

Third Sunday of Advent

Holy Eucharist | December 14, 2025

WELCOME!

You are invited to be a part of this community whether you're arriving for the first time or returning. This bulletin is intended to encourage and enable your enthusiastic participation.

The staffed Nursery is available for little ones during and following the 9:30 service.

St. David's Welcomes You

St. David's Episcopal Church is committed to following Jesus' example of practicing radical hospitality, seeking to find God in all people because they are of sacred worth. We respect the dignity of all persons, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, age, physical or mental capacity, education, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic or marital status. All are invited as full participants in the life and ministries of our community of faith.

Loving God. Loving One Another.

St. David's Mission Statement

We at St. David's Episcopal Church are devoted to loving and serving God, one another and the world. Honoring the dignity and freedom of all to seek God at their own pace, we connect our life stories with the teachings of Jesus. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, we believe our actions transform the world and ourselves.

Please note, this service is livestreamed and recorded on Facebook and YouTube.

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THE HOLY EUCHARIST

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

People, Look East
The St. David's Handbell Choir

Cathy Moglebust

A Prayer of Dedication

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant In the beginning was the Word
People **and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**
Celebrant All things came into being through God
People **What has come into being was life**
Celebrant The light shines in the darkness
People **And the darkness did not overtake it.**

Celebrant Creator God,
we give you thanks for the beauty of your world—
for light and water,
for soil and sky,
for every living thing that reminds us of your goodness.

We thank you for the hands and heart that created this art,
and for the vision that shaped it.
As we set it apart for your service,
may it help us see your creation with fresh eyes
and remind us of the love that spoke everything into being.

Let all who look upon it be stirred to wonder,
to gratitude, and to a deeper care for the world you have entrusted to us.

Bless this piece, and bless this community,
that together we may grow in faith, hope, and love.

In the name of the One, Holy and Undivided Trinity, Creator, Christ and
Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord , just and true:



Your prophet John the Baptist was witness to the truth
as a burning and shining light.
May we your servants rejoice in his light,
and so be led to witness to him who is the Lord of our coming Kingdom.

Jesus our Saviour and King of the ages.



Text: from The Promise of His Glory Music: Malcolm Archer, ©2000 Oxford University Press

Opening Hymn

O Come, O Come Emmanuel



5. O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
6. O come, thou Day - spring come and cheer our spir - its



wide our heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that
by thine Ad - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom - y



leads on high, and close the path to mis - e - ry.
clouds of night, And death's dark sha - dow put to flight.

Re - joice! Re-joice! Em-man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world.

People **The light no darkness can overcome.**

Trisagion

Children ages 7-11 are invited to process out for The Peace Table, returning at the time of communion distribution.



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

ho-ly im - mor - tal one, have mer - cy on us. Ho - ly God,
 ho - ly and migh - ty, ho - ly im - mor - tal one, have mer - cy on us.
 Ho - ly im - mor - tal one, have mer - cy on us.

Collect of the Day

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.**

We Hear and Respond to God’s Word

First Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
 the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
 like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
 and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
 the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
 They shall see the glory of the LORD,
 the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,
 and make firm the feeble knees.
 Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
 "Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go
astray.

No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 146:4-9

At 8:00, the psalm can be found at page 803 in the Book of Common Prayer.



Come, O Lord, and save us.

1. Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in their God;
Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
whose promise abides for ever; ✠

2. Who gives justice to those who are oppressed
and food to those who hunger.
God sets the prisoners free and opens the eyes of the blind;
God lifts up those who are bowed down; ✠

3. God loves the righteous and cares for the stranger;
God sustains the orphan and widow, '
but frustrates the way of the wicked.
God shall reign for ever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Alleluia! ✠

Second Reading

James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn

Hark! the Glad Sound

Hymnal #71

Please stand as you are able for the Gospel Hymn and reading of the Gospel.

The Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.'

"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Very Rev. Katherine Lewis

The Nicene Creed

Please stand as you are able.

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.

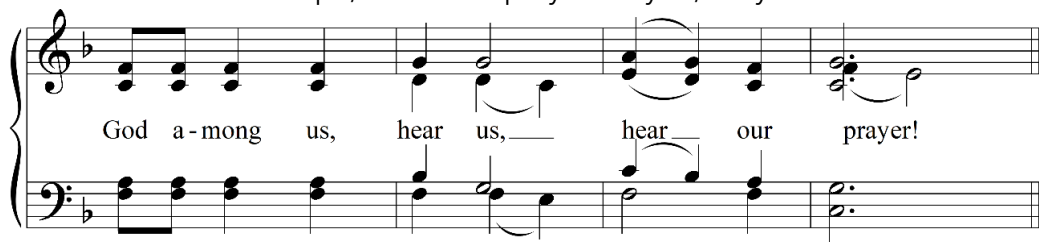
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom 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

Deacon In Advent hope, we lift our prayers to you, Holy One.



God a-mong us, hear us, hear our prayer!

The image shows a musical score for a deacon's prayer. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble clef staff.

Leader We pray for the world: for justice, peace, reconciliation, and healing. We bring our anxiety and fears into the light of your love.

All sing **God among us, hear us, hear our prayer!**

We pray for the church: for boldness of vision, courage, compassion, creativity, joy, humility, and hospitality. We pray especially for the people of St. George's in these final weeks of worshiping together in their church in St. Louis Park. Help us taste your life and share your feast.

God among us, hear us, hear our prayer!

We pray in gratitude: for love, community, life, and beauty. Give us eyes to see your gifts and remind us to celebrate your presence.

God among us, hear us, hear our prayer!

We pray for healing: for all who are anxious, depressed, lonely, sick or suffering, especially for... and for our Somali and Latino neighbors, that they be surrounded with protection, courage, and the unwavering assurance that they are not alone in the face of kidnappings, fear and injustice. Help us to remember that you are a God of new life.

God among us, hear us, hear our prayer!

We pray for those who have died, especially... We look for your light of life in our sorrow, grief and loss.

God among us, hear us, hear our prayer!

Please offer your own prayers, silently or aloud.

God among us, hear us, hear our prayer!

May we ready our hearts to be born again in love.

Amen.

Confession

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence. You are invited to be seated, to kneel or to remain standing

All **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.**

Absolution

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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

We Share in Holy Communion

Please stand, as you are able, while the offerings of bread and wine are presented. You may be seated until the singing of the Doxology, when we ask that you stand once more.

Offertory

Prepare the Royal Highway

Lee Afdahl

Doxology



To God Cre - a - tor, God the Son, And God the Spir - it, Three in One,



Praise, hon - or, might and glo - ry be From age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

The Great Thanksgiving

Remain standing as you are able.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

All repeat each phrase after the cantor:

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first two phrases: "Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho - ly," and "God of pow'r and might,". The second staff contains the melody for the next two phrases: "Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry," and "Ho - san-na in the high - est." The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter and eighth notes. There are triplets of eighth notes in the second phrase of the second staff. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho - ly, God of pow'r and might,

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho - ly, God of pow'r and might,

Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Hosanna in the high-est." It consists of two staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with the lyrics "san-na in the high-est." and "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." The second staff continues with "name of the Lord." and "Ho - san - na in the high - est." The second staff includes a *rit.* (ritardando) marking over the final notes. The music features a simple melody with eighth and quarter notes, and a steady accompaniment.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, God of our Mothers; God of Hagar and Sarah, Rebecca, and Leah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **Amen.**

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

O Lamb of God, Em - man - u - el,
you take a - way the sins of the world.

O Lamb of God, Em - man - u - el,
Have mer - cy on___ us.

you take a - way the sins of the world. Grant us___ peace.

Holy Communion

Everyone, without exception and regardless of age or faith tradition, is invited to share in Holy Communion at the Lord's table. If you wish, please come forward to receive the bread and wine. If you are unable to come forward, please let an usher know and communion will be brought to you.

Gluten-free wafers are available. The wine is shared from a common cup; feel free to receive only the bread if you prefer. (For health reasons, we ask that you do not dip the bread in the wine.) If you would like to receive a blessing instead of communion, you can indicate this desire by crossing your arms over your chest.

A prayer station is available in the All Saints' Chapel (Narthex) during the distribution of communion. Any who wish may ask for prayers for themselves or on behalf of others.

Communion Hymn *Light Dawns on a Weary World*



1. Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
2. Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
3. Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
bread and child - ren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the pro - mised day of jus - tice comes.
wea - ry world: the pro - mised feast of plen - ty comes.
wea - ry world: the pro - mised green of E - den comes.

Refrain



The trees shall clap their hands;— the dry lands, gush with springs; the hills and



moun-tains shall break forth with sing - ing! We shall go out in joy,— and be led



forth in peace, as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, ©2002 GIA Publications Inc

Sending Forth of Lay Eucharistic Visitors

On those days when the parish sends out Lay Eucharistic Visitors to those who cannot attend the liturgy, the Bread is presented to the Visitors at the altar, using this form.

Deacon In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People **We who are many are one body, because we share the one bread and the one cup.**

Prayer after Communion

All **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.**

We Go into the World in God's Name

Announcements

Want to read more about what's going on at St. David's?
Scan this QR code to access the Weekly News:



The Blessing

Departing

There's a Voice in the Wilderness

Hymnal #75

Dismissal

Deacon

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Our Leadership

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The Most Rev. Sean W. Rowe ▪ 212-716-6273

Bishop of The Episcopal Church in Minnesota

The Rt. Rev. Craig Loya ▪ 612-870-3301 ▪ craig.l@episcopalmn.org

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