



# ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## First Sunday of Advent

### DECEMBER 1, 2024 11:00 AM

***WELCOME!***

*We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us today. You bless us with your presence. We hope you will join us again. We invite all of our visitors to fill out a visitor card located in the pew and place it in the narthex.*

*The mission of St. John's Episcopal Church is to be a community of God's people who heal brokenness, build bridges, and exemplify borderless kindness.*

*This service is broadcast online and recorded on YouTube.*



Please turn off Cell Phones. Thank You.

Por Favor, apagar los teléfonos celulares. Gracias.

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST, Rite II

## Prelude

## Hymn 66: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

## Opening Prayer

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. 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.**

## The Lighting of the First Advent Candle

*Celebrant* Today is the first Sunday of Advent, a season of Hope and Waiting  
*People* **Our hope is in God, and in his son Jesus Christ. He is the Anointed One who has saved and redeemed God's people.**

*The first candle on the advent wreath is lit.*

*Celebrant* We light this first candle of Advent today to remind us and thank God for the promises He has made to us, and for the Light he has brought into the world. Let us pray

*All* **O Emmanuel: God-with-us, you have given us your word for a light to shine upon our page; Grant us so to meditate on that Word, and to follow its teaching, that we may find in it the light that shines more and more until the perfect day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen**

## Hymn 56 Verses 1 and 2 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high,  
Who orderest all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And teach us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

### 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

#### The First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

A reading from 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.**

## **Psalm 25:1-9**

*Chanted by choir and congregation*

- 1 To you, O LORD, 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.**
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**
- 3 Show me your ways, O LORD, \*  
and teach me your paths.**
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.**
- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, \*  
for they are from everlasting.**
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \*  
remember me according to your love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.**
- 7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; \*  
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.**
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right \*  
and teaches his way to the lowly.**
- 9 All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness \*  
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.**

## **The Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

A reading from 1st Thessalonians

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.**

## Hymn 53: "Once He Came in Blessing"

### The Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

*Clergy* 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 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."

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

## **The Sermon - The Reverend Minerva Camarena Skeith**

### **The Nicene Creed**

**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**

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

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.***

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.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

## **The Confession and Absolution**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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 your Son 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 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**

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

## **Announcements**

### **Offertory**

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**At the Offertory, Anthem: “People Look East”** -Martin Shaw

**Hymn 380, Verse 3: “The Doxology”**



# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## Eucharistic Prayer A

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also 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 him thanks and praise.**

*\*\*\* Words of consecration . . .*

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:

### **S 130: "Sanctus"** -Schubert

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

*The people stand or kneel*

*\*\*\* Words of consecration . . .*

... Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died  
Christ is risen  
Christ will come again.**

*Then the Celebrant continues*

*\*\*\* Words of consecration . . .*

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.

### **"Great Amen"**

Amen *(Repeat)*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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**

*Celebrant* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People* ***Therefore let us keep the feast.***

## **Fraction Anthem S 164: "Jesus, Lamb of God" -Schubert**

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:

Give us your peace, give us your peace.

*Celebrant* 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.

## **During Communion 65: "Prepare the Way, O Zion"**

## **Post-Communion Prayer**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.***

## **Blessing**

## **Dismissal**

*People* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

## **Final Hymn 436: “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”**

*After the service, you are invited to enjoy coffee and fellowship in the Parish Hall.*

# St. John's Episcopal Church

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The Reverend Minerva Camarena Skeith, *Rector*

The Reverend Victoria Mason, *Deacon*

*Cruz Torres, Seminarian*

*Paige Trivett, Seminarian*

Mr. Philip Riley, *Choirmaster and Organist*

Mr. Alfonso Hernandez, *Spanish Music Leader*

Ms. Noreen McMahon, *Treasurer*

## VESTRY

Mr. Brian McGiverin, *Senior Warden*

Mr. Kevin Flegal, *Junior Warden*

Ms. Mary Cree, *Clerk*

### *Class of 2025*

Kevin Flegal

Patricia Mata

### *Class of 2026*

Carlos Lugo

Henry Welles

### *Class of 2027*

Brian McGiverin

Mary Cree

Sarahi Giron

## SUNDAY SERVICES

**8:30 AM** Holy Eucharist Rite I

**11:00 AM** Holy Eucharist Rite II (in person and Zoom)

**1:00 PM** Santa Eucaristía Rito Dos

**THE PARISH OFFICE IS IN THE CHURCH NARTHEX**

**OFFICE HOURS:**

**Tuesday & Thursday 12:00 PM-3:00 PM**



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