



St. John's Episcopal Church

Wherever you are on your spiritual journey,
St. John's welcomes you.

Second Sunday of Advent
10 a.m. 8 December 2024

We invite you to prepare for the service in quiet meditation and prayer.
Hymns are found in the blue Hymnal 1982.
"BCP" refers to pages in the red Book of Common Prayer.

THE WORD OF GOD

Tower Bells

Voluntary **Comfort, comfort, ye my people**
Georg Boehm

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding (Stand) **Hymn 59**

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

The Celebrant continues

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.*

Kyrie **Hymn S 96**

The Collect of the Day

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

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to
preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation:
Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins,
that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our
Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Reading from the Book of Malachi

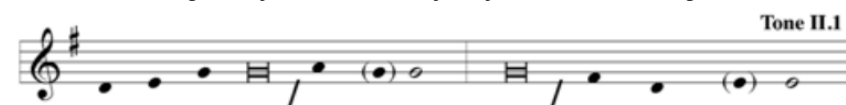
See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way
before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly
come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in
whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of
hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who
can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he
will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify
the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and
silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in
righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem
will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in
former years. [Malachi 3:1-4]

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Canticle 16 The Song of Zechariah

The choir sings the first verse; all join for the remaining verses.



Blessed be the Lord, the God of / Israel; *
he has come to his people and / set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty / savior, *
born of the house of his ser/vant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our / enemies, *
from the hands of all / who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our / fathers *
and to remember his ho/ly covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father / Abraham, *
to set us free from the hands of / our enemies,

Free to worship him without / fear, *
holy and righteous in his sight all the days / of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the / Most High, *
for you will go before the Lord to / prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of sal/vation *
by the forgiveness / of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our / God *
the dawn from on high shall break / upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the
shadow of / death, *
and to guide our feet into / the way of peace.

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly
praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you,
because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day
until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a
good work among you will bring it to completion by the day
of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all
of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you
share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment
and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God
is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion
of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may
overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to
help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of
Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced
the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus
Christ for the glory and praise of God. [Philippians 1:3-11]

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Comfort, comfort ye my people (Stand) **Hymn 67**

The Gospel

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius,
when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was
ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of
Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene,
during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the
word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the
wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan,
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of
sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet
Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.
Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’” [Luke 3:1-6]

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

Children’s Chapel

Pre-K through 3rd grade children gather at the front steps of the chancel for a blessing before processing to Children’s Chapel.

The Sermon

A brief period of silence follows the sermon.

The Nicene Creed *(Stand)*.....**BCP 358**

The Prayers of the People *(Kneel)*

At the end of each petition

Leader Fill the valleys, make low the hills;
People Come, great Redeemer, come.

The Confession & Absolution..... **BCP 360**

The Peace..... **BCP 360**

Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory.....**Daughter of Zion**

G. F. Handel

Sung by the Choristers

If you are worshipping with us in person, we encourage you to place your gift in the offering plates as they are passed in the pews. For instructions on online and text giving, see the back panel of this bulletin.

Presentation of Gifts *(Stand)*..... **Hymn 66**

Eucharistic Prayer B **BCP 367**

The Sanctus **Hymn S 130**

The Lord’s Prayer **BCP 364**

The Fraction Anthem **Hymn S 164**

Communion

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion at St. John’s. Approach the altar in a double line in the center aisle. Stand or kneel at the rail and receive the bread in your hand. You may sip the wine directly from the common cup, or you may allow the Eucharistic Minister to dip the bread in the cup and return it to you. If you do not wish to receive the bread or wine for any reason, fold your arms across your chest, and the priest will give you a blessing instead.

If you would like to receive Communion but are unable to walk to the rail, tell a greeter, and a minister will be happy to bring Communion to you at your pew.

Communion Hymns **75, 462, 70**

The Postcommunion Prayer *(Kneel)* **BCP 366**

Sending of Eucharistic Visitors

If Eucharistic Visitors are sent forth to take Communion to the sick or homebound, the following is said.

Celebrant N., we send you forth in the Name of this Congregation, to N. bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ’s body and blood.

People We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

The Blessing

On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry *(Stand)*..... **Hymn 76**

The Dismissal **BCP 366**

Voluntary.....**Once he came in blessing**
J. S. Bach

Tower Bells

Welcome!

Since 1829, St. John's Episcopal Church has sought to love Christ and our neighbors in Tallahassee and the world. Whether you are a lifelong Christian or it is your first time entering a church, welcome. We are glad you are here.

Your Gift Makes a Difference



GIVING

St. John’s runs solely on the generosity of its members. Give today via the offering plate; or text STJOHNS to 73256; or scan this code with your phone to give online. You can also mail your gift to St. John’s Episcopal Church, Attn: Finance Office, 211 N. Monroe St., Tallahassee, FL 32301. Every gift, large or small, sustains the church you love.

Childcare

Free, professional childcare is provided 9:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. each Sunday.

Hearing System

To access our hearing loop system, set your hearing aid to tele-coil or “t” telephone mode. If your hearing aid does not have this capability, wireless headsets are available at the north tower entrance or from an usher.

Large Print Bulletins

Large print bulletins are available in the south transept and north tower for the visually impaired. Pick one up by the door or ask an usher.

Altar Flower Dedications

Altar flower dedications are a wonderful way to honor loved ones. Visit the GIVE page on St. John’s website or contact the church office for assistance.

Weekly Services

SUNDAY

8 a.m.....Holy Eucharist (Rite I).....Sanctuary

10 a.m..... Holy Eucharist (Rite II)Sanctuary
service is livestreamed

7:30 p.m.....Sung ComplineSanctuary

WEDNESDAY

12:10 p.m..... Holy Eucharist (Rite II) Chapel
with Healing Prayer

Parish Prayer List

Please take this list home each week and commit to praying daily for your fellow parishioners.

Prayers: Diana Daktere, Little family, Bob, Susan Mecklenburg, Ginny Smoller, Polly Pfof, Joanna Hunt, Jacqueline Heckel, Jeanne Maria, Viola Cleo Bradshaw

The Departed: James Apthorp, Mary Doug Buchanan

Our Clergy: The Rev. Lonnie Lacy, Rector; The Rev. Leslie Roraback, Associate Rector; The Rev. Dcn. Joe Bakker, The Rev. Dcn. Mike Hall, The Rev. Dcn. Linda Liebert-Hall, Deacons; Melanie Salsgiver, Seminarian

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