

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & PARISH DAY SCHOOL

Sun., Dec. 28, 2025 • 11:00 a.m. The First Sunday After Christmas

Music can be found following page 9.

PRELUDE *Divinum Mysterium*

arr. Austin Lovelace

(Please stand as you are able.)

CAROL *Once in Royal David's City (H 102, vs. 1&2)*

M-1

WELCOME

BIDDING PRAYER

Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy: a Savior is born to you. Alleluia.

Unto us a child is born. Alleluia.

Dear People of God: In this Christmas Season, let it be our duty and delight to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger. Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against God until the glorious redemption brought to us by God's holy Child Jesus, and let us make this place glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of this whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for this in our country and in this city.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore. **Amen**.

CAROL Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light (H 91)

M-2

FIRST LESSON (*Please be seated.*)

Genesis 3:1-15

Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, 'You shall

not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die." But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
cursed are you among all animals
and among all wild creatures;
upon your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.
I will put enmity between you and the woman
and between your offspring and hers;
he will strike your head,
and you will strike his heel."

CAROL Of the Father's Love Begotten (H 82)

M-3

SECOND LESSON Isaiah 7: 10-15

God promises that a child shall be conceived who will be known as "God with us."

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, "Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." Then Isaiah said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

CAROL Comfort, Comfort Ye My People (H 67)

M-4

THIRD LESSON Luke 1: 26-35; 38

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

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." 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.

ANTHEM *The Angel Gabriel* Susan McKenzie, handbells

arr. Cathy Moklebust

FOURTH LESSON

Luke 2: 1; 3-7

St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

CAROL O Little Town of Bethlehem (H 78)

M-5

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 2: 8-16

The shepherds go to the manger.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the LORD stood before them, and the glory of the LORD shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the LORD. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the LORD has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

CAROL While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night (H 94)

M-6

SIXTH LESSON Matthew 2: 1-12

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and

scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

`And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,

are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;

for from you shall come a ruler

who is to shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

CAROL What Child Is This (H 115)

M-7

SEVENTH LESSON

John 1: 1-14

St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

CAROL Angels, From the Realm of Glory (H 93) (Please stand as you are able.)

M-8

COLLECT

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. ~ *Romans 15:13*





Text to Give Text "SJEC" to 73256

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *In the Bleak Midwinter* Hannah Wardell, soloist

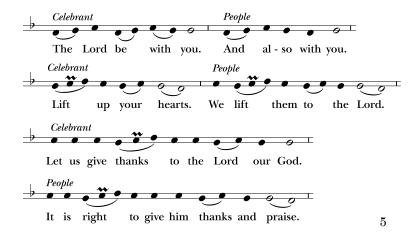
DeCesare

PRESENTATION HYMN The First Nowell (H 109, vs. 1 and refrain)

The First Nowell



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B



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 gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. 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:

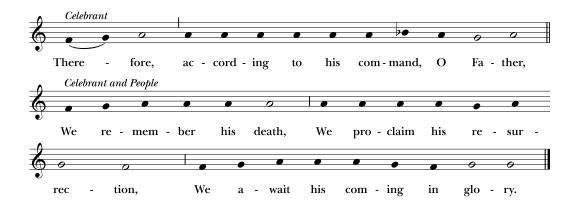
SANCTUS Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Schubert



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.

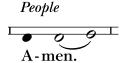
On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had 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."



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 Blessed Virgin Mary, St. 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.



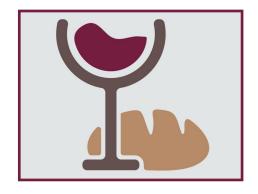
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

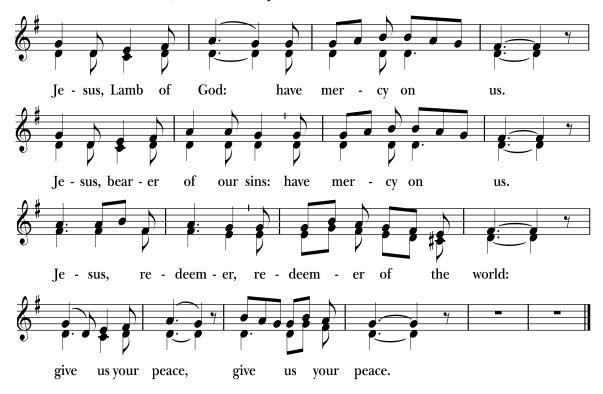
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

(A silence is held.)





The Gifts of God for the People of God.

COMMUNION: God Welcomes You to the Table

This is Christ's Table, and God welcomes us all to be fed and blessed here. All those baptized, regardless of church tradition/denomination, background, or age are invited to receive Communion as members of the Body of Christ. Please let the clergy know if you require a gluten-free wafer. If you are not yet baptized, or wish to receive a Blessing instead of Communion, please cross your hands across your chest and the minister will affirm God's blessing on you. If you are unable to come forward for Communion, please let an usher know so that the clergy may come to you. If you are interested in exploring more of what baptism could mean for you, please speak to Rev. Derek, our Rector, and he would LOVE to talk about baptism with you!

COMMUNION ANTHEM What Child Is This/Child of the Poor Katharina Boser & Scott Geist

Soper

COMMUNION HYMN Lo, How a Rose (H 81)

M-9

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (Please stand.)

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 CHRISTMAS BLESSING

May God, who sent the angels to proclaim the glad news of our Savior's birth, fill you with joy and make you heralds of the Good News. And the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you this day and evermore. **Amen**.

CLOSING HYMN The People Who in Darkness Walked

M-10

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth into the world, bearing the light of Christ! **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE Nöel Suisse

L.C. Daquin



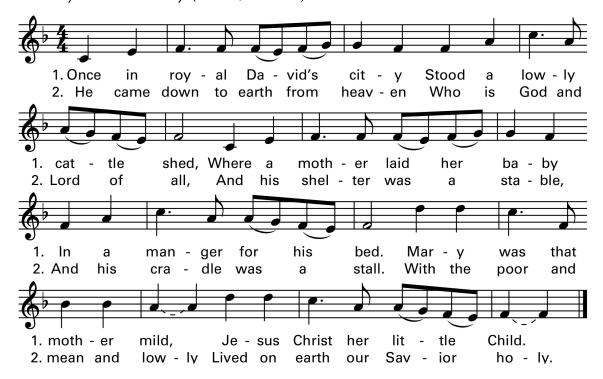
PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS: Deb Avant, Steve Belknap, Jim Bruce, Richard Burrows, Leslie Edmonds, Barbara Epke, Sarah, Theo, & Josefine Fahrendorf, Loretta Gleason, Sunny Good, Marti Guillet, Janis, Jim, Rose Jones, Kathryn, Ruth Keimig, Kelly, Mary Jo Kenney, Mike Kinzel, John Kreft, Terry Kreft, Mary Krzos, Tom & Dorothy Linthicum, Glenda Lovchik, Judy Lovchik, Jean Marlow, Brent & Meg McDorman, Pat Merson, Charles H. Miller, Gordon Nahas, Brennan O'Connor & Family, Kathy O'Dunne, Jean Purcell, Rev. C. Dean Pugh, Robert Richardson, Roland Russoli, Clay Shiflet, Teresa Sinkovich, Andrea Squire, Marion Walker, Allison Ward, Victoria Weimer, Dylan Williams, and Maria, Taylor, & Felicia Wray.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: Celestral Marrow; Jeannie Richardson

FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY OVERSEAS & THEIR FAMILIES: LCDR Matthew Kircher, USN

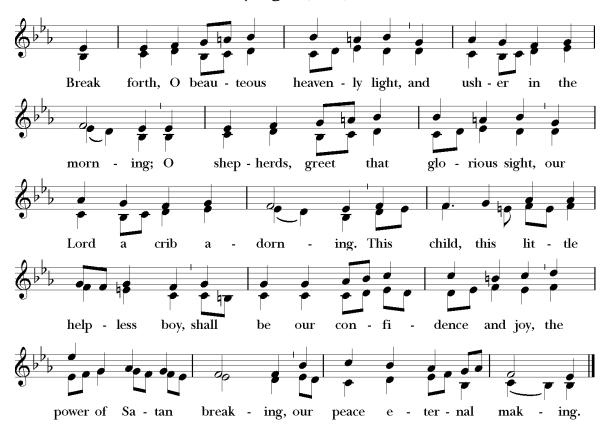
To have someone included on our prayer list, you may: Contact the Parish Office by phone or email your prayer request to Tracey Stone at tstone@stjohnsec.org. Names will remain on the prayer list for 30 days. After the initial 30 days, if you wish to have a name stay on the list, please re-submit your request.

(12.22.2025; Please see Blessings for the most up-to-date list.)



M-2 Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light (H 91)

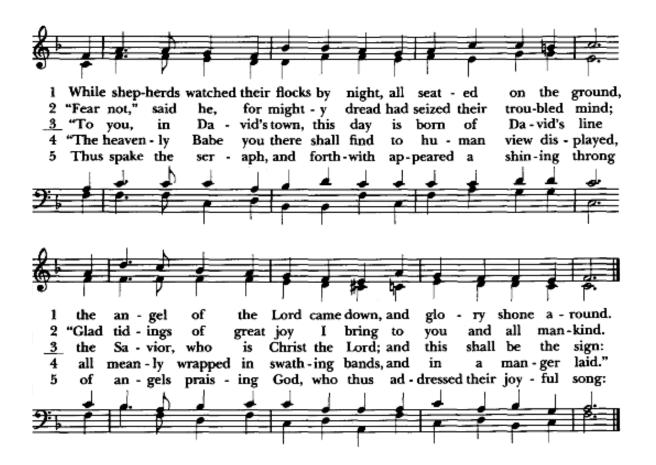
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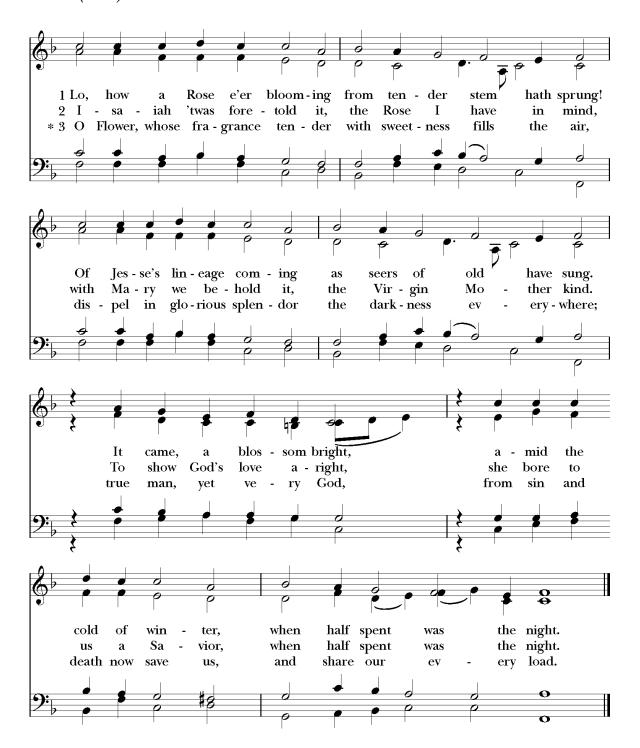




6 "All glory be to God on high and on the earth be peace; good will henceforth from heaven to men begin and never cease."











ALL ARE WELCOME AT ST. JOHN'S

Wherever you find yourself on your faith journey; whatever you are believing or doubting; whether you are married, partnered, or single; whatever your physical or mental abilities; no matter your age or economic status, race or ethnicity, sexual orientation, or gender identity: we welcome you here to be met by God, who already knows you and loves you.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & PARISH DAY SCHOOL

9120 Frederick Road 🔊 Ellicott City, MD 21042

Church Office: 410-461-7793 Clergy On-call Phone: 443-538-2806
Church Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., or by appointment; Fri. Closed www.stjohnsec.org www.stjohnspds.org

WEEKEND WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturdays, 5:00 p.m.: Contemplative Worship, Historic Church Sundays, 9:00 a.m.: Family-friendly, Contemporary Worship, All Saints Hall Sundays, 11:00 a.m.: Traditional Worship, Historic Church (11:00 a.m. is livestreamed whenever possible on YouTube — https://bit.ly/SJEC-YouTube) 주일 성찬예배 오전 10:30, 한국어 성찬예배는 Resurrection 채플에서 드립니다.

Find more worship information at https://www.stjohnsec.org

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. Derek H. Miller Rector

The Venerable Ruth Elder
Deacon

The Rev. Michael Looney
Transitional Deacon

The Rev. J. Joseph Hart Assisting Clergy

The Rev. Gigie Sijera-Grant
Assisting Clergy

Ms. Georgi Funderburk *Minister of Faith & Practice for Children & Youth*

Ms. Kathy Hahn *Director of Finance*

Mr. Warren Harris
Facilities Tech

Mr. Brad Jones *Director of Facilities*

Ms. Annie Kao *Stewardship Assistant*

Mr. Justin Pechulis
Director of Music Ministries & Organist

Mr. Mike Ritonia
Facilities Tech

Ms. Tracey StoneDirector of Communications

VESTRY

Gordon Knox Senior Warden

Scott Geist *Junior Warden*

Doug Hall
Treasurer

Clare Brooks
Registrar



Scott Geist Katie Kelel Lucia Martin Marsha Trant Class of 2026

Susan Fedors
David Hale
Kim Kerry
Janet Loughran
Class of 2027

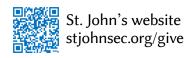
Paul Casasco Rick Conover Tim Loomis Dawn Rea Class of 2028

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