

ST. JOHN'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord
Holy Eucharist: Rite II

December 24, 2023
8:00 p.m., Carols, 7:45 p.m.



Welcome to St. John's!

Welcome and thank you for worshiping with us today! Whatever your religious background (if any) and however you have come to be here with us, we welcome you. Whether you are online or in-person, we are glad that you have found us and we invite you to return here any Sunday so that we may continue to worship with you. Please visit us on the web at stjohnsmib.org where you can also sign our Virtual Guest Book, and, if you are in-person, please use the welcome cards in the pew racks.

A WREATH OF CAROLS

“Hark, the herald angels sing”

Tune: MENDELSSOHN

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!
2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.
Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven - born Prince of Peace!

Refrain

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

“’Twas in the moon of wintertime”

Tune: UNE JEUNE PUCELLE

1 ’Twas in the moon of win - ter - time, when all the birds had
 2 (With - in a lodge of) bro - ken bark the ten - der babe was
 3 (The ear - liest moon of) win - ter - time is not so round and
 4 (O chil - dren of the) for - est free, the an - gel song is

fled, that God the Lord of all the earth sent
 found, a rag - ged robe of rab - bit skin en -
 fair as was the ring of glo - ry on the
 true; the ho - ly child of earth and heaven is

an - gel - choirs in - stead; be - fore their light the
 wrapped his beau - ty round; but as the hunt - er
 help - less in - fant there. The chiefs from far be -
 born to - day for you. Come kneel be - fore the

stars grew dim, and won - dering hunt - ers heard the hymn:
 braves drew nigh, the an - gel - song rang loud and high:
 fore him knelt with gifts of fox and bea - ver - pelt.
 ra - diant boy, who brings you beau - ty, peace, and joy.

Refrain

Je - sus your King is born, Je - sus is

(*Fine*)

born, in ex - cel - sis glo - ri - a.

“Angels, from the realms of glory”

Tune: REGENT SQUARE

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
 2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions
 4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in

all the earth; ye, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 flocks by night; God with you is now re - sid - ing;
 beam a - far: seek the great De - sire of na - tions;
 hope and fear, sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,

Refrain
 now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 yon - der shines the in - fant Light: come and wor - ship,
 ye have seen his na - tal star:
 in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

“Away in a manger”

Tune: CRADLE SONG

1. A way in a man-ger, no crib for his bed, the
 2. The cat-tle are low-ing, the ba-by a-wakes, but

lit-tle Lord Je-sus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked
 lit-tle Lord Je-sus no cry-ing he makes. I love thee, Lord Je-sus! Look

down where he lay, the lit-tle Lord Je-sus a-sleep on the hay.
 down from the sky, and stay by my side un-til morn-ing is night.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Congregation joins in the portions printed in bold italics.

Voluntary

A la venue de Noel

Claude Balbastre

Hymn 83, “O come, all ye faithful”

Tune: ADESTE FIDELES

1. O come, all ye faith-ful, joy-ful and tri-um-phiant, O
 2. God from God, Light from Light e-ter-nal,
 3. Sing, choirs of an-gels, sing in ex-ul-ta-tion,
 6. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap-py morn-ing;

come ye, O come ye to Beth-le-hem; come, and be-
 lo! he ab-hors not the Vir-gin's womb; on-ly-be-
 sing, all ye ci-ti-zens of heaven a-bove; glo-ry to-
 Je-sus, to thee be glo-ry given; Word of the

hold him, born the King of an-gels; O come, let us a-dore him, O
 got-ten Son of the Fa-ther;
 God, glo-ry in the high-est;
 Fa-ther, now in flesh ap-pear-ing;

come, let us a-dore him, O come, let us a-dore him, Christ, the Lord.

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be His Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

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.*

Gloria in excelsis

Tune: GLORIA

Glo - ry be to God on high, to all peo - ple,
 Je - sus Christ, we now de - clare Lamb of God and
 Prais - es to the Ho - ly One, Prais - es sing in

peace on earth An - gels, shep - herds draw - ing nigh, Join to ce - le -
 Lord of Love. Grant us mer - cy, hear our prayer, Give us grace from
 high - est heav'n; To the Fath - er and the Son and the Ho - ly

brate His birth. Glo - - - - - ri - a
 heav'n a - bove.
 Spi - rit giv'n.

1, 2.

in ex - cel - sis De - o! in ex - cel - sis De - - - o!

Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
 Let us pray.

*O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ:
 Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold
 him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one
 God, now and for ever. Amen.*

The Lessons

All sit

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his

shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96

Read in unison

*Sing to the LORD a new song; *
Sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.*

*Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; *
Proclaim the good news of his salvation from
day to day.*

*Declare his glory among the nations *
And his wonders among all peoples.*

*For great is the LORD and greatly to be
praised; *
He is more to be feared than all gods.*

*As for all the gods of the nations, they are but
idols; *
But it is the LORD who made the heavens.*

*Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his
presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his
sanctuary!*

*Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the
peoples; *
Ascribe to the LORD honor and power.*

*Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his
Name; *
Bring offerings and come into his courts.*

*Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; *
Let the whole earth tremble before him.*

*Tell it out among the nations: “The LORD is
King! *
He has made the world so firm that it cannot
be moved; he will judge the peoples with
equity.”*

*Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be
glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
Let the field be joyful and all that is therein.*

*Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for
joy before the LORD when he comes, *
When he comes to judge the earth.*

*He will judge the world with righteousness *
And the peoples with his truth.*

Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave

himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual and Alleluia

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

5
Open our ears, O merciful God; Let us hear your sav - ing Word.
Repeat Alleluia as needed

Luke 2:1-20

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in

the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace

among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had

been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

All sit

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.

Prayers of the People

Form IV

All kneel, as able

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.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

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

Hear our prayer.

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

Hear our prayer.

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

Hear our prayer.

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

Hear our prayer.

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

Hear our prayer.

God of peace and justice, we pray for all those

who live under armed conflict in the Holy Land, Ukraine, Sudan, Iran and other places around the world. We pray for those with power over war
o
r
peace and those commanded to fight; for wisdom, compassion and restraint to guide their decisions. We pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. In the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. ***Amen.***

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Holy Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

All stand, as able

Announcements

All sit

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

(Eucharistic Prayer A)

Rejoice and be merry in songs and in mirth!
O praise our Redeemer, all mortals on earth!
We celebrate the birthday of Jesus our King,
who brought us salvation, his praises we'll sing!

A heavenly vision appeared in the sky,
vast numbers of angels the shepherds did spy,
proclaiming the birthday of Jesus our King,
who brought us salvation, his praises we'll sing!

Likewise a bright star in the sky did appear,
which led the wise men from the east to draw near;
they found the Messiah, sweet Jesus our King, who
brought us salvation, his praises we'll sing!

Noel! Born is the King of Israel

And when they were come they their treasures
unfold,

And unto him offered myrrh, incense, and gold.

So blessed for ever be Jesus our King,

Who brought us salvation, his praises we'll sing!

Presentation Hymn, "It came upon the midnight clear"

Tune: CAROL

It came up-on the mid-night clear, that glo-rious song of
old, from an-gels bend-ing near the earth to touch their harps of
gold: "Peace on the earth, good will to men, from hea-ven's all-gra-cious
King." The world in sol-emn still-ness lay to hear the an-gels sing.

All things come of Thee, O Lord.
And of Thine own have we given Thee.

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 him thanks and praise.

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 gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born
for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy

Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus and Benedictus

Tune: THE FRIENDLY BEASTS

Organ

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of
power and _ might ____ Heaven and earth _are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the
high - est. Blessed is he, is he who comes in the Name of the Lord. -
- - Ho - san - na in the high-est. Ho-san-na in the high - est. ____

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 into 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 Holy Eucharist is Christ's eternal banquet, to which all adults and children are invited. If you are a baptized Christian of any tradition (and regardless of your current status in any other church) we welcome you to receive communion with this community of God's people.

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.

Communion Music

O men from the fields

Arnold Cooke

O men from the fields!
Come gently within.
Tread softly, softly,
O men coming in!

Mavourneen is going
From me and from you,
Where Mary will fold him
With mantle of blue!

From reek of the smoke,
And cold of the floor,
And the peering of things
Across the half door.

O men from the fields!
Soft, softly come through
Mary puts round him
Hher mantle of blue.

– Traditional Irish

Lighting of the candles:

*Please keep lit candles vertical and tilt the unlit candle into the flame.
Please extinguish your candle and return to the usher before you depart.*

Please sing stanza two in unison

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
love's pure light ra - dian beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
heaven - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

The Post-Communion Prayer

All kneel, as able

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, "Joy to the world"

Tune: ANTIOCH

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
*3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
 2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
 3 far as the curse is found, far
 4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,
 peat the sound - ing joy,
 as the curse is found,
 won - ders of his love,

Dismissal

Let us go in peace to love and serve the newborn King!
Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Voluntary

A Christmas Jubilation

J. F. Davidson



THIS EVENING'S MUSIC

Claude Balbastre composed sets of variations to a large number of French carols and they nicely show off the many colors of the organ. We offer his variations on "At the coming of Christmas."

The late Mark Schweizer has assembled a charming setting of the Ordinary of the Mass using familiar Christmas tunes. We will use his settings of the *Gloria in Excelsis* and *Sanctus* and *Benedictus* throughout Christmastide.

This evening we hear the Christmas story told from two very different perspectives. First, in "Twas in the moon of wintertime" we hear it from the perspective of the Algonquin Indians using the tune of a very old French Carol. During the distribution of Communion we hear an evocative retelling of the scene in the cattle stall through the eyes of Saint Joseph. The term "mavourneen" is usually translated as "beloved."

Arthur Warrell apparently found the words and melody of our Offertory anthem tucked into the choir gallery of an old British church. He has skillfully arranged it, interspersing the refrain from "The First Noël."

The church organ at Obemdorf, Austria, had broken down on Christmas Eve, so Pastor Joseph Mohr jotted down the poem beginning "*Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!*" in six stanzas and asked organist Franz Gruber if he could write a melody for it. So it was sung Christmas Eve with a choir of village girls singing the melody, Mohr playing guitar and singing tenor, and Gruber singing bass. From such a simple beginning came one of our most beloved Christmas hymns.



VISITORS AND GUESTS: Welcome to St. John's! Following the 10 a.m. Sunday service we offer nibbles, coffee and bottled water 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.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve Festival Worship

Sunday, Dec. 24, 8 p.m. Carols, 7:45 p.m.

Christmas Day Worship

Monday, Dec. 25, 11 a.m.

No Christian Ed. Resumes Feb 4.

LESSONS & CAROLS

Sunday, Dec 31, 10 a.m.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: No adult education today, resumes Feb. 4.

YOUTH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: No Christian education today, resumes Feb. 4.

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

SUNDAY MINISTRIES

	Dec. 24 8 p.m.	Dec. 25 11 a.m.	Dec 31
Greeters	A. Weeks	A. Weeks	A. Weeks
Ushers	J. & S. Hamilton	B. Chernault J. Miller	J. & J. McLaughlin
LEM	R. Huffman	K. Oas	D. Miller- Caldwell
Altar Guild	TBD	K. Oas	L. Bennett
Daughter			L. Miller
Counter	K. Wilson		K. Wilson
Audio/ Visual	B. Kendall V. Mitz	B. Kendall V. Mitz	B. Kendall V. Mitz

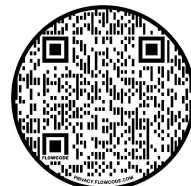
A PRAYER REQUEST BOX is available from the St. John's Order of the Daughters of the King in the Sanctuary beside the votive candles. We have taken a vow to pray for others and we take this vow seriously. In lieu of access to the prayer box, please give prayer requests directly to any Daughter listed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

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Isaiah 61:10-62:3, Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7, John 1:1-18, Psalm 147

ST. JOHN'S OUTREACH FOCUS for December is designated for the Diocesan Missions. **Rev. Steven and Mary Dass** serve in Sao Paulo, Brazil ministering among homeless children and adults in the 'red light district' of Sao Paulo. 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.

FAMILY PROMISE: Hosting is expected to begin soon. Please speak to Linda Fletcher or Ben Kendall for details.

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 stjohnsmib.org and click on Donate Now!



THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

- Sun (12/24) Christmas Eve Worship, 8:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary, In-person and livestream. Carols, 7:45 p.m.
- Mon (12/25) Christmas Worship, Rite I, In-Person and livestream, 11 a.m.
Church office closed Dec. 25 & 26
- Fri (12/29) TGIF Men's Bible Study, La Loma Coney Island, 1180 Aurora Rd, Melbourne, 8 a.m.
- Sun (12/31) No Christian Education. Returns Feb 4.
Festival of Lessons and Carols, 10:00 a.m. In-person and livestream.

All Zoom and Livestream links are available by visiting stjohnsmlb.org > 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, obedient to scripture,
growing as servants of Christ, and sharing His love in word and deed.*

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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