jerusalem, arise!"

Midnight's peace their cry has broken,
their urgent summons clearly spoken:

"The time has come, O maidens wise!

Rise up, and give us light; the Bridegroom is in sight. Alleluia!

Your lamps prepare and hasten there, that you the wedding feast may share."

Zion hears the watchman singing;
her heart with joyful hope is springing,
she wakes and hurries through the night.

Forth he comes, her bridegroom glorious
in strength of grace, in truth victorious:

her star is risen, her light grows bright.

Now come, most worthy Lord, God's Son, Incarnate Word, Alleluia!

We follow all and heed your call to come into the banquet hall.

Lamb of God, the heavens adore you;
let saints and angels sing before you,
as harps and cymbals swell the sound.

Twelve great pearls, the city's portals:
through them we stream to join the immortals
as we with joy your throne surround.

No eye has known the sight, no ear heard such delight: Alleluia!
Therefore we sing to greet our King; for ever let our praises ring.

Words: Philipp Nicolai, 1599; trnsl Carl P Daw, 1982. Music: *WACHET AUF*, Philipp Nicolai, 1599.

Sending

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! Alleluia, alleluia!

All Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!

St James Episcopal Church, 434 North 8th Street, Manitowoc, WI 54220

If you have any questions, concerns, or pastoral needs, please call The Rev Diane M Murray, Rector: 920.860.5152

Thank you for your support! Gifts may be mailed to the church or sent through your bank.

There are also online giving options on our web site at mySJEC.com/donate.

November's special offering supports Painting Pathways Clubhouse—please label accordingly.

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