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Advent 1
Holy Eucharist Rite Two
Sunday, November 28, 2021
10:30 AM

PRELUDE *Three Setting of “Wachet auf”* Aaron David Miller

ENTRANCE HYMN "*Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us* **H 62**

1 "Sleep - ers, wake!" A voice a - stounds us, the shout of ram-part
 2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing; her heart with joy - ful
 3 Lamb of God, the heavens a - dore you; let saints and an - gels

guards sur-rounds us: "A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!"
 hope is spring - ing, she wakes and hur - ries through the night.
 sing be - fore you, as harps and cym - bals swell the sound.

Mid - night's peace their cry has bro - ken, their ur - gent sum-mons
 Forth he comes, her Bride-groom glo - rious in strength of grace, in
 Twelve great pearls, the ci - ty's por - tals: through them we stream to

clear - ly spo - ken: "The time has come, O maid - ens wise!
 truth vic - to - rious: her star is risen, her light grows bright.
 join the im - mor - tals as we with joy your throne sur - round.

Rise up, and give us light; the Bride - groom is in sight.
 Now come, most wor - thy Lord, God's Son, In - car - nate Word,
 No eye has known the sight, no ear heard such de - light:

Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!

Your lamps pre - pare
We fol - low all
There - fore we sing

and has - ten there,
call King;
that you the wed - ding feast may share."
to come in - to the ban - quet hall.
for ev - er let our prais - es ring.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People Glory to God for ever and ever.

LUCENARIA

The candles of the Advent Wreath are lit as the Lucenaria is spoken.

Officiant: Come and save us,* O Lord God of hosts.

People: Come and save us, O Lord God of Hosts.

Officiant: Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved:

People: O Lord God of Hosts.

Officiant: Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

People: Come and save us, O Lord God of Hosts.

Officiant: Show us your mercy, O Lord.

People: And grant us your salvation.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Celebrant may say

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.*

OPENING ANTHEM

The following is said, all standing

Kyrie eleison.

Christe eleison.

Kyrie eleison.

THE 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 Lessons

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

PSALM: Psalm 25:1-9

Remain seated. The Psalm is chanted by steadily speaking the psalm on each note until arriving at the emphasized word (or word-fragment) that is bolded and underlined.

After each emphasized word, we move to the next note, which is held briefly before moving to the next line.

The final Psalm couplet always uses the second half of our chanting tones.

Jerome Webster Meachen
(b. 1930)



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¹To you, O GOD, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in **you**; *
 let me not be humiliated,
 nor let my enemies triumph over **me**.

²Let none who look to you be put to **shame**; *
 let the treacherous be disappointed in their **schemes**.

³Show me your ways, O **GOD**, *
 and teach me your **paths**.

⁴Lead me in your truth and **teach me**, *
 for you are the God of my salvation;
 in you have I trusted all the day **long**.

⁵Remember, O GOD, your compassion and love, *
for they are from ever-lasting.

⁶Remember not the sins of my youth and my trans-gressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O GOD.

⁷Gracious and upright is the LORD; *
therefore you teach sinners in your way.

⁸You guide the humble in doing right *
and teach your way to the lowly.

⁹All your paths are love and faithful-ness *
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

The people sit.

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Thessalonica.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

SEQUENCE HYMN *Lo! he comes, with clouds descending* H 57
All stand.

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds descending,
 2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him,
 3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
 dread - ful ma - - jes ty; those who set at
 daz - zling bo - - dy bears, cause of end - less
 thine e - - ter - - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
 nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
 ex - - ul - - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
 power and glo - - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: Al - - le - lu - ia! Al - - le - lu - ia!
 tree, deep - - ly wail - ing, deep - - ly wail - ing,
 ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
 own: Al - - le - lu - ia! Al - - le - lu - ia!

Al - - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 deep - - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 Al - - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36

All stand.

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[Jesus said:] “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

Mark Witte

THE CREED

All stand.

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

All remain standing.

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve
you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the
world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Strengthen and sustain all those who care for the health of your people,
especially nurses, doctors, and staff who work with great care for the
prevention of illness and the healing of the sick, and bless all those
whose work places them at risk, especially in this time.

May they be sustained and sheltered in their labors.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. especially for: Elaine, John & Recia, Jim, Pat, Hayden, Amy, JoEy, Sadie, Joey, Evelyn, Bob, Michelle, Jean, Pat & Gerry, Carol, Matt, Dave, Janine, Eric, Jean, Sally, Melissa, Julie, Cecily, Tom, Michael, Dustin, Leslie, Elliana, Bill & Jodean, Dave, Kim, Rich, Chad, Joseph, Maggie, Vicki, and Massouda & her family. Are there any others who need our prayers?

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Celebrant

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

CONFSSION OF SIN

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister 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 our Savior 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 Priest stands and says

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. *Amen.*

THE PEACE

All stand.

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

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays: Avenly Churchill, Angie Gallegos, Alexis Mann, and Brody Ptomey

Anniversaries:

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.*

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The Celebrant says

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The King Shall Come

Arr. John Leavitt

OFFERTORY RESPONSE *Prepare the way of the Lord* MHSO 61

Canon 1 2

Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre - pare the way of the Lord, and
all peo - ple will see the sal - va - tion of our God. ___

Secondary Canon

1 2

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Words: based on *Luke 3:4, 6*, adapt. The Taizé Community.
Music: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994) © 1984 by Les Presses de Taizé (France). (Words and Music admin. GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 [www.giamusic.com].) All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The Great Thanksgiving

SURSUM CORDA

The People remain standing.

The musical notation consists of four staves of music. The first staff shows the Celebrant's part: "The Lord be with you." The second staff shows the People's part: "And al - so with you." The third staff shows the Celebrant's part: "Lift up your hearts." The fourth staff shows the People's part: "We lift them to the Lord." The fifth staff shows the Celebrant's part: "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The sixth staff shows the People's part: "It is right to give God thanks and praise." The music is in common time, with a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are written below the staves.

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And al - so 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 God thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we say,

SANCTUS

Celebrant and People

Cantor

Sw.

Man.

All

Gt.

Ped.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and God of might.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and God of might.

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

Ho-san - na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.

All

Ho-san - na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.

Gt.

Ped.

Cantor

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the

Sw.

Man.

Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.

All

Ho-san - na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.

Gt.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The People stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy God, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Holy God, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, Jesus lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose Jesus gave himself up to death;

and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for Christ who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, your own first gift for those who believe, to complete your work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Almighty God, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ’s death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming Christ’s resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting Christ’s coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

EPICLESIS

The Celebrant continues

God our Creator, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with matriarchs, patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

People and Celebrant

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,
forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

INVITATION

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

DISTRIBUTION

The presider then receives the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately delivers it to the people. During this time, we are receiving Holy Communion in the Host (bread) alone, which is a full communion in the tradition of the church, in order to take extra care for the health of our communities.

The Bread is given to the communicants with these words

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [Amen.]

COMMUNION HYMN

Comfort, comfort ye my people

H 67



1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus
 2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert
 3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er



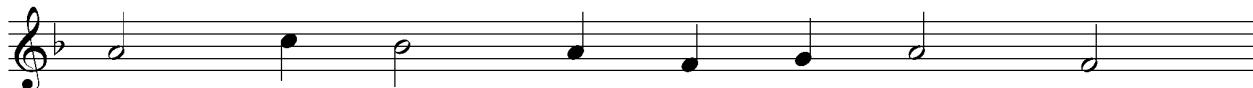
saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
 far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
 pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -
 since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
 as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry



ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
 cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
 of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



tell her that her sins I cov - - er,
 let the val - - leys rise to meet - him
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken



and her war - fare now is o - - ver.
 and the hills bow down to greet - him.
 that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of Christ,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people, saying

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

POST-COMMUNION HYMN*Prepare the way, O Zion* **H 65**

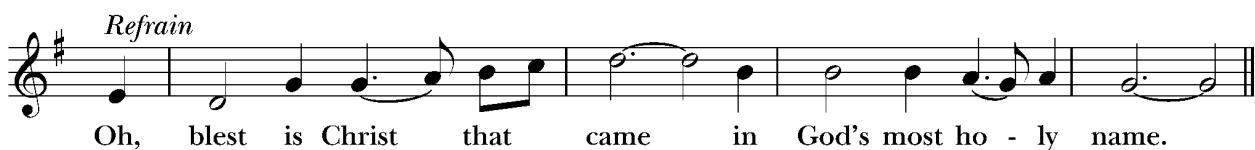
1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound-ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE*Prepare the Way, O Zion***Paul Manz**

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Collection in November

November's special collection benefits **Downtown Episcopal Outreach (DEO)** Every Wednesday, volunteers from the cathedral and nearby Episcopal churches prepare a delicious lunch that's open to the public, free of charge. It's our small way of offering good food and fellowship to our neighbors, especially those who don't always have access to food or shelter. Guests enjoy a sit down experience, a free full service meal, and good conversation. Get your contribution in **Today** (with DEO on the Memo Line)!

Greening of the Church

Join St. A's Altar Guild for the Greening of the Church after services on **Today at 11:30am**. We will need families of all ages to drape garland, hang wreaths, place florals in windows, and hang ornaments from the ceiling. Ladders and treats provided!

Advent in the Way of Love

Sundays in Advent, 9:40 am - 10:20 am

(Nov 28 to Dec 19)

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry has challenged the Episcopal Church to follow Jesus by describing the way of Jesus as the Way of Love. This Advent season, Fr Ben will lead adult formation classes between our two worship services that help guide us through a holy Advent season (the four weeks leading up to Christmas and the birth of Jesus) and introduce the seven steps of the Way of Love concept (Worship, Go, Learn, Pray, Bless, Turn, Rest) by inviting us to practice one on each day of the week through Advent.

We will use an Advent Calendar that can be found here:

<file:///C:/Users/rector/AppData/Local/Temp/Advent-2021-Calendar.pdf>

November Book Club

In November, the Elaine Randall Book Club will be reading **Pachinko** by Min Jin Lee. We will meet to discuss on **Tuesday, November 30**.

Thistle Lights and Magdalene Omaha Sale Dec 4th – 5th

Magdalene Omaha is an Episcopal Church ministry that seeks to “deliver hope, healing, and economic self-empowerment for survivors of sex trafficking, prostitution, and addiction.” Part of their efforts at economic empowerment is through the Thistle Lights shop and the Voila! Magdalene Blooms shop here in town, which create and sell handmade products including teas, body washes, clothing, and more. Please tell friends about this shopping opportunity for holiday gifts and supporting healing ministries! Products can also be viewed or purchased at

<https://www.magdaleneomaha.org/shop>

Hours:

December 4th, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

December 5th, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm (during coffee hour)

Blue Christmas Service

December 11th, 4:00 pm

A service for remembering loved ones through this time of preparing for Christmas, with readings both sacred and secular, will be celebrated on **Saturday, December 11th**. This service gives us a moment to lift up those who are in our hearts through this tender time of year, light candles in memory of them, and celebrate the Holy Eucharist to gather together with Christ’s Table at which all in this world and the life to come are united in God’s love. Please feel free to invite others who may need a moment of prayer and tradition to remember our loved ones.

First Sunday Collection in December

The Canned Food Tree is returning to St. Augustine’s this year! We are thrilled to be providing for many of those in our community experiencing food insecurity. Donations collected at both services on **Sunday, December 5**, will go to support this wonderful community outreach program.

Rector’s Book Club Begins January 2022!

This coming year, Fr Ben is beginning a monthly book club to meet once a month on Sunday evenings! He will be choosing books that focus on how we live out our faith with fun and provocative topics that get us into great conversations together. Each meeting will be a chance to share insights,

respond to questions, and meet more people at church, and we're setting it for the Sunday evening time to make sure this book club is available to people from all generations! Please save the dates, and we'll hope to see you there. We'll have snacks available, and people will be welcome to brown-bag a dinner (as we get interest, we might look at dinner options!). If you're interested in child care during the Rector's Book Club, please let Kate or Fr Ben know, and we will see if we can arrange it.

We will meet from **5:30 to 6:30 pm**,

Starting Dates:

Sunday, January 23rd: Wholehearted Faith, Rachel Held Evans

Sunday, February 27th: Rising Strong, Brené Brown

Sunday, March 27th: TBD

Sunday, April 24th: TBD

Sunday, May 22nd: TBD

Winter Office Hours and Announcements

Parish office hours are **9:00 AM to 1:00 PM Monday – Thursday.**

If you have announcements or other additions to our weekly email newsletter or the bulletins distributed on Sundays, please submit them by **1 PM (close of business) on the MONDAY** of the week you want it to run. Please send announcements to both Jay at Parish@sainta.net **AND** Kate at ministries@sainta.net Thank you!

Pastoral Conversations?

One of the roles of our priest, Fr Ben, is to listen, support, and encourage our community by helping us bring our faith to bear on the events of our lives. In a season of busyness and anxieties, if a conversation about faith and what's going on would be helpful to you, please contact Fr Ben through our office (402-289-4058) to set up a conversation during office hours (M-Th 9:00 am to noon) or by appointment.

2022 is just around the corner!!

Have you thought about completing your 2021 pledge, prepaying your 2022 pledge or just making that additional contribution to St. Augustine's for tax purposes? All money must be *deposited* by December 31, 2021, in order for you to be able to deduct your charitable contribution on your 2021 tax return. Considering holidays and office closures, we have some options for you and deadlines to consider.

If you want to use our PayPal system, you need to have it in ***no later than December 24***, as it takes 2-3 business days to reach our account after we initiate transfer.

If you are paying by check, please make sure it is to the office ***by December 30***.

If you want to take advantage of our brokerage account through Charles Schwab, **plan early!!!** With the transfer from your account to our account and then taking into consideration the sale time and not to mention getting the check written to St. Augustine's and getting it deposited by December 31 – well do we need to say more?? Please contact treasurer, Maggie Wellman, for the needed information to access our account. Her email is mwellman1@cox.net.

If you need to know your pledge balance for 2021, please contact Jay as she has all the updated information. Thank you for working with us to meet our deadlines and to make the end of the year a smooth transition into 2022!!

Parish Office Nominations

Each year, we accept nominations for several parish offices. This year, Fr Ben has asked the outgoing class of Vestry members (Anja Armitage (anja.elizabeth.armitage82@gmail.com), Lynette Kautz (lfkautz1@cox.net), and Bill Smith (wmwsmith@hotmail.com)) to serve as our Nominations Committee to receive names. Nominations may also be sent to Fr Ben at rector@sainta.net – this committee will review any nomination with the nominee and create a slate or schedule of candidates for the parish Annual Meeting in January (date TBD).

The following parish offices will be elected at our parish Annual Meeting:

- **Vestry, 3 seats, class of 2025:** The Vestry is the parish board, and is a 3-year term elected by our Annual Meeting. Vestry members must be Confirmed (or had a confirmation Received) in the Episcopal Church, or be willing to do so this coming Spring. The Vestry meets monthly and reviews our church projects, policies, and finances, and collaborates with Fr Ben for major goals and initiatives. It is important that our Vestry reflect people from different kinds of families and groups throughout our parish to help us listen well to the call God places on our church community as we carry out our mission to “be a growing, faithful, inclusive, and caring community committed to the ministry and teachings of Jesus Christ.”
- **Vestry, 1 seat, class of 2022:** Bill Kimme will need to step down from Vestry after this year, and our Annual Meeting can act to fill this seat as well (otherwise, it will be nominated by the rector and confirmed by the Vestry as part of their usual work). This represents an interim-year seat, which can be renewed for a standard 3-year term through the following year’s voting process. This is a good way for someone to learn more about how our vestry works or to serve for a brief term.
- **Annual Council Representative:** Each year, the Annual Council of the Diocese of Nebraska meets in October (typically during bye-week for the Huskers!) to gather in worship and counsel and plan for the year ahead. This includes hearing from Bishop Barker, reviewing a draft budget, learning about ministry programs and goals, and may include legislative resolutions. The Annual Council in 2022 will be held in Kearney from Thursday evening to Saturday morning on a week in October.
- **Legacy Society Director:** Our parish Legacy Society is a way to receive structured gifts, especially from estates, and has policies that govern how those gifts may be invested and used so that they continue to support our church and its ministries, especially in Outreach, Formation, and a small portion of budget. Each year we elect one member to a 3-year term, and this group meets four times each year,

chaired by the senior member, to review the status of these investments and create any parish education about legacy planning.

Mask Policy Update:

On November 21st, our Vestry reviewed our mask policy. While we have been particularly careful this Fall while waiting for new vaccine opportunities, we noted that a number of families are maintaining abundant caution by continuing to attend worship online, many of the youth attending are unmasked at coffee hour, and for many families, school attendance remains a much more significant unmasked time. Given these factors – and more especially, the arrival of vaccines for children aged 5-12 – we will be returning to the standard that **vaccinated persons may choose not to wear a mask during worship, beginning on Christmas Eve, 2021**. The timing of this is intended to provide a window for children 5-12 to receive their vaccines and have some time to build immunity. Masks and social distancing certainly continue to provide extra protection for self and others, and will continue to be welcome practices during worship.

We continue to expect that anyone who is experiencing potential COVID symptoms or has an exposure that might cause a need to quarantine will use the online worship option, and we will be reviewing masking rules for Sunday School and Nursery as spaces where children under 5 still need extra protection. If there are questions or more input on this, please feel free to connect with Fr Ben via the parish office at 402-289-4058 or his e-mail at rector@sainta.net.

Reviewing Our Spaces

Our construction is largely completed with just a few details remaining -- we're asking everyone to take a good look and see what finishing touches we still need!

For **repairs or construction issues** (like a lightbulb not working or a missed piece of material), please contact Fr Ben (rector@sainta.net), Junior Warden Grant Suhr (grantsuhr@gmail.com), or one of the staff through the office. We have a 1-year warranty on most of the construction, and our contractor really wants to leave things right for us as they fully leave our space. Although we

can theoretically ask for these fixes anytime within our warranty, we'd like to make a strong push now to see what needs tightening up! (We will also plan to have a focused walkthrough towards the end of our warranty time to review how construction has held up and where we might ask warranty repairs to be made.)

For **finishing touches**, please contact Fr Ben or Rhonda Vest (rvest1@cox.net), who is chairing a small group to determine things like where we need a clock or whether we might place houseplants. We will also be looking over some of the legacy elements from the original St Augustine's sanctuary and determining where some of these might be placed. Our goal is to collect all of these suggestions so they can be made with an overall awareness of space needs! If you would like to help with this planning, please let them know as well.

Save the Date!

**Sunday, November 28th – Greening of the Church and
Advent in the Way of Love Begins**

Saturday & Sunday, December 4th & 5th – Magdalene Omaha Sale

Saturday, December 11th – Blue Christmas Service

**Sunday, January 23 – Parents’ Meeting
Rector’s Book Club Meets**

Vestry Notes for November:

The Vestry met on November 21st

- Reports were received and approved
- Proceeds from the Brewsky’s Open golf tournament fundraiser were designated to the Building Fund in anticipation of a potential project to match the Narthex to our new construction
- We committed to our Diocesan Faith Asking for 2022
- We reviewed remaining construction details
- We reviewed upcoming events
- We reviewed our masking policies

Worship During Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany

Please Save the Date for our Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany services as we plan for the holidays together!

Advent I, Sunday, 11/28:

8:30 and 10:30 services as usual

Advent II, Sunday, 12/5:

8:30 and 10:30 services as usual

Advent III, Sunday, 12/12:

8:30 and 10:30 services as usual

Advent IV, Sunday, 12/19:

10:30 Combined Service of

Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve, Friday, 12/24:

3:00 A Christmas Eve

Eucharistic service led by our Praise Band, which will be streamed online and available to view later in the evening for anyone unable to attend. This will include singing the Candlelit Carol of Silent Night.

9:30 A hymn-sing of Christmas carols as we prepare for the late night service.

10:00 A late night Christmas Eve Eucharistic service with the organ and choir, including the singing of the Candlelit Carol.

No Services Scheduled

10:30 Combined Service

Christmas Day, Saturday, 12/25:

8:30 and 10:30 services, observing the Feast of the Epiphany (from January 6th) by parish custom

First Sunday of Christmas, 12/26:

Feast of the Epiphany, 1/2/2022:

Ministers of the Day	This Week 11/28/2021	Next Week, 12/05/2021
Musicians 8:30am:	Don Hoes, Ruth Tomlinson, Ali Threlkeld, Joe Threlkeld, Rhonda Vest, Erin Rhian	Don Hoes, Ruth Tomlinson, Ali Threlkeld, Joe Threlkeld, Rhonda Vest, Erin Rhian
Musicians 10:30am:	Jeff Hoffman, Canterbury Choir	Jeff Hoffman, Canterbury Choir
Celebrant:	Rev. Ben Varnum	Rev. Ben Varnum
Deacon:	David Holmquist	David Holmquist
Liturgical Shepherd:	Jim Lewis	Erin Rhian
Chalice:	N/A	N/A
Acolytes 8:30am:	OPEN	Joseph Kielion, Teo Gallegos, Luke Fassero
Acolytes 10:30am:	Allie Pasko, Tanner Pickett, Brayden Pickett	Danica Suhr, Frankie Kreifels, Ruth Kreifels
10:30 am Greeter:	Pat & Jerry Grothendick	Chad Kielion & Kathy Pospichal
8:30 am Lector:	Bill Smith	Judy Tomanek
10:30 am Lector:	Andrea Whyte Reilly	Paul Ahrens
Altar Guild 8:30 am:	Kathy Lake	Kathy Lake
Altar Guild 10:30 am:	Carol Ott	Marissa Kreifels
Sunday School	9:40 – 10:20 AM	9:40 – 10:20 AM
Coffee Hour	OPEN	OPEN