



## St. James's Episcopal Church

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021

11:15 a.m.

### Morning Prayer, Rite I

**Prelude:** Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland      Johann Sebastian Bach

**Hymn 68:** *Llangloffan*, "Rejoice! rejoice, believers"

### Advent Lighting Prayer

*Celebrant*

Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this Advent wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation. May he come quickly and not delay. We ask this through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### Opening Sentences

*The Book of Common Prayer, page 40*

### Confession of Sin

*Officiant*

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*Officiant and People together, all kneeling*

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

*The Priest alone stands and says*

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

## **The Invitatory and Psalter**

*All stand.*

*Officiant* O Lord, open thou our lips.

*People* And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

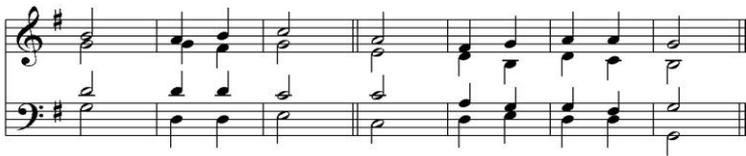
*Officiant and People*

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

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

## **Hymnal S4: Venite**

chant: Edwin G. Monk



O come, let us / sing unto the / Lord;  
let us heartily rejoice in the / strength of / our sal-/ vation.

Let us come before his / presence with thanks-/ giving,  
and show ourselves / glad in / him with / psalms.

For the Lord is a / great / God,  
and a great / King a-/ bove all / gods.

In his hand are all the / corners of the / earth,  
and the strength of the / hills is / his / also.

The sea is / his and he / made it,  
and his hands pre-/ pared the / dry / land.

O come, let us worship and / fall / down  
and kneel before the / Lord our / Maker.

For he is the / Lord our / God,  
and we are the people of his / pasture  
and the / sheep of his / hand.

O worship the Lord in the / beauty of / holiness;  
let the / whole earth / stand in / awe of him.

For he cometh, for he cometh to / judge the / earth,  
and with righteousness to judge the world  
and the / peoples / with his / truth.

All may be seated for the singing of the Canticle by the Choir.

## The First Song of Isaiah

setting: M. Whitmire

The Antiphon is introduced by the Cantor, repeated by the People, and sung at the designated times.

Our King and Sa-vior draw-eth near, come let us a-dore him.  
A - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.

Surely it is God who saves me;

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,  
and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing  
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say,

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples;  
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,  
and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,

for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel. *Antiphon*

Glory to the Father and to the Son,

and to the Holy Spirit:

As it was in the beginning, is now

and will be for ever. Amen. *Antiphon*

## The Lessons

### First Lesson: Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

*Reader*     The Word of the Lord.

*People*     Thanks be to God.

*All may be seated.*

**Chant:** O Radix Jesse

O Root of Jesse, standing as a sign among the peoples;  
Before you kings will shut their mouths,  
to you the nations will make their prayer.  
Come and deliver us, and delay no longer.

**Second Lesson:** Luke 3:7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

*Reader*     The Word of the Lord.

*People*     Thanks be to God.



and, according to the gifts given them, to carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world; and to take their place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church.

Our history is marred by oppression, by the enslavement of those who differ from us, and by the forces of racism that attack human dignity. The sin of racism is woven into our lives and our cultures, in small and great ways, in things done and things left undone. As followers of Christ, we reject racism and the oppression of other human beings. In building Christ's beloved community, we must strive to love all people, respect all people, and work for the good of all people. We must stand alongside God's children of every race, language, and culture, and work together as agents of justice, peace, and reconciliation.

Accordingly, I invite you to join me in the renewal of our baptismal vows.

### **The Renewal of Baptismal Vows**

*Celebrant* Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

*People* I do.

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Father?

*People* I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

*Celebrant* Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*People* I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*People* I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.

- Celebrant* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
- People* I will, with God's help.
- Celebrant* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
- People* I will, with God's help.
- Celebrant* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
- People* I will, with God's help.
- Celebrant* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
- People* I will, with God's help.

### **Commissioning for Sacred Ground**

*Celebrant*

I invite those who have participated or are currently participating in the Sacred Ground ministry to please come forward.

Dear People of God, we stand in the shadow of the prophets crying out for justice and peace. As St. Paul wrote, God calls us to be a people of reconciliation, serving a world in need. . To that end, these women and men have taken a courageous first step towards racial justice and healing by participating in the ten-part small group series, Sacred Ground. This work involves risking ourselves for the sake of God's love, moving beyond ourselves in order to seek and serve Christ and one another. We are all called to the work and ministry of becoming beloved community.

*Question* Will you persevere in the ministry of becoming beloved community?

*Answer* I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant* Will you who witness these promises do all in your power to uphold them in this ministry?

*People* We will, with God's help.

*Celebrant*

In the name of God and of this Church, I commission you to live into the reign of Christ our Savior as agents of justice and reconciliation in our sinful and broken world. *Amen.*

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Go now in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Hymn 671 (vs. 1-3):** *New Britain*, “Amazing Grace”

*Solo*      Amazing grace! How sweet the sound  
              That saved a wretch like me!  
              I once was lost, but now am found;  
              Was blind, but now I see.

*All*        ’Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
              And grace my fears relieved;  
              How precious did that grace appear  
              The hour I first believed.

*All*        The Lord has promised good to me,  
              His word my hope secures;  
              He will my shield and portion be,  
              As long as life endures.

**The Prayers**

*Officiant*    The Lord be with you.

*People*      And with thy spirit.

*Officiant*    Let us pray.

*Officiant and People together, all kneeling*

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.*

## **Suffrages A**

- V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;  
R. And grant us thy salvation.  
V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness;  
R. And make thy chosen people joyful.  
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
R. For only in thee can we live in safety.  
V. Lord, keep this nation under thy care;  
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.  
V. Let thy way be known upon earth;  
R. Thy saving health among all nations.  
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.  
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
R. And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.

## **Collects**

### **Prayers for the Parish**

#### *Officiant*

Please join me in lifting up to God those who are sick or in need and who have asked for our prayers:

#### *Officiant and People*

Basil Acey, Mary Lee Allen, Elizabeth Austin, Jennifer Ball, Hylah Boyd, Bryana Braxton, John Daniel III, Tom Evelyn, Kate Gareau, Leigh Hulcher, Dave Johnson, Sue Kneip, Eileen Long, George Longest, Emma Mason, Matt Mattox, Linda Mays, Eve McCray, JoEllen McGugan, Bunky Miller, Harry Moore, Kenny Morphis, Linda Pharis, Carol Piersol, Margaret Raigins, Bradford Smith, Jay Stegmaier, Alan Stone, Jessie Sumrell, Ginger Trice, Jim Tucker, Anne Turnbull, Sam Witt, Erin Wright, Cassandra and family, Ben and Eloise, Ace, David, Dylan, Elaine, James, and Melissa

*The Officiant continues.*

## **Greeting and Announcements**

## Offering of Gifts and Praise

*To give online, you may use the QR code located in the back of the bulletin.*

Anthem: Rejoice in the Lord always

Anon., 16<sup>th</sup> century

Rejoice in the Lord always,  
and again, I say, rejoice.

Let your softness be known unto all men,  
the Lord is e'en at hand.

Be careful for nothing;  
but in all prayer and supplication,  
let your petitions be manifest unto God  
with giving of thanks.

And the peace of God,  
which passeth all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesu. Amen.

Hymn 60 (v. 6): *Conditor, alme siderum*, "To God the Father"

To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One,  
Praise, honor, might, and glory be from age to age eternally.

## Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee, and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

## Closing Sentences

*BCP 60*

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**Hymn 72:** *Richmond*, "Hark! the glad sound!"

**Postlude:** Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

Paul Manz

*The flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of  
John Moncure Daniel, Jr. and Joy Beam Daniel*

## **Service Participants**

*Preacher:* The Reverend Hilary Streever  
*Officiant:* The Reverend Dr. John McCARD  
*Lector:* Melinda Davis  
*IWC Greeter:* Robert Michie  
*Musicians:* Parish Choir  
*Soloist:* Dr. Lisa Edwards Burrs  
*Organist:* Virginia Ewing Whitmire  
*Director of Music:* Dr. Mark A. Whitmire

## **Prayers of the People**

Please lift up to God those who have asked for our prayers:

*For those serving in our Armed Forces:* especially David Bhatta, Robby Farmer, Wilson Nance, William Smith, and Mitchell Teeefey

*For all who advocate for the most vulnerable and strive to bring an end to poverty and homelessness:* especially our outreach partners ACTS, CARITAS, REAL Life, and RE:Work Richmond

*For our Mission Partners, both domestic and abroad:* especially St. Joseph's Family in Haiti, Our Little Roses in Honduras, Hurley Community Development Center in Hurly, Virginia, and St. Christopher's Church in Bluff, Utah

*For the newly born:* especially Anne Conway Brown, daughter of Jane Garnet and Tyler Brown and granddaughter of Laura and Charlie Brown, and James Knowles Chauncey Millen, son of Ashley and John Millen, who were born recently

*For all celebrating their birthdays this week, especially those who celebrate their birthdays today:* Clark Barrineau, Aaron Bowles, III, Bruce Cann, Janet Peyton, Will Ratliff, Aidan Salmon, Chas Skidmore, Janey Timmons, Sam Witt, and Virginia Wright

*For those who have died recently:* especially Ralph Pope

## Sacred Ground

A curriculum designed by the Episcopal Church's ministry for Becoming Beloved Community, Sacred Ground is a powerful ten-part film and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. This series is especially designed to help white people talk about racism with other white people. You are invited to join one of our small, lay-facilitated groups, which meet once or twice a month. Each small group walks together through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity.

Learn more at:

[www.doers.org/becomingbelovedcommunity](http://www.doers.org/becomingbelovedcommunity)

[www.episcopalchurch.org/sacredground](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacredground)

[www.episcopalchurch.org/beloved-community](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/beloved-community)

Contact: the Rev. Hilary Streever at [hstreever@doers.org](mailto:hstreever@doers.org) or (804) 355-1779, ext. 319

## Sacred Ground Participants

Maureen Ackerly	Christie Hartwell	Julia Reynolds
Billy Baxter	Martha Heeter	Mary Lou Rumble
Andy Bennett	Laurie Hoen	Richard Rumble
Betsy Blair	Leigh Hulcher	Jan Schlesinger
Meta Braymer	Laura Inscoc	Charol Shakeshaft
Marjorie Bribitzer	Anne Kaczorowski	Mark Shuford
Maxie Cannon, Jr.	Jim Kaczorowski	Bennett Shumaker
Marsha Carter	Mary Lou Lee	Susan Siegfried
Susan Coleman	Hortense Mitchell Liberti	Blake Singer
Mark Cooper	Rhoda Mahoney	Kilpy Singer
Fraser Davis	Dale Mann	Bill Smith
Melinda Davis	Heather McGuire	Karen Stanley
Becky DeCamps	Dena Moore	Hilary Streever
Lisa deWolff	Harry Moore, Jr.	Brooke Taylor
Theo deWolff	Katie Morris	Emily Thrower
Diane Dodd-McCue	Jeanette Nicholson	Maggi Tinsley
Jane Dowrick	Linda Owen	Clare Trow
Patty Duffy	Judy Philpott	Kay Tyler
Darien Fisher-Duke	Madeline E Pleasants	Chamie Valentine
Carol Ann Fuller	Jennifer Pollard	Antonia Vassar
Sam Fuller	Ruth Pratt	Stephen Watts II
Pam Goggins	Robin Price	Priscilla Webster
Nancy Goodall	Gigi Redmond	Fontaine Williamson
Suzanne Hall	John Reynolds	

## Music Notes



*Rejoice in the Lord always* is musical setting of Philippians 4:4-7. The anthem is from a 16<sup>th</sup> century manuscript collection called *The Mulliner Book*. The composer of the music is unknown.

*Amazing Grace* was written by the English poet and Anglican clergyman John Newton (1725–1807). Newton grew up without any particular religious conviction. As a young man he was conscripted into service in the Royal Navy. After leaving the service, he became involved in the Atlantic slave trade. In 1748, a violent storm battered his vessel off the coast of Ireland, so severely that he called out to God for mercy. This moment marked his spiritual conversion, and led to his abandoning slave trading. He first took a job as tide surveyor in Liverpool, but he began to think he had been called to the ministry. After theological studies, at the age of thirty-nine, Newton began forty-three years of ministry in the little market town of Olney. He often composed hymns based the lessons for the evening service. In 1779, two hundred and eighty of these were collected and combined with sixty-eight hymns by Newton's friend and parishioner, William Cowper, and published as the *Olney Hymns*.

### **Handel's *Messiah*: Christmas Eve at 10:30 p.m.**

On Christmas Eve the Parish Choir, accompanied by strings, will sing the first section of *Messiah*, Handel's most beloved work and among the most popular works in Western music. According to the manuscript, written in Handel's own hand, *Messiah* was composed between August 22 and September 14, 1741. The libretto was compiled by Charles Jennens, a clergyman, literary scholar and editor of Shakespeare's plays. He created the libretto by assembling verses from the King James Bible, including not only the story of Christ's life from the New Testament but selections from Old Testament books of Isaiah, Haggai, and Malachi and others. Part I is primarily concerned with the Advent and Christmas stories.

### **December 24**

<i>Friday</i>	Christmas Eve Family Eucharist
4:00 p.m.	Cherub Choir and Children's Choir
6:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist West Gallery Choir and Youth Choir
10:30 p.m.	Christmas Eve Choral Prelude Handel: <i>Messiah (Part I)</i> Parish Choir and Strings
11:00 p.m.	Festival Holy Eucharist

## **Advent & Christmas Worship Schedule**

Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>

7:00 pm Service of Hope

Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> – Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I \*

5:00 pm Children's Christmas Pageant

Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup> -- Christmas Eve

4:00 pm Festival Eucharist \*

6:00 pm Festival Eucharist

10:30 pm Choral Prelude: Handel's *Messiah*

11:00 pm Festival Eucharist, Rite II

Saturday, December 25<sup>th</sup> -- Christmas Day

10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II

Sunday, December 26 -- Christmas I

10:00 am Christmas Lessons & Carols \*

Sunday, January 2 – Christmas II

9:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II \*

11:15 am Holy Eucharist Rite II\*

11:30 am Outdoor service (*weather permitting*)

*\*Live-streamed at [doers.org](http://doers.org) and YouTube*

## **News and Events**

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# St. James's Episcopal Church

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