

First Sunday of Advent Holy Eucharist: Rite II December 3, 2023 10 a.m.

Welcome to St. John's!

Advent, Advent, The time it runs. Candles burn brightly on the wreath, To show us that very quickly now, It is approaching, holy night. Then it is accomplished even faster. Consider: With calm and contemplation Do you have much more of this wonderful time. unknown author

Preparation for Worship

The organ's chimes are a signal that it is time to take your seat in a pew, refrain from talking, and be in prayer and meditation as preparation for our worship together. The organ voluntary is an opportunity when, if we are properly prepared, we may hear the voice of the Holy Spirit in the confines of our mind.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Congregation joins in the portions printed in **bold italics**.

There are no organ voluntaries during Advent.

THE GREAT LITANY

Please join with the choir in singing the responses found on the card. If you feel you "don't sing" please join in by saying the responses.

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Book of Common Prayer (BCP), p. 355 And blessed be his kingdom, now, and for ever. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. *And also with you.* 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

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.

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

All sit

Psalm	80:1-7	, 16-18
_ /0 00		, _ ~ _ ~

Recited responsively by half verse

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; * <i>shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the</i>	You have made us the derision of our neighbors, * and our enemies laugh us to scorn.	
<i>cherubim.</i> In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, * <i>stir up your strength and come to help us.</i> Restore us, O God of hosts; *	Restore us, O God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved. Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *	
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.	the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.	
O Lord God of hosts, * how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?	And so will we never turn away from you; * <i>give us life, that we may call upon your Name.</i> Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *	
You have fed them with the bread of tears; * you have given them bowls of tears to drink.	show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.	
1 Corinthians 1:3-9		
Grace to you and peace from God our Father Gand the Lord Jesus Christ.	not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will	
I give thanks to my God always for you because of the group of Cod that has been given you in	also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.	

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

God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



Mark 13:24-37

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. *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."

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

THE SERMON

The Nicene Creed

All stand, as 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: 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 Peace

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

Announcements

Birthday and Anniversary Prayer

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

(Eucharistic Prayer A)

At the Offertory, Conductus Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold, the king of glory waits; the King of Kings is drawing near; the saviour of the world is here.

Fling wide the portals of your heart;	By grace and love in us reveal.
Make it a temple, set apart From earthly use for heavens employ, Adorned with prayer and love and joy.	Thy Holy Spirit lead us on Until our glorious goal is one; Eternal praise, eternal fame be offered,
Redeemer, come, with us abide;	Saviour, to thy name!
Our hearts to thee we open wide;	
From us thy inner presence feel;	

5

All sit

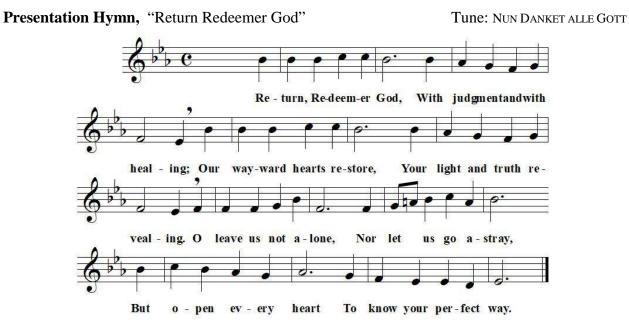
BCP, p. 361

Mark Schweitzer

O come, O come Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel. That mourns in lonely exile here Until the son of God appear.

O come desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of all mankind; Bid thou our sad divisions cease And be thyself our King of peace.

Susan Badgio, Hasty Miller Cantors



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All things come of Thee, O Lord. And of Thine own have we given Thee.	and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in		
The Lord be with you. And also with you.	power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.		
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.	Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company		
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give him thanks and praise.	of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:		
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin	Sanctus and Benedictus Viadana (sung by the choir)		

6

Please kneel, as able

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ 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 he 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints nto the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *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

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

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 usher will indicate when it is time for your row to come forward to the altar rail to receive Communion. If you wish to receive Communion in your pew, please let the usher know and it will be brought to you. When you go forward, an usher will indicate where to kneel at the rail, then hold your hands in front of you, one on top of the other, to receive the bread. Due to COVID restrictions,

wine is by "intinction" only. No one sips from the common cup. If you wish to receive the wine, after the clergy places the bread in your hand, just hold it out for the chalice bearer, who will dip it in the wine and place it on your tongue. If you do not wish to receive the wine, simply consume the bread and cross your arms over your chest when the chalice bearer comes by, then return to your seat.

At the Distribution, Hymn, "Savior of the nations, come" Tune: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND Sung by the choir. Organ setting by Wilhelm Friedemann Bach

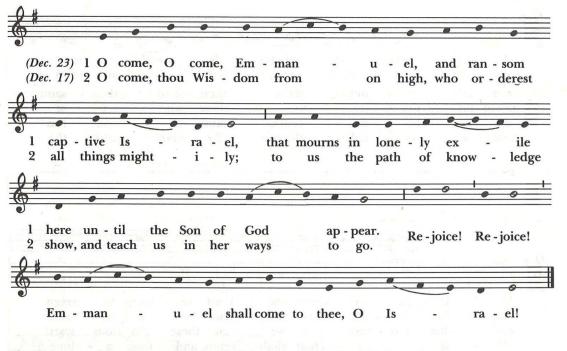
The Postcommunion PrayerAll kneel, as ableBCP, p. 366

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

The Blessing

Hymn 56, "O come, O come, Emmanuel"

Tune: VENI EMMANUEL



The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. Hymnal 1940, alt.

Music: Veni, veni, Emmanuel, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890) LM with Refrain

Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ! *Thanks be to God!*

H H H

THIS MORNING'S MUSIC

Happy New Year! We should be singing "Auld Lang Syne" and wearing funny hats as today is the first day of the church's new year. This next year, using the readings specified for Cycle B in the New Revised Common Lectionary, we will once again tell the story of the advent, birth, life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Today also begins the season of Advent, the four Sundays prior to Christmas, a time of preparation and waiting. Notice how all our liturgy and music point up these themes, saving Christmas images until the Christmas season which begins at sundown on Christmas Eve.

Following an ancient custom, we have the organ remain relatively silent during the season of Advent. This gives our ears a chance to rest and helps make it fresh again when it sounds in all its majesty at the Christmas Eve services.

We begin our worship today with The Great Litany, for which the Book of Common Prayer directs, "To be said or sung, kneeling, standing, or in procession; before the Eucharist or after the Collects of Morning or Evening Prayer; or separately; especially in Lent and on Rogation days."

The Litany was the first English language rite prepared by Archbishop Thomas Cranmer. It was first published in 1544. The 1979 BCP titled the Litany "The Great Litany" (p. 148), distinguishing it from other litanies in the Prayer Book. When the Great Litany precedes the Eucharist, the Litany concludes with the Kyrie and the Eucharist begins with the salutation and the collect of the day (BCP, p. 153). The Great Litany takes the place of the prayers of the people at the Eucharist. The confession may also be omitted.

Ludovico Grossi da Viadana (usually Ludovico Viadana, though his family name was Grossi; c. 1560 - 2 May 1627) was an Italian composer, teacher, and Franciscan friar of the Order of Minor Observants. Viadana composed many exceptionally well-crafted motets and mass settings, and we will hear the choir sing two sections of his *Missa Sine Nomine* (Mass without a name) during this Advent season.

"Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates," a paraphrase of Psalm 24, was written by Georg Weissel and translated by Catherine Winkworth from the *Preussische Festlieder* of 1642, the text reveals a spirit of praise and hope unexpected from the depths of the dreadful years of the Thirty Years' War. Mark Schweizer sets it in the form of a medieval *conductus*, a procession enriched by much "noisy" instruments such as percussion.

H H H

VISITORS AND GUESTS: Welcome to St. John's! We opportunity to chat. Nibbles, coffee and bottled hope you will stay after the service for an water will be provided in our Parish Hall. If you

have questions about baptisms, weddings, membership, or any other need we can respond to, please call the Church Office at: 321-254-3365. And if you wish to know more about this church or to be included on our weekly and newsletter mailing lists, please call the office or email us at office@stjohnsmlb.org.

SIGN OUR VIRTUAL GUEST BOOK! Scan the QR code at right or visit stjohnsmlb.org and click on Virtual Guest Book to let us know you were here and pass on any comments you would like to make!



THE ALTAR FLOWERS AND SANCTUARY CANDLE may be given in memory of a loved one, or to commemorate some occasion. Contact the church office at office@stjohnsmlb.org or 321-254-3365.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS this week are given to the Glory of God, and in memory of Sam Bond, by Jackie Bond.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: Eric Turner, Brenda Williams.

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK: None known.

SOLAR LIGHT FOR AFRICA CRAFTS SALE: Charlene Turner will host two opportunities to purchase hand-made African crafts as unique Christmas gifts. **Friday, Dec. 8**, 6-8 p.m., and **Saturday, Dec 9**, 10-12. Come and bring a friend to the Turners': 4581 Bellaluna Dr., W. Melbourne or call Charlene at 321-615-0206 for more info. As always there is a promise of great food!

CHRISTMAS BRUNCH: Sunday, Dec. 17, following the 10 a.m. service. St. John's will provide the entrée and parishioners encouraged to bring a covered dish to share.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA MEMORIALS allow you to remember or give thanks for a loved one who has gone home to the Lord, or one still living. You may use the insert in today's bulletin. They are due by Sunday, Dec. 17 and may be dropped in the offering plate or delivered to the church office. There is no set cost, please give as you are led.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Christmas Brunch

Sunday, Dec. 17, following 10 a.m. service

Holy Eucharist, Rite II, Sunday, Dec 24, 10 a.m. No Christian Ed. Resumes Jan. 21.

Christmas Eve Festival Worship Saturday, Dec. 24, 8 p.m. Carols, 7:45 p.m.

Christmas Day Worship, Rite I, with music. Monday, Dec. 25, 11 a.m.

Lessons and Carols Sunday, Dec. 31, 10 a.m.

ADULT AND YOUTH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION. The adults continue our study of the epistles of Peter in the Parish Hall. Youth will meet in the chapel.

TGIF: Men's Bible study, Fridays, 8 a.m., at La Loma Coney Island, 1180 Aurora Rd, Melbourne, 32935. 321-254-8559.

COFFEE HOUR. A sign-up sheet to bring snacks, or assist with set-up/clean-up, on Sunday morning is in the Parish Hall.

MILITARY MEMBERS: Help keep our military personnel up-to-date on the Prayers of the People. Let us know before the end of the year if a member now on the list is still active, or if you have a new one to add. **We will remove** all others starting in January.

RECTOR'S VACATION: Fr. Eric Turner, Rector, will be on vacation Jan 12 through Jan 19.

DAILY BREAD: If you can help serve please contact the office or Jackie Bond. The next service day is Dec 7.

St. JOHN'S CHAT is a great way to keep up with St. John's news and information! If you are not subscribed to this list, please email office@stjohnsmlb.org. Note that this is separate from the weekly "**St. John's eNews**" which comes out every Thursday at 4 p.m. You may request a subscription to that list as well!

SUNDAY MINISTRIES

	Dec 3	Dec 10	Dec 17
Greeters	A. Weeks A. Lacy	A. Weeks K. Oas	A. Weeks J. Miller
Ushers	J. Bond L. Miller	L. Fletcher J. Miller	J&J McLaughlin
LEM	R. Huffman	D. Miller- Caldwell	J. Bond
Altar Gld	K. Oas	L. Bennett	M. Salmon
Daughter	C. Turner	T. Chernault	
Counter	K. Wilson	K. Wilson	K. Wilson
A/V	B. Kendall V. Mitz	B. Kendall V. Mitz	B. Kendall V. Mitz

PRAYER IS AVAILABLE at the altar rail immediately following the service.

A PRAYER REQUEST Box is now available from the St. John's Order of the Daughters of the King in the Sanctuary beside the votive candles. We have taken a vow to pray for others and we take this vow seriously. In lieu of access to the prayer box, please give prayer requests directly to any Daughter listed on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

MUSIC AT ST. JOHN'S: Let Dr. D know that you'd like to be a part of the music in the parish. Singers and instrumentalists are welcome. There are no auditions; all that is necessary is an ability to read music and a willingness to be faithful.

LOANING OF CHURCH ITEMS: If you would like to borrow tables, chairs, cribs, linens, etc. please speak with Fr. Eric or Deborah Miller-Caldwell, Jr. Warden. Please contact Deborah at farxpert@gmail.com, Fr. Eric at eric@stjohnsmlb.org, or call the church office at 321-254-3365.

ST. JOHN'S POLO SHIRTS are available! Cotton polo style shirt with the St. John's logo embroidered. \$30 each. To order, sign-up sheets are in the Parish Hall. See Fr. Terry for more information.

ST. JOHN'S OUTREACH Focus for December is designated for the Diocesan Missions. **Rev.** Steven and Mary Dass serve in Sao Paolo, Brazil ministering among homeless children and adults in the 'red light district' of Sao Paolo. You can learn more on their blog at spmercyministry.com. **Rev. Loren and Linda Fox** serve in support of other missionaries. They live in northern Thailand, working in various parts of Asia. You may email ReachUs@EngagingTheAdventure.org. Anything in the blue envelopes, or clearly marked for outreach in the month of December will go to the Diocesan Missions.

DONATE TO ST. JOHN'S ONLINE! You can now make a safe and convenient donation to St. John's via PayPal. Scan the QR code at right or visit stjohnsmlb.org and click on Donate Now!



READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Isaiah 40:1-11, 2 Peter 3:8-15, Mark 1:1-8, Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13



You are personally invited to join a community of women who believe in the power of prayer, service to others, and the sharing of the gospel to expand the Kingdom of God. You can find out more about the DOK St John's Chapter by contacting Mary Highland at 321-831-2796 or mhighland7@gmail.com.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

- Sun (12/3) Adult Christian Education, 9 a.m., Parish Hall Youth Christian Education, 9 a.m., Chapel. Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10 a.m., also Live Streamed. Daughters of the King, 11:30 a.m. Pot luck lunch.
- Mon (12/4) Seaside Stitchers, 9 a.m., Parish Hall AA, 7 p.m. Parish Hall.
- Tues (12/5) Scouts, 5:30 p.m. Parish Hall.
- Wed (12/6) Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m. in the Choir Loft. AA, 7 p.m. Parish Hall.
- Thurs (12/7) Staff Meeting, 9 a.m. Daily Bread Service, 10:30 a.m.

Fri (12/8) TGIF, Men's Bible Study, 8 a.m. La Loma Coney Island Restaurant, 1180 Aurora.

Sun (12/10) Adult Christian Education, 9 a.m., Parish Hall Youth Christian Education, 9 a.m., Chapel. Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10 a.m., also Live Streamed.

All Zoom and Livestream links are available by visiting stjohnsmlb.org > Parish Life > Calendar, then clicking on the event. Or you may email office @stjohnsmlb.org and we will send you the link.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

... is a worshiping community, guided by scripture, growing as servants of Christ, and sharing His love in word and deed.

d. Ismlb.org

The Rev. Eric W. Turner, Rector Pastoral Emergency: 321-615-0205 eric@stjohnsmlb.org

The Rev. Terry Highland, Priest Associate Pastoral Emergency: 321-831-2587 redeemcec@aol.com

Dr. Jerry Davidson, Organist/Choirmaster jfd112@gmail.com

Dallas Gambrel, II, Organ Scholar

Jackie Bond, Office Assistant office@stjohnsmlb.org

Carole Taylor, Bookkeeper ctaylor9797@yahoo.com

The Vestry of St. John's Church Kathy Oas, Sr. Warden Deborah Miller-Caldwell, Jr. Warden Elizabeth Chludzinski, Treasurer Susan Badgio, Assistant Treasurer Katie Wilson, Secretary

> Serving thru 1/2024 Skip Alcorn, Susan Badgio, Deborah Miller-Caldwell

Serving thru 1/2025 Jackie Bond, Jamie Hamilton, Kathy Oas

> Serving thru 1/2026 Jack Kenworthy, Amy Lacy