

St. John Chrysostom Episcopal Church and School



**Fourth Sunday of Advent
Daily Morning Prayer, Rite Two
Sunday, December 20, 2020**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Rev. Karen

Please respond as one, after the asterisk

We are waiting expectantly;*
Christmas is almost here!

We light our candles and are watching for signs;*
Christmas is almost here!

We've counted the days and counted the blessings in our hearts;*
Christmas is almost here!

Come, Lord Jesus, enter our world and our lives in a new way;*
Be born in us again, Lord Jesus!

OPENING DIALOGUE

Rev. Christopher Let us serve our God with gladness,
People and come into the presence of God with a song.

Rev. Christopher Proclaim with me the greatness of our God;
People let us together exult the name of God.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Rev. Christopher says to God's People

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Priest and People say together

Ancient of Days, we confess that we are an impatient people.

We want a response to our prayers right now;

We want answers to the questions we have and if we have to wait, we begin to waver in our faith.

We are impatient for justice when it serves us, but delay it for others

when it is inconvenient or requires us to relinquish power or control.

Forgive us.

Call us into Your ways, to put aside our selfish desires

and instead, seek the well-being and wholeness of others,
especially those who are on the margins,

those who have suffered oppression.
May we remember that our own prayers are answered when we love one another
and care for one another, because then we know Your love and care.
In the name of Christ, who calls us into this expectant waiting,
who is the Word that became Flesh and lived among us, we pray. Amen.

Rev. Christopher alone 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.

OPENING HYMN

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

St. John's Episcopal Church Choir Leads and Dr. Johannes Stosch

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

VERSICLE

Rev. Christopher Lord, open our lips.
People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

The People of God pray together

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. Alleluia.

ANTIPHON

Jim Leach

Our God and Savior now draws near: O come let us worship.

INVITATORY

Dot Leach

Please join me in the Invitatory by praying together after the asterisk

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; *
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.

Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, *
that I might behold your power and your glory.

For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; *
my lips shall give you praise.

So will I bless you as long as I live *
and lift up my hands in your Name.

My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, *
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

When I remember you upon my bed, *
and meditate on you in the night watches.

For you have been my helper, *
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

My soul clings to you; *
your right hand holds me fast.

PSALM 89: 1-4, 19-26

Kelly Bass

Please pray this portion of Psalm 89 with me, responding with one voice after the asterisk.

¹Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing; *
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

²For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; *
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.

³“I have made a covenant with my chosen one; *
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

⁴“I will establish your line forever, *
and preserve your throne for all generations.’”

¹⁹You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people: *
“I have set the crown upon a warrior
and have exalted one chosen out of the people.

²⁰I have found David my servant; *
with my holy oil have I anointed him.

²¹My hand will hold him fast *
and my arm will make him strong.

²²No enemy shall deceive him, *
nor any wicked man bring him down.

²³I will crush his foes before him *
and strike down those who hate him.

²⁴My faithfulness and love shall be with him, *
and he shall be victorious through my Name.

²⁵I shall make his dominion extend *
from the Great Sea to the River.

²⁶He will say to me, 'You are my Father, *
my God, and the rock of my salvation.' "

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.

THE LESSONS

HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Lara Barbara

A Reading from the Second book of Samuel:

Now, when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say

to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE: Magnificat

Courtney Taylor

Please join me in praying the Magnificat by responding as one after the asterisk.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

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.

CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES

Carol Berger

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome:

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith-- to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST

Dot Leach

A Reading from the Gospel of Luke:

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Gospeler The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION BY REV. CHRISTOPHER

CHOIR ANTHEM

Riu, Riu, Chiu

Mateo Flecha

St. John's Episcopal Church Choir Leads and Dr. Johannes Stosch

Lisa Naulls, solo

Jonathan Naulls, drum

NICENE CREED

The People of God say together

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

SALUTATION

Rev. Christopher The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Rev. Christopher Let us pray.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The People of God pray together

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,
 forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYERS AND THANKSGIVINGS WITH THE PEOPLE OF GOD

*Please enter your prayers in the "Chat" function of the app and
we shall pray with you for your needs and thanksgivings.*

Rev. Christopher

In the hushed anticipation of your coming, O Lord, let your will be done with us according to your word, that we might be vessels of your Presence, and eager to pray.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Jim Leach leads

Please join me in the Prayers of the People, adding your voices for the bolded portions.

O God, in days to come, the mountain of your house will be established, and your joy shall reign. We pray for the church, especially the churches who suffer injustice or risk of closure, that you might teach us your ways and that we might walk in your paths.

Come Lord Jesus, ***and hear our prayers for your church.***

Out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and you, O God, shall judge between the nations. We pray for our nation, and all nations, that your peace would be manifest in every corner of the earth.

Come Lord Jesus, ***and hear our prayers for nations and leaders of nations.***

In your Reign, O God, wolves lie down with lambs and children play with serpents without fear. We pray for the sick, the suffering, and those fighting COVID; that you would heal all injuries, comfort all grief, and settle all wrongs.

Come Lord Jesus, ***and hear our prayer for those who are sick and those who bring healing.***

In your Kingdom, O Lord, even the wilderness and dry land are glad and rejoice. We pray for those who rejoice this week as they celebrate their birthdays, especially Dale, Sally, Audrey, and Taylor, and for the anniversary of Andy and Loreen; that they might obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing might flee away.

Come Lord Jesus, ***and hear our prayer for those who mark the beginning of another year.***

In the fulness of time, O God, you sent your son, to be born of our sister Mary; and his name was Emmanuel: God With Us. We thank you for your Presence with us, and we pray that you might be always present with those whom we love but see no longer.

Come Lord Jesus, ***and hear our prayer for those who now sit with you around your Holy Table.***

Rev. Christopher

O Christ, come upon us and anoint us; have mercy upon those who stand in awe of you in every generation, and hear our prayers; Come Lord Jesus. ***Amen.***

COLLECTS

Lara Barbara

God of impossible love;
you needed Mary to give consent,
to bear the scandal,

to carry your word within herself;
May her courage give hope to women and men
who yearn to sing new songs of justice
and find the world a dwelling place for God;
Through Jesus Christ, the one who is and who is to come. *Amen.*

Kelly Bass

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Carol Berger

God of the Turning, we approach this Solstice, this point when the northern hemisphere is wrapped in cold and dark, and the southern hemisphere in warmth and light, and we know that things will change. In this year of COVID, we turn towards a new year with hope for vaccines and life to flourish again. We turn to a new year with hope that we have learned lessons about our need to care for others, to do our part to mitigate risk, to recognize how fragile our systems are as people struggle. We turn to Your light, to a renewal of living into Your ways. Light of the World, shine through us in new ways. *Amen.*

Courtney Taylor

Most remarkable God, you sent your angel to a woman named Mary, that she might accept the joy and the pain of bearing the ultimate Mystery. Fill our hearts with a love and loyalty like hers, that we may find our contentment in doing your will and celebrating your saving grace. Through your holy Son, who with you and the Holy Spirit, have turned our sorrows into gladness and our weariness into dancing! *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR MISSION

Dot Leach

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN

Creator of the Stars of Night

St. John's Episcopal Church Choir Leads and Dr. Johannes Stosch

A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

Jim Leach

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

CONCLUDING VERSICLE

Rev. Christopher Let us bless the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

CONCLUDING SENTENCE

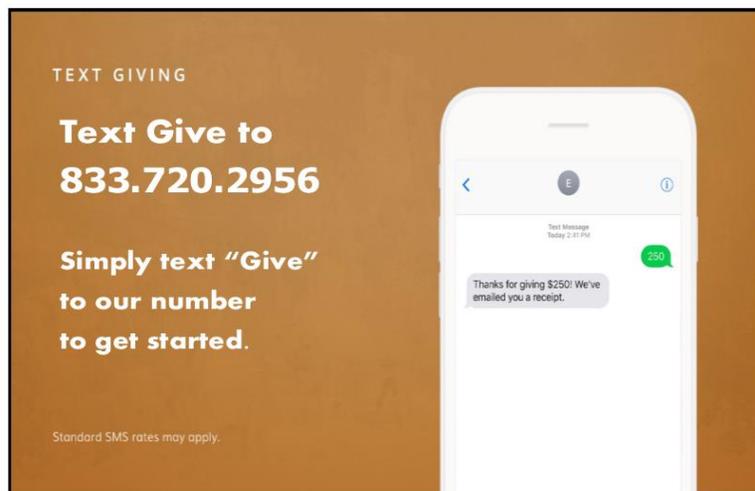
Rev. Christopher

God's steadfast love endures forever. God remains faithful.
Know that God's love never ends and is always with you.
The light shines and cannot be extinguished.
As we approach Christmas, may you be filled anew with wonder and awe, and know that God's love is making all things new. **Amen.**

EXCHANGE OF GOD'S PEACE

*If you wish to share peace with one another,
feel free to 'unmute' yourself in order to be heard among your brothers and sisters.*

Please consider a Christmas donation by either mailing a check, using the PayPal link on our website (www.stjohnsrsm.org), or by texting GIVE to 833.720.2956. (Typing OPTIONS after connecting will give you the funds available into which your donation can be applied.)



Christmas at St. John's Episcopal, RSM

"Night of Remembrance Candlelight Vigil" Livestream Service

Remember our more than 300 homeless neighbors in Orange County who died in 2020 without adequate access to health care or shelter. This service will be the only commemoration of their lives.

Join the livestream on Facebook or YouTube

www.facebook.com/Hope4Restoration

on YouTube search "Women Drivers' Interfaith Group channel"

Monday, December 21, 2020 ~ 7 p.m.

* * *

"Family Christmas Eve" Livestream Service

Music and carols and a reflection from our clergy,

with prerecorded children's pageant.

If your child wants to participate in the children's pageant, please email Corey Gonsalves, our director of children's ministry, children@stjohns-es.org

Check your e-blasts from Rev. Christopher for the ZOOM service link

Thursday, December 24, 2020 ~ 5:30 p.m.

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Christmas Eve "Lessons and Carols" Livestream Service

A live reflection from our clergy,

with prerecorded music by our choir leads and orchestra; sing along at home!

Check your e-blasts from Rev. Christopher for the ZOOM service link

Thursday, December 24, 2020 ~ 7 p.m.

~ St. John's Christmas livestream services will post to www.stjohnsrsm.org following the live service so you may watch at your convenience ~

* * *

Christmas Day "Around the Creche" Livestream Service

Bishop Diane Jardine Bruce will lead this multilingual celebration of the Nativity

on the diocesan Facebook page and YouTube channel.

Note: Viewing will be on-demand after the initial livestream, which is free and open to all

Friday, December 25, 2020 10 ~ 11 a.m.

Merry Christmas!

BISHOP'S COMMITTEE OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

The Rev. Christopher Potter, <i>Vicar</i> Joanne Bradshaw, <i>Bishop's Warden</i> Jim Leach, <i>People's Warden</i> Elizabeth Adams, <i>Treasurer</i> Paul Hinson, <i>Clerk</i> Margaret Campbell Mike DeVries Gary Graves Steve Green Brenna Hayden, <i>Youth Ex Officio Member</i> Breana Hinson, <i>Youth Ex Officio Member</i> Scotty King Bill Mecklenburg Gloria Sefton BJ Sullivan, <i>Ex Officio Member</i>	cpotter@stjohns-es.org joannebradshaw1967@yahoo.com jimleach4@cox.net elizabeth@compudynamix.com pfshinson@att.net campbellmc22@gmail.com mikedevries@mac.com capgary@cox.net f4rio@cox.net brennalhayden@gmail.com bnyhinson@gmail.com mscotland.king@gmail.com bmecklenburg@alliant.com gloriasefton@gmail.com bjs12345@sbcglobal.net
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ST. JOHN'S PARISH COUNCIL

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HEAD OF SCHOOL

Patrick McHonett	pmchonett@stjohns-es.org	949.858.5144
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