

Our mission is to proclaim, by word and example, the good news of God in Christ, and to build a spiritual community forming Christians of all ages through worship, education, and outreach.

# THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# Advent Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist 9:30am December 15, 2024

SUNDAY SERVICES

8:00 Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:30 Holy Eucharist Rite II

Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent, for this is the house of God. Before the service speak to the Lord; during the service let the Lord speak to you; after the service speak to one another.

# The Rector's Welcome

Happy Advent, everyone! This season of preparation is one of the best times of the year. While the world around us celebrates the "Holiday Season," we remember the preparation the Holy Family did as Mary and Joseph anxiously awaited the birth of Jesus. Can you imagine the pressure they must have felt preparing a home for the Son of God?

We also spend time this season preparing for the return of Jesus and the culmination of the Kingdom of God. Advent is a time to consider how we are living out our call as Christians to love each other as Jesus loves us. It is a time to remember the Great Commission that he gave his original disciples, but we continue to abide by God, therefore, and make disciples of all nations in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

I pray that, as we all eagerly await the season of Christmas, we also contemplate the incredible humility of our Lord Jesus Christ, who emptied himself of his divinity to live as one of us and save us from ourselves. I also pray that as we contemplate the Incarnation of God, we consider that we can live in an incarnational way by allowing God's Holy Spirit to shine into the world by loving those around us in the name of Jesus Christ.

Faithfully,

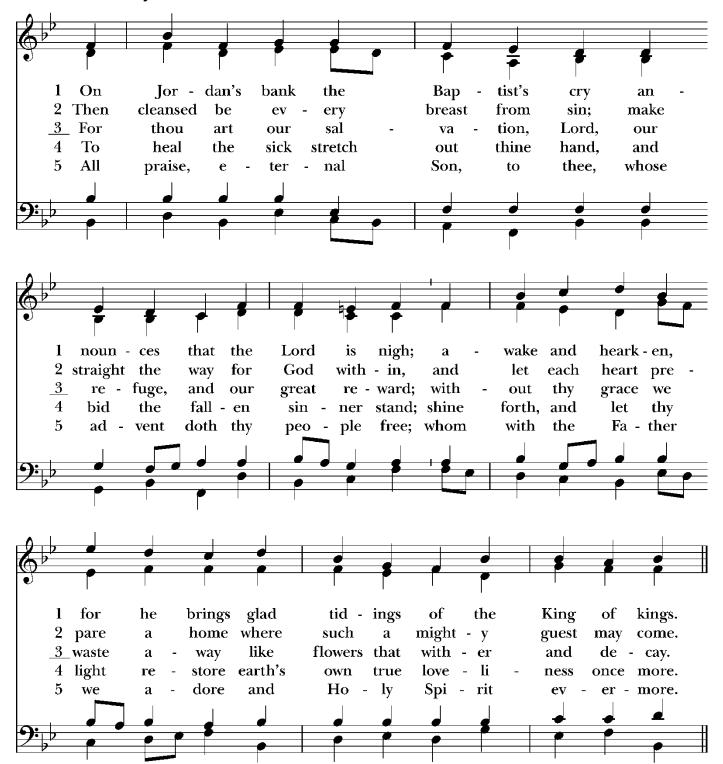
Fr. Chr. Word+

The Rev. Christian M. Wood *Rector* 

cwood@stjohnstampa.org

#### **Processional Hymn 76**

Winchester New



## **BIDDING & WELCOME**

## The Celebrant says

It is time for us to wake out of sleep, for deliverance is nearer to us now than it was when first we believed. It is far on in the night and day is near. Let us therefore cast off the deeds of darkness and put on our armour as soldiers of the light.

The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

# All And also with you.

# Celebrant

Brothers and sisters, we celebrate at this time the solemn season of Advent in which the Church bids us to prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ; a coming that we recall in the Child of Bethlehem; a coming that we experience in the gift of his Spirit, in the bread of the Eucharist, in the joy of shared human life; a coming we await when God gathers up all things in Christ.

Let us in this holy season reflect on the coming of Christ who brings light to the world. Let us leave behind the darkness of sin, walk in the light that shines on our path, and renew within ourselves the hope of glory to which he beckons us. And as we turn towards the light, let us have on our hearts all those who see no light, for whom all is darkness and despair.

Let us pray that they too may be illumined by Christ who is our light.

# THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.** 

All sit

# THE FIRST LESSON God said: Let there be light

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the Spirit of God was moving over the face of the waters. And God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day.

*Lector* Here ends the reading.

Genesis 1:1-5

#### **CHOIR CAROL:** Adam lay y'bounden

Adam lay y'bounden, bounden in a bond; four thousand winter thought he not too long. And all was for an apple, an apple that he took. As clerkes finden written in their book.

#### **THE SECOND LESSON** *I form light and create darkness*

"I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut asunder the bars of iron, I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. I am the Lord, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I gird you, though you do not know me, that men may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe, I am the Lord, who do all these things. "Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness; let the earth open, that salvation may sprout forth, and let it cause righteousness to spring up also; I the Lord have created it.

Lector Here ends the reading.

**CHOIR CAROL:** There is no rose of such virtue

*There is no rose of such virtue* As is the rose that bare Jesu: Alleluia

For in this rose contained was Heaven and earth in little space: Res miranda

*By that rose we may well see There be* one God in persons three: Pares forma

All stand for the Congregational Hymns

*Ne had the apple taken been, the apple taken been,* ne had never our lady abeen heavene queen. Blessed be the time that apple taken was. Therefore we moun signen Deo gracias!

#### Isaiah 45.2-8

The angels sungen the shepherds to: Gloria in excelsis Deo: Gaudeamus

*Leave we all this worldly mirth* And follow we this joyful birth: Transeamus

## Philip Stopford

Boris Ord



THE THIRD LESSON You are all children of light

1 Thessalonians 5.1-11,23,24

As to the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When people say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as travail comes upon a woman with child, and there will be no escape. But you are not in darkness, brethren, for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all sons of light and sons of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. For those who sleep sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. But, since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God

has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we wake or sleep we might live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing. May the God of peace himself sanctify you wholly; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.*Lector* 

Here ends the reading.

## CONGREGATIONAL HYMN 56:1-4,8

1 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!

2 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.

3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times didst give the law, in cloud, and majesty, and awe.

## THE FOURTH LESSON Look to the East

4 O come, thou Branch of Jesse's tree, free them from Satan's tyranny that trust thy mighty power to save, and give them victory o'er the grave.

8 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. Hymnal 1940, alt.

#### Baruch 4.36-5.9

Look toward the east, O Jerusalem, and see the joy that is coming to you from God! Behold, your sons are coming, whom you sent away; they are coming, gathered from east and west, at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing in the glory of God. Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on for ever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting. For God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For your name will for ever be called by God, "Peace of righteousness and glory of godliness." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height and look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east, at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went forth from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

*Lector* Here ends the reading.

Veni, veni, Emmanuel

#### CHOIR CAROL: People, Look East!

#### **Basque** Carol

1. People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.

Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east and sing today: Love, the guest, is on the way.

2. Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there: Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love, the rose, is on the way.

3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen, God for fledging time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love, the bird, is on the way. 4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim, Shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way.

5. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

#### All stand

#### THE GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 12.35-40

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

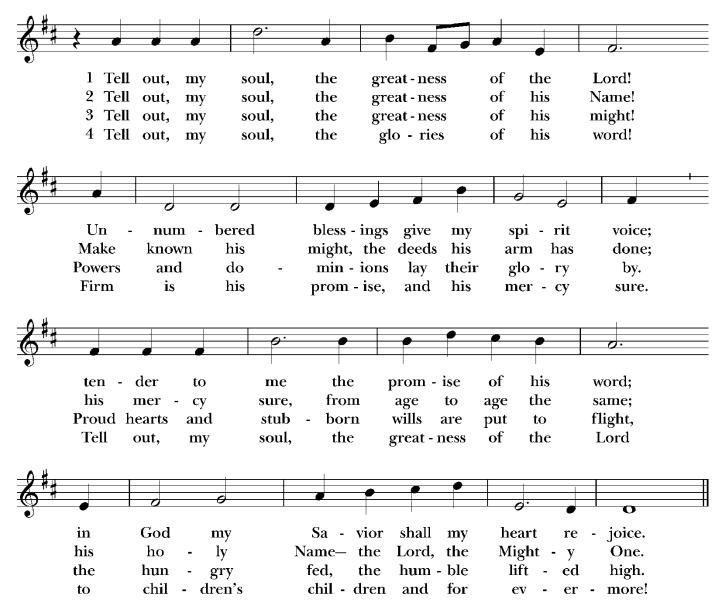
Jesus said, "Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning, and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast, so that they may open to him at once when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes; truly, I say to you, he will gird himself and have them sit at table, and he will come and serve them. If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them so, blessed are those servants! But know this, that if the householder had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would have been awake and would not have left his house to be broken into. You also must be ready; for the Son of man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

*Deacon* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** 438

Woodlands



#### THE APOSTLES CREED (standing)

*Celebrant and people* 

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;
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. 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. Amen.

#### INTERCESSIONS

#### Deacon or other leader

Watchful at all times, let us pray for strength to stand with confidence before our Maker and Redeemer. That God may bring in his kingdom with justice and mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

#### Lord, have mercy.

That God may establish among the nations his sceptre of righteousness, let us pray to the Lord:

#### Lord, have mercy.

That we may seek Christ in the Scriptures and recognize him in the breaking of the bread, let us pray to the Lord:

#### Lord, have mercy.

That God may bind up the brokenhearted, restore the sick and raise up all who have fallen, let us pray to the Lord:

#### Lord, have mercy.

That the light of God's coming may dawn on all who live in darkness and the shadow of death, let us pray to the Lord:

#### Lord, have mercy.

That, with all the saints in light, we may shine forth as lights for the world, let us pray to the Lord:

#### Lord, have mercy.

We commend ourselves and all for whom we pray to the mercy and protection of our heavenly Father.

#### The Celebrant says

Almighty God, as your blessed Son Jesus Christ first came to seek and to save the lost; so may he come again to find in us the completion of his redeeming work; for he is now alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **Amen.** 

#### THE PEACE

CelebrantThe peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

The people sit

#### **GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

#### Offertory Anthem The Angel Gabriel

Sung by the choir

1. The angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame; "All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary, most highly favored lady," Gloria!

2. "For know a blessed Mother thou shalt be, all generations laud and honor thee, thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold, most highly favored lady," Gloria! 3. Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,
"my soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name."
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

4. Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn, and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say – "Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

The people stand

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Eucharistic Prayer B

The people stand

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLift up your hearts.PeopleWe lift them to the Lord.CelebrantLet us give thanks to the Lord our God.PeopleIt is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said

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:

# Sanctus and Benedictus S130

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.

The people remain standing as they are able

Celebrant

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

Franz Schubert

Basque Carol

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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

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

Celebrant

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, blessed John, 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,

People and Celebrant

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.

#### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread after which the following is sung

#### **Fraction Anthem S164**

Jesus, Lamb of God: Have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins: Have mercy on us. Jesus, redeemer of the world: Give us your peace.

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's Table. If you are not receiving, you are invited to come forward for a blessing (indicated by crossing your arms over your chest).

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [Amen.] or with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [*Amen.*] The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [*Amen.*]

**Communion Motet** *The truth from above* 

Sung by the choir

This is the truth sent from above, the truth of God, the God of love, therefore don't turn me from your door, but hearken all both rich and poor.

The first thing which I do relate is that God did man create; the next thing which to you I'll tell woman was made with man to dwell.

Thus we were heirs to endless woes, til God the Lord did interpose; and so a promise soon did run that he would redeem us by his Son.

#### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

Arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams

And at that season of the year our blest Redeemer did appear; he here did live, and here did preach, and many thousands he did teach.

Thus he in love to us behaved, to show us how we must be saved; and if you want to know the way, be pleased to hear what he did say.



Franz Schubert

#### Celebrant and People

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.

#### THE BLESSING

The Celebrant

May Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the ⊯blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.** 

#### THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon gives the Dismissal.

*People* Thanks be to God.

#### **Processional Hymn 57**

Helmsley



# **UPCOMING SERVICES AND NOTICES**

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Pageant and Eucharist – 3:00 p.m. at St. John's School Gymnasium, Upper Division Campus, 240 S. Plant Ave.

Sung Eucharist with full choir – 6:00 p.m.

Midnight Mass: Sung Eucharist with full choir – 11:00 p.m.

# **Christmas Day**

Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> December

Holy Eucharist, Rite II – 10:00 a.m. With Congregational Carols

# Christmastide Schedule

26<sup>th</sup> December – 6<sup>th</sup> January

✤ The Parish Offices close Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> December and reopen Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> December ✤

Mass in the Chapel on Wednesdays and Thursdays as always but with special mention of the following:

**The Feast of St. Stephen** Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> December – 12:15 p.m. with healing prayers

The Feast of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist (Patronal Feast) Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> December – 12:15 p.m.

> Holy Innocents Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> December — 10:00 a.m.

The Parish Offices close Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> December and reopen Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> January 
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**The Feast of the Most Holy Name of Jesus** Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> January – 12:15 p.m.

> **The Epiphany** Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> January – 12:15 p.m.



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**THE DIOCESE OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA** THE RIGHT REVEREND DOUGLAS FREDERICK SCHARF *VI Bishop of Southwest Florida* 

#### THE WARDENS, VESTRY, AND OFFICERS OF THE PARISH

ELIZABETH S. GRAHAM (2024) Senior Warden

ANDREW M. BROWN (2025) Junior Warden

> DOUGLAS F. ARTHUR *Treasurer*

LAURA V. HOBBY Clerk of the Vestry ROBERT O. ALTER (2026) RODDY D. BELFATTI (2025) CARY R. BROWN (2026) C. TWEED ECKHARD (2025) DONNA A. GEM (2024) JOHN N. GIORDANO (2024) JEFFREY M. HUNT (2026) LISA J. LEAL (2026) JOHN H. MCKAY (2025) STEPHEN B. STRASKE, II (2024)

#### THE CLERGY AND STAFF

THE REVEREND CHRISTIAN M. WOOD XVII Rector

THE REVEREND DALE W. VAN WORMER Associate Priest for Liturgy and Formation

THE REVEREND CHARLES E. CONNELLY Retired Priest in Residence

> SIMON J. MORLEY Organist and Director of Music

> > LAURIE D. LAWTHER Parish Administrator

JANICE A. DE PINTO Parish Secretary RODERICK MORRIS Sexton THE REVEREND JOHN R. PETERSON Rector Emeritus THE REVEREND DONALD P. GOODHEART Retired Priest in Residence

THE REVEREND MARY ALICE LOPEZ Deacon

THE REVEREND TANIA M. WILKES Deacon

HUGH A. R. JEBSON Head of St. John's School

LEE M. LOWRY Director of Communications

AYANA S. GRADY Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries