



Welcome to St. John's Church

The Fourth Sunday of Advent:

December 20th, 2020

The health and safety of our congregation and community is the highest priority for St. John's. As long as the Town of Washington and surrounding villages are in a Red Zone for new virus infections, we will close the church to the public and "live stream" our 10:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship on the St. John's Facebook page, at: <https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsChurchWashingtonCT> and the St. John's YouTube page, at: [St. John's YouTube Page](#).

10:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist, Rite Two

The Ministry of the Word

Prelude *Savior Of The Nations, Come* Robert Lind (2010)

Savior Of The Nations, Come J S Bach

Opening Hymn *"Come, thou long-expected Jesus"* Hymnal 66

Salutation Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

His mercy endures forever.

The Collect of Purity BCP 355

Kyrie Celebrant: Lord, have mercy

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

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy

Collect BCP 212

First Reading 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Psalms 89:1-4, 19-26

- 1 Your love, O LORD, for ever will I sing; *
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.*
- 2 For 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 for ever, *
and preserve your throne for all generations.'"*
- 19 You 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.*
- 20 I have found David my servant; *
with my holy oil have I anointed him.*
- 21 My hand will hold him fast *
and my arm will make him strong.*
- 22 No enemy shall deceive him, *
nor any wicked man bring him down.*
- 23 I will crush his foes before him *
and strike down those who hate him.*
- 24 My faithfulness and love shall be with him, *
and he shall be victorious through my Name.*
- 25 I shall make his dominion extend *
from the Great Sea to the River.*
- 26 He will say to me, 'You are my Father, *
my God, and the rock of my salvation.'*

Second Reading Romans 16:25-27
Gradual Hymn "O day of peace that dimly shines" Hymnal 597
The Gospel Reading Luke 1:26-38
Sermon "The Prophets of Old: Isaiah" Fr. Geoff, Priest-in-Charge
The Nicene Creed BCP 358

The Prayers of the People, the congregational refrain is: **"Come, Lord Jesus"**

The Confession and Absolution BCP 360

The Peace BCP 360

The Great Thanksgiving

Offertory Hymn *O Thou That Tellest Good Tidings To Zion* Handel

Eucharistic Prayer A BCP 361

The Lord's Prayer BCP 364

The Breaking of the Bread Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is celebrated, we desire to offer our praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest desire that we may always be united to you. And since we cannot now receive you physically, we ask you to come spiritually into our hearts. We embrace you with all the affections of our souls, confident that nothing can ever separate us from the love God, in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

The Postcommunion Prayer and Blessing BCP 365

Recessional Hymn "Go Forth For God" verse 4 Hymnal 347

Postlude *Savior Of The Nations, Come* (another setting) J S Bach

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

78 Green Hill Road

Washington, CT 06793

WORSHIP MINISTERS TODAY:

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, Priest-in-Charge

Jon Lafleur, Organist

Melissa Schipul, Soloist

Hunter Brown, Reader

Laura Daly, Veejay

Susie Markert Altar Flowers

MB Witt, Altar Guild

Parish Office Telephone: (860) 868-2527

St. John's Website: <http://stjohnswashington.com/>

St. John's Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsChurchWashingtonCT>



St. John's YouTube Page:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoOwTnglRss4BT8VwFul4gg>

Email: stjohnschurch@snet.net

CHANGE OF LITURGICAL SEASONS

Advent is a season of the [liturgical year](#) observed in most [Christian denominations](#) as a time of expectant waiting and preparation for both the celebration of the [Nativity of Christ](#) at [Christmas](#) and the return of Christ at the [Second Coming](#). Advent is the beginning of the [liturgical year](#) in [Western Christianity](#). The term "Advent" is also used in [Eastern Orthodoxy](#) for the 40-day [Nativity Fast](#), which has practices different from those in the West. The term is adopted from Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming; arrival", translated from the [Greek *parousia*](#), which in the [New Testament](#) is the term used for the [Second Coming of Christ](#). The four weeks of Advent are often marked by a set of so-called Advent candles, lit each week to mark the progress towards the coming Kingdom of Heaven. Advent was traditionally a penitential season, like Lent, often made visible with purple vestments, dire scriptural readings, forbidden use of the Gloria, and traditional sermon topics on death, last judgment, heaven and hell! Traditions change though, and more and more these days, Advent is viewed as a season of 'preparation,' not penitence, for the coming of the Christ, often made visible now with vestments or candles of blue, though liturgical colors are never mentioned in the American Prayer Books, and are simply local customs.