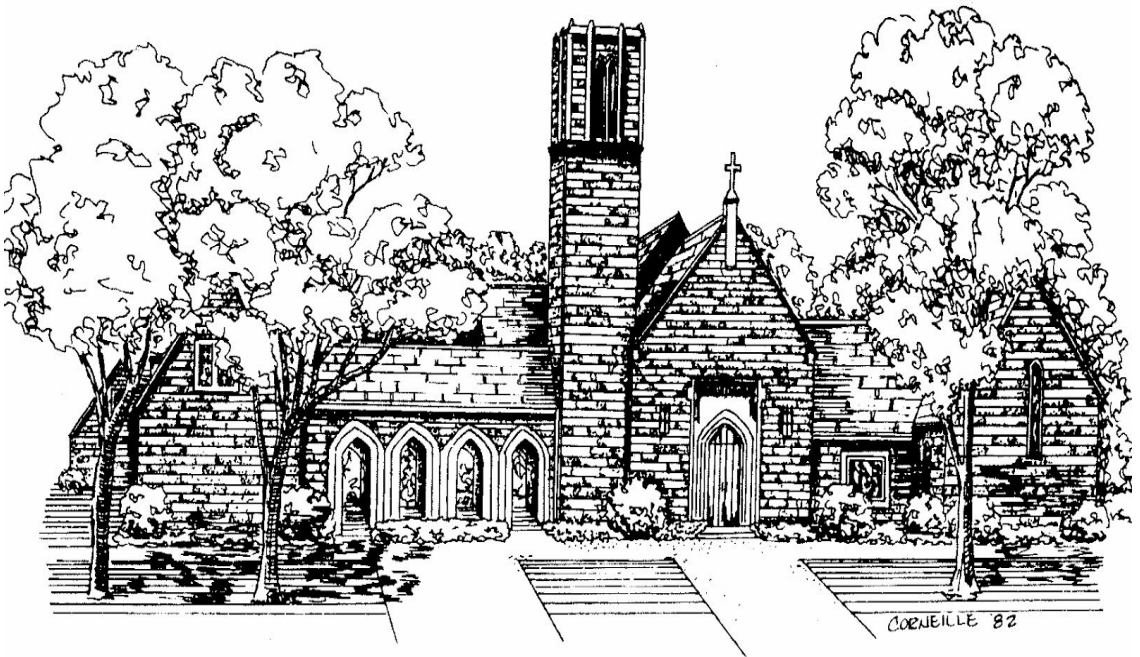


Welcome to St. Mary's Episcopal Church

The First Sunday of Advent
Sunday, November 29, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.



St. Mary's: Serving with JOY!

The mission of St. Mary's Episcopal Church is to bear God's Good News through joyful worship, Christ-centered teaching, compassionate care, and intentional relationships.

The First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2020
9:30 a.m.

The Holy Eucharist: Rite 2

Welcome to St. Mary's Episcopal Church!
Welcome back to Sunday morning indoor worship!

In these extra-ordinary times, St. Mary's offers three Sunday morning worship opportunities of Holy Eucharist. One is an online pre-recorded liturgy of the Rite 2 service (Spiritual Communion), posted to our Facebook and YouTube platforms. The others are indoor public liturgies (Rite 1 at 8am in the Chapel and Rite 2 at 9:30am in the large church), following the parameters outlined in [Fr. Tom's Pastoral Letter of October 21](#) and in accordance with current state Executive Orders and [guidelines from the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina](#).

For worshipers gathering in person, we thank you for taking seriously the measures that are in place that allow us to gather safely, especially wearing face coverings, observing six feet of physical distancing between different households, and refraining from congregational singing. These practices will make our time together safer and are appreciated as signs of love for one another.

You may also wish to begin the practice of bringing with you your own copy of the Book of Common Prayer and Bible to incorporate into your worship while at St. Mary's Church and beyond. If you don't have either, please speak with the clergy - we'd love to help!

All page numbers refer to the Book of Common Prayer.

SERVERS IN THIS LITURGY:

Celebrant & Preacher: Tom Warren

Organist: Sharon Veitch

Musicians: Marcus Jones (vocals) & Seraphim Smith (recorder)

Acolytes: Eagan Ballard, Thomas Grady, & Eliza Grady

Advent Wreath Lectors: Rosa-Serrano Family (Jose, Beatriz, Isabel)

Lector: Joe Saracino

Ushers/Greeters: Cyndi & Bruce Rafferty, Jess Edwards, & Mark Herring

Prelude

Greeting & Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candle

The people stand as they are able during the procession while the hymn is sung by the soloist.

Processional Hymn #61 "Sleepers wake!" A voice astounds us

1 "Sleep - ers, wake!" A voice a - stounds us, the
2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing; her
3 Lamb of God, the heavens a - dore you; let

shout of ram - part - guards sur - rounds us: "A -
heart with joy - ful hope is spring - ing, she
saints and an - gels sing be - fore you, as

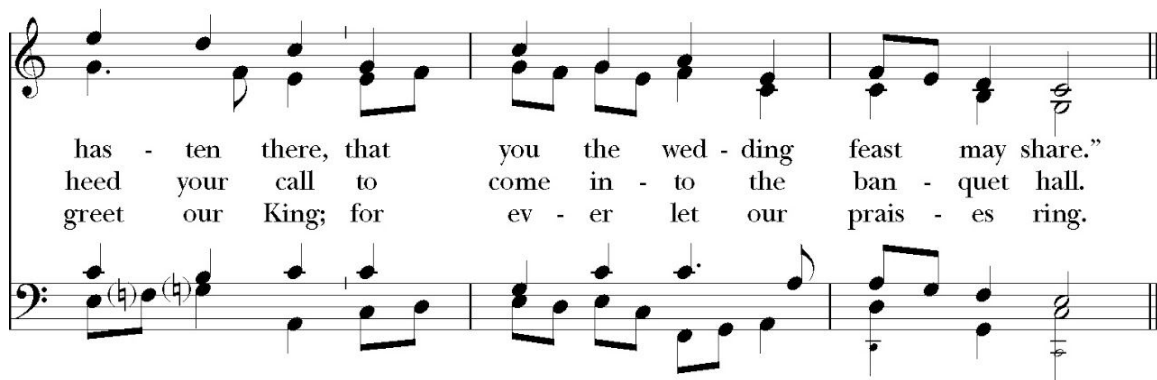
wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!" Mid - night's peace their
wakes and hur - ries through the night. Forth he comes, her
harps and cym - bals swell the sound. Twelve great pearls, the

cry has bro - ken, their ur - gent sum - mons clear - ly spo -
 Bride-groom glo - rious in strength of grace, in truth vic - to -
 ci - ty's por - tals: through them we stream to join the im - mor -

ken: "The time has come, O maid - ens wise!
 rious: her star is risen, O her light grows bright.
 tals as we with joy your throne sur - round.

Rise up, and give us light; the Bride - groom is in
 Now come, most wor - thy Lord, God's Son, In - car - nate
 No eye has known the sight, no ear heard such de -

sight. Al - le - lu - ia! Your lamps pre - pare and
 Word, Al - le - lu - ia! We fol - low all and
 light: Al - le - lu - ia! There - fore we sing to



Words: Philipp Nicolai

Music: *Wachet auf*

Officiant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

Officiant

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.***

Officiant Lord, have mercy.

People ***Christ, have mercy.***

Officiant Lord, have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

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Officiant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Officiant 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

All may be seated for the readings

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah:

[64:1-9]

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence-- as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil-- to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalms 80:1-7, 16-18

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O Lord God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

A Reading from St. Paul's First Letter to the Church in Corinth: [1:3-9]

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lector The Word of the Lord. *People* ***Thanks be to God.***

The Holy Gospel Mark 13:24-37

All stand as they are able.

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

All may be seated.

The Response to the Gospel

Liz Hengst

All stand as they are able.

The Nicene Creed

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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.

All stand as they are able.

The Prayers of the People, Form I

Page 383

Intercessor With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

Intercessor For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

People ***Lord, have mercy.***

Intercessor For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

People ***Lord, have mercy.***

Intercessor For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Rob, our diocesan bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

People ***Lord, have mercy.***

Intercessor For Donald, our President; for the leaders of the nations; for Roy, our Governor; Don, our Mayor; and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

People ***Lord, have mercy.***

Intercessor For this city of Kinston, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

People ***Lord, have mercy.***

Intercessor For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

People ***Lord, have mercy.***

Intercessor For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

People ***Lord, have mercy.***

Intercessor For the poor and oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

People ***Lord, have mercy.***

Intercessor For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

People ***Lord, have mercy.***

Intercessor For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

People ***Lord, have mercy.***

Intercessor That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

People ***Lord, have mercy.***

Intercessor In our Parish Cycle of Prayer, we pray for those preparing for marriage; especially Jen McKinley & Jason Dean; Sydney Vick & Zane Hamstead; Eliza Newton & Josh Davis; and Hadley Bryan & Ian Woodward. Give them wisdom and devotion in the ordering of their common life, that each may be to the other a strength in need, a counselor in perplexity, a comfort in sorrow, and a companion in joy. May this Advent season be one of heightened anticipation of your presence in this season of their lives, let us pray to the Lord.

People ***Lord, have mercy.***

Intercessor In the communion of St. Mary and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

People ***To thee, O Lord our God.***

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Prayers may be lifted aloud or in the silence of our hearts at this time.

The Celebrant offers a concluding collect

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Confession

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Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People

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 Bishop when present, or 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.***

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

The Offertory

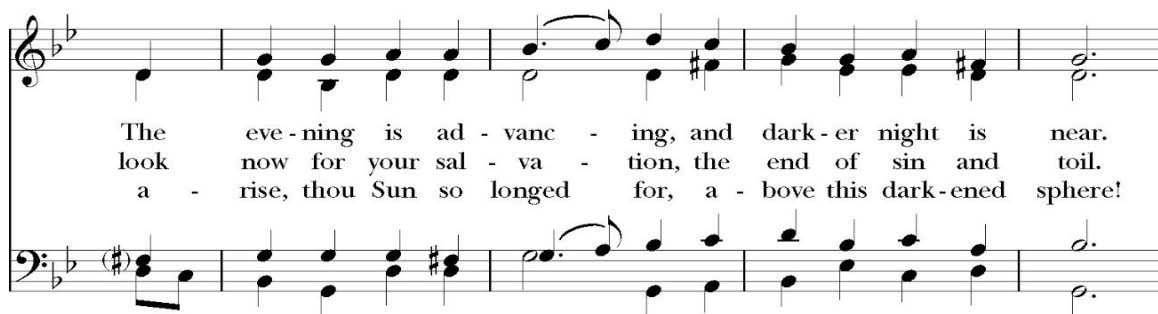
A collection basin is located at the entrance of the church where worshippers may, at their desired time, place offerings for Christ and His church.

Offertory Hymn #68

Rejoice! Rejoice, believers



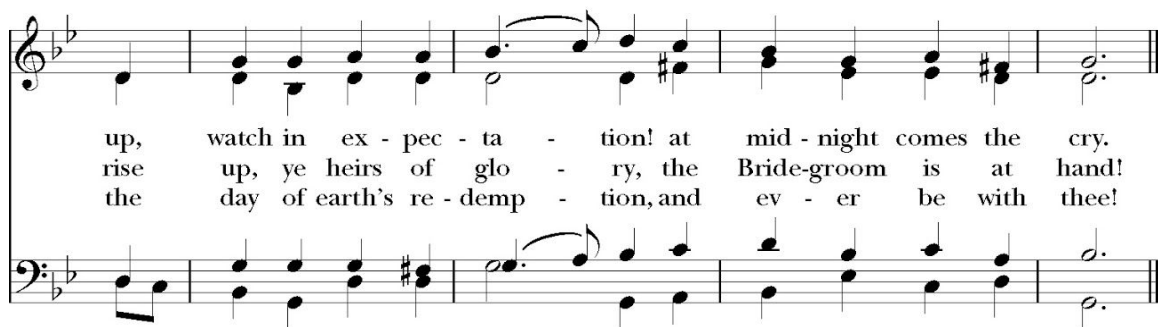
1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!
 2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;
 3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
 look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
 a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened sphere!



The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;
 The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.
 rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride-groom is at hand!
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

Words: Laurentius Laurenti

Music: Llangloffan

THE HOLY COMMUNION

All stand as they are able.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B

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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.

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 sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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:

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

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people, in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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."**

***Indicates times when the Sanctus bells are rung by the acolyte.*

Therefore according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Ever-blessed Virgin Mary, the Holy Family, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Ministration of Communion

The Celebrant says the following Invitation

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.

All baptized Christians are welcome to share in the banquet of the Lord's Supper. Please speak to the clergy if you would like to learn more about baptism and following Jesus as a baptized Christian.

During this time, communion is shared in one kind (bread only). Anglican eucharistic theology has consistently taught that Christ is truly and fully present in both, the bread and the wine of communion. The full benefits of communion are available to the faithful in extra-ordinary circumstances when sharing both the bread and wine are not possible.

To receive communion, please stand where you are and the clergy will bring communion to you. Please wait until the clergy has moved beyond six feet from you before adjusting your face covering to consume the bread.

If you would prefer to receive a prayer of blessing at this time, please stand and as the clergy draws near, cross your arms across your chest to indicate your intention.

Please be seated after you have received communion or a blessing so the clergy can easily tell who still desires to receive communion or a blessing.

For those not wishing to receive communion, you are invited to pray this prayer of Spiritual Communion, adapted from the Armed Forces Prayer Book.

In union, O Lord with the faithful at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you. And since I can not now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live and die in your love. Amen.

Communion Hymns

#301

Bread of the world, in mercy broken

Bread of the world, in mer - cy bro - ken, Wine of the
soul, in mer - cy shed, by whom the words of life were
spo - ken, and in whose death our sins are dead:
look on the heart by sor - row bro - ken, look on the
tears by sin - ners shed; and be thy feast to us the
to - ken that by thy grace our souls are fed.

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: 'Bread of the world, in mer - cy bro - ken, Wine of the'. The second staff continues: 'soul, in mer - cy shed, by whom the words of life were'. The third staff continues: 'spo - ken, and in whose death our sins are dead:'. The fourth staff continues: 'look on the heart by sor - row bro - ken, look on the'. The fifth staff continues: 'tears by sin - ners shed; and be thy feast to us the'. The sixth staff concludes: 'to - ken that by thy grace our souls are fed.' The score ends with a double bar line.

Words: Reginald Heber

Music: *Rendez à Dieu*

1 Fa - ther, we thank thee who hast plant - ed thy ho - ly Name with -
 2 Watch o'er thy Church, O Lord, in mer - cy, save it from e - vil,

in our hearts. Know - ledge and faith and life im - mor - tal Je - sus thy
 guard it still, per - fect it in thy love, u - nite it, cleansed and con -

Son to us im - parts. Thou, Lord, didst make all for thy plea - sure,
 formed un - to thy will. As grain, once scat - tered on the hill - sides,

didst give us food for all our days, giv - ing in Christ the
 was in this bro - ken bread made one, so from all lands thy



Words: Greek

Music: *Rendez à Dieu*

Postcommunion Prayer

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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.

An Advent Blessing

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

The People respond: Amen.

Recessional Music

Dismissal

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week's Schedule – November November 29, 2020

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Sun. 10:45 am | The Art of Advent - Adult Forum in Moseley Hall & Zoom (<i>Contact Fr. Tom for the Zoom link</i>) |
| 12:00 pm | Children's Ministry Advent Lunch on the West Lawn |

	4:30 pm	EYC "Wonder As We Wander" on the West Lawn
	8:00 pm	AA meets in Moseley Hall
Tues.	8:30 am	Morning Prayer
	6:30 pm	EfM - Email Jon Sargeant for the Zoom link.
Wed.	7:00 am	Men's Morning Prayer Group
Thurs.	8:30 am	Morning Prayer
	2:00 pm	Worship Committee Meeting
	2-4:30 pm	Fr. Tom's Office Hours
	5:00 pm	Handbells Rehearsal
Fri.	9am-Noon	Fr. Tom's Office Hours

THIS MORNING'S RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL - This morning, we will engage with the Good News of Jesus through a "Godly Play" story led by Liz Hengst, our Family Ministry Coordinator. The Godly Play style of teaching explores the Christian faith through story-telling and invites the faithful in some "wondering" questions that draw our attention to the presence of Christ in our lives. Thank you, Liz, for introducing us to this "response to the Gospel" style this Sunday!

Most Godly Play stories use carefully-crafted wooden piece sets. If you would like to provide a set for a future Godly Play story that Liz would use with the children of St. Mary's, let us know. Here are some of the sets that we hope to have in the future:

Baptism - \$145.95	Parable of the Good Shepherd - \$66.95
Parable of the Good Samaritan - \$70.95	Parable of the Pearl - \$79.95
Parable of the Sower - \$66.50	Parable of the Mustard Seed - \$75.95
Parable of Parables - \$39.95	Good Shepherd and World Communion - \$332.95

ADVENT BEGINS TODAY! - This Sunday, we begin a new Advent season as well as the new Church Year - "Year B" in our 3-year lectionary cycle. Throughout this year's Sundays, we will read through the Gospel of Mark and, because Mark is the shortest of the 4 Gospels, we'll also read more of John's Gospel. Happy New Year!

ADVENT WREATH MAKING - Advent wreath kits are available to pick up today at church and throughout the week at the church office. If you'd feel safer, the parish staff will bring a kit to your vehicle if you call during office hours. The kits will include the base/ring form, candles, and a devotional to use at home. Greenery from Shimer Select Christmas trees will also be available near the magnolia tree on the West Lawn. May the

making of these wreaths be a joy, and may the observance of this sacred season awaken hope in your home.

THE ART OF ADVENT: ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION - During Advent, the Christian Formation Committee offers a series called “The Art of Advent” during the Adult Forum. This four week program is co-led by Vicki Kennedy and Fr. Tom, and studies art relating to the Advent season to awaken the senses and inspire spirituality. “The Art of Advent” begins this Sunday, November 29th and will meet each Sunday through Dec. 21st from 10:45-11:45am via Zoom and in Moseley Hall (currently up to 10 people, socially distanced and wearing face coverings). The Zoom link is the same as the link used for Randy Spaugh’s “The Gospels” course, and was shared via email this past Friday. We hope you will join us!

ADVENT FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH - All children from babies to 5th grade and their families are invited to share in Sunday Advent activities today from 12-1pm on the West Lawn. Bring your lunch, blanket or chairs, and your "church bag" and join Liz for lunch, activities, and Advent lessons. All Youth are invited this afternoon from 4-6:30pm on the West Lawn for wondering while we wander.

DELEGATE TO DIOCESAN CONVENTION - St. Mary’s may be represented by 4 lay delegates at the upcoming Diocesan Convention, which will be held on one day: Saturday, February 13 via Zoom. Delegates must be confirmed and 16 years old or older. Please let Fr. Tom or Jo Parrott know by Wednesday, Dec 2 if you would be interested in serving in this way.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING & VESTRY ELECTION - Thank you to all who participated in the election process by submitting a nomination ballot! This year, the Annual Parish Meeting will occur during the 9:30am liturgy on Sunday, December 6. There will be no spoken reports and the 4-person vestry class will be elected in an un-contested election by voice during the announcements that morning. We anticipate that the liturgy will last about the same as usual. The Annual Report will be available online and in hard copy. Please speak with Fr. Tom or any member of the vestry with any questions regarding this new process for 2020.

FATHER TOM will be away for Coast Guard Reserve Duty this coming Monday-Wednesday. In the event of a pastoral emergency, Fr. Gene Carpenter is on call. Please contact Fr. Tom (252-258-5282) or our Senior Warden, Jo Parrott (252-521-5591) in such an emergency.

9TH ANNUAL COOKIE WALK - Join us **Saturday, December 12th at 11am** for this year's DRIVE THRU Cookie Walk. We will have delicious, beautifully boxed

cookies ready for pick up (small box for \$10 or a large box for \$25). Nut-free boxes will also be available. Come for a festive drive thru experience and pick up some Cookie LOVE to enjoy and to share this Christmas season! Volunteer decorators and bakers are needed for this event! We need outdoor Christmas decor (inflatables, a nativity, etc) to create a festive drive thru "Cookie Alley" from December 10-13th. Cookies may be dropped off to the church office by Thursday, December 10th or to Moseley Hall beginning Friday, December 11th from 9am-6pm. If you are interested in helping, please contact Laury Sargeant at jsarg4@suddenlink.net.

CHRISTMAS FOR FOSTER CHILDREN - Last week, an email was sent to our parish with a list of foster children and their special requests. Please consider contact Becky Darst (rcdarst@suddenlink.net) to choose a child and make this a part of the Christmas season for you and that child. You may also make a donation to help with the cost of the gifts.

ECW FAITH FRIENDS - Will you help St. Mary's be intentional about staying connected? Consider joining FAITH FRIENDS, a group of ECW women who are willing to make intentional personal connections by checking in on an assigned church member via short chats, doorstep visits, letters, and/or surprise gifts. Please contact Laury Sargeant by email at jsarg4@suddenlink.net or Audra Haddad by email at 5haddad@suddenlink.net who will in turn contact you to assign a friend.

SUPPORTING THE LIFE OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH - We recognize the incredible impact of this pandemic on every facet of our lives and are grateful for the tithes and offerings that have continued to be sent by mail [and online](#).

STAY CONNECTED - [Access our membership directory here.](#)

JOIN F3 OR FIA NATION IN KINSTON! F3 is a national network that focuses on Fitness - Fellowship - Faith. It is free, peer-led, with outdoor workout groups for men of all ages. For more information, check out the f3enc.com or contact Chris Jenkins at wjenkins@nccumc.org FIA is a community of women whose mission is to become stronger with focus on bodies, minds, hearts of themselves and other women. It is free, led outdoors, and open to women of all ages. For more information, check out fianation.com and go to the [FiA Lenoir County Facebook page](#) for workout dates/times. Both groups are now active in Kinston!

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER: Retired Clergy of the Diocese of East Carolina

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: Dr. Randy Jones, Mrs. Dolores Collins, Dr. Mike Haddad, Mrs. Lori Kelly, Mrs. Allyson Sugg, Miss Jane Herring

Tom Warren..... Rector
 Sharon VeitchOrganist/Choirmaster
 Jo ParrottSenior Warden
 Jimmy Ballard.....Junior Warden
 Billy PageTreasurer
 Whitney Grady.....Clerk of the Vestry
 Lori Kelly.....Parish Administrator
 Liz Hengst...Youth/Families Ministry Coordinator
 Sherry Tanner.....Communications Director
 Jim Godfrey.....Mary's Kitchen Director
 Cyndi Rafferty.....Altar Guild Chair
 Laury Sargeant.....ECW President

Parish Vestry

2020

2021

Jess Edwards	Jimmy Ballard
Gerry Fox	Sam Gilmore
Whitney Grady	Jessica Shimer
Jo Parrott	Stuart Stroud

2022

John John
 Scott Turik
 Dee Warner
 Harry Wooten