

Welcome to Saint Mary's Episcopal Church!



Advent 2020

For 134 years, Saint Mary's has been
a Christ-centered community
with a mission to express God's love for all people.

Advent 2020

Prelude
Advent 3 only

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night
Recorder Duet: Jim DeLuca and Cindy James

John Bowring, 1825

The service begins with the sound of the chime.

Opening Acclamation

Leader In returning and rest we shall be freed;
People **In quietness and in trust we shall find our strength.**
Leader Let us pray.

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. **Amen.**



Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candles

Advent Week 1 (November 29)—The Candle of Hope

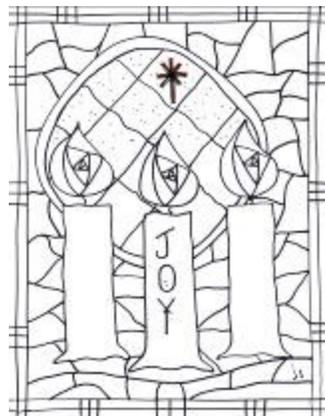


The first candle is lit.

Leader Christ, be our light. We light this candle for all God's people, struggling to be bearers of hope in a troubled world. God, as we wait for your presence, give light, give hope.

People **God, fill us with hope. Hope for a new day. Hope that all fears will be removed. Hope that doors of opportunity that seem locked will be opened. Hope that broken relationships will be restored. Hope for healing. Hope for something more than ourselves. Hope that damaged trust will be revived. God, fill us with hope.**

Advent Week 3 (December 13)—The Candle of Joy (Pink)



The first, second, and third candles are lit.

Leader Christ, be our light. As we light this candle for all God's people, we accept the joy and the challenge of being God-bearers. We say "yes" to God's offering of the unknown. God, as we wait for your promise, give light, hope, peace, and joy,

People **God, fill us with joy on the path of life you have made known to us. Give us the generosity of spirit to lift up those with heavy hearts, hold them gently, and walk with them. God, bless us with joy.**

Collect of the Day

Leader God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Leader Let us pray together.

First Sunday of Advent (November 29)

BCP 211

People **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.**

Third Sunday of Advent (December 13)

BCP 212

People **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.**

The First Reading

Advent 1 (November 29)

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 Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Advent 3 (December 13)

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.

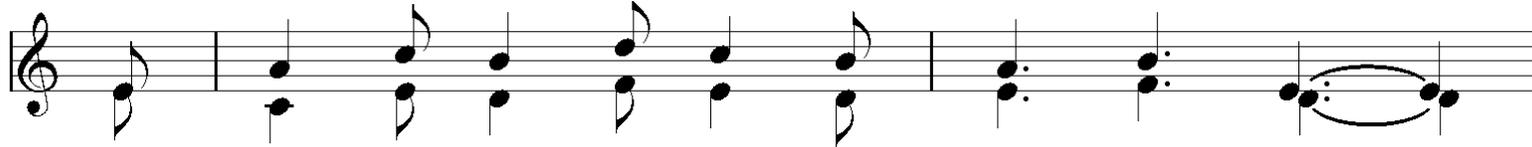
Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

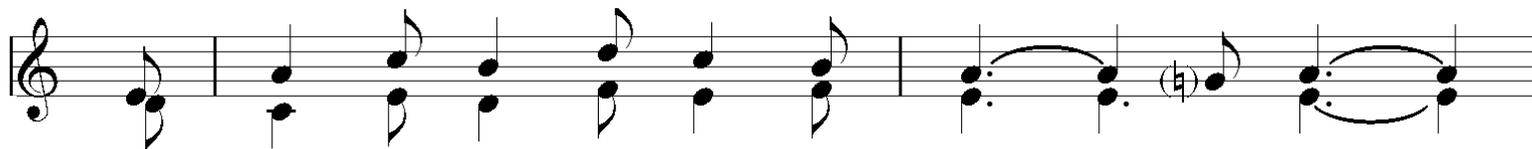
Advent 1 (November 29)

Psalms 80:1-7, 16-18

- 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.



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came,
 2 "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be,
 3 Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head,
 4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;
 all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee,
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,
 in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,
 thy Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 "my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name."
 and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say—



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!

Words: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834–1924); Music: *Gabriel's Message*, Basque carol; harm. Edgar Pettman (1865–1943)
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The Second Reading

Advent 1 (November 29)

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Advent 3 (December 13)

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.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**



Hymn

The King Shall Come

Advent 3 (December 13) only

1 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
 2 Not, as of old, a lit - tle child, to
 3 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
 4 and let the end - less bliss be - gin, by
 5 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and

1 light tri - um - phant breaks; when beau - ty gilds the
 2 bear, and fight, and die, but crowned with glo - ry
 3 earth's dark night is past; O haste the ris - ing
 4 wear - y saints fore - told, when right shall tri - umph
 5 light and beau - ty brings: Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy

1 east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
 2 like the sun that lights the morn - ing sky.
 3 of that morn, the day that e'er shall last;
 4 o - ver wrong, and truth shall be ex - tolled.
 5 peo - ple pray, come quick - ly, King of kings.

Words: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834–1924); Music: *Gabriel's Message*, Basque carol; harm. Edgar Pettman (1865–1943) © 1961, B. Feldman & Co. Ltd., trading as H. Freeman & Co. Reproduced by permission of EMI Music Publishing Ltd

The Gospel

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

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

Advent 1 (November 29)

Mark 13:24-37

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."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Advent 3 (December 13)

John 1:6-8,19-28

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.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

Advent 1 (November 29)

Advent 3 (December 13)

The Reverend Cindi Brickson

A time of silence concludes the sermon to allow space to reflect on what God might be saying to us personally.

The Nicene Creed and Baptismal Questions

**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.

Intercessor Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People I will, with God's help.

Intercessor Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

Intercessor Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People I will, with God's help.

Intercessor Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People I will, with God's help.

Intercessor Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People I will, with God's help.

The Prayers of the People

Form IV, BCP 388

Please turn and face the middle aisle.

Intercessor Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. *Silence.*

Lord in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. *Silence.*

Lord in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. *Silence.*

Lord in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. *Silence.*

Lord in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. *Silence.*

Lord in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. *Silence.*

Lord in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

The Peace

Leader The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Announcements

Leader And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People **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.

Prayers and Blessings

Speak up if you've got a birthday, anniversary, transition, concern or thanksgiving to share.

Final Blessing

Leader And may the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of the Lord, and of his son Jesus Christ our Lord, and the blessing of God, Creator, Son and Holy Spirit be among us and remain with us always. Amen.

Parting Hymn

On Jordan's Bank

Advent 3 (December 13) only

1. I be - lieve in God al - might - y, Au - thor of all
2. I be - lieve that Je - sus suf - fered, scourged and scorned and
3. I be - lieve in God's own Spir - it, bond - ing all the

things that be, Mak - er of the earth and heav - ens,
cru - ci - fied; tak - en from the cross, was bur - ied—
saints with - in one church, cath - o - lic and ho - ly,

Keep - er of the sky and sea. I be - lieve in
True Life there had tru - ly died. I be - lieve that
where for - give - ness frees from sin; in the bod - y's

God's son, Je - sus, now for us both Lord and Christ, of the Spir - it
 on the third day Christ was raised up from the grave, then as - cend - ed
 res - ur - rec - tion, for the break - ing of death's chain gives the life that's

and of Mar - y born to bring a - bun - dant life.
 to God's right hand. He will come to judge and save.
 ev - er - last - ing. This the faith that I have claimed.

Words: Sylvia G. Dunstan (1955–1993); © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.

Music: *Arfon* (Major), Welsh hymn melody, harm. Carlton R. Young, Alt. arr. © 1964 Abingdon Press.

Dismissal

Deacon *The Deacon says the words of dismissal.*

People Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Breakout Rooms

SOURCES

Today's liturgy is based on The Book of Common Prayer,
Church Publishing Incorporated, New York, New York.

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