

# Welcome to St. John's Church



## The Second Sunday of Advent

*December 5, 2021*

*8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.*

### **WELCOME TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP!**

*The health and safety of the most vulnerable in our congregation and community remains the highest concern to St. John's. Remember that many in our communities are not vaccinated; all of those under 5 years old, those who are immuno-compromised, and those who have chosen not to be vaccinated for other reasons. While many are now vaccinated, remember that even a small percentage of those vaccinated can contract the corona virus, and while their symptoms may be milder, they can also spread the virus to loved ones and friends back home. We have not yet reached herd immunity as a nation. So please remain vigilant in safety protocols, mindful of the risk in our community, masked indoors, social distancing and getting vaccinated if possible. And be assured that we will continue to 'live stream' our worship to both our St. John's YouTube Page and our St. John's Facebook page.*

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

*The Liturgy for the Proclamation of the Word of God  
and Celebration of the Holy Communion*

*St. John's asks everyone to wear masks inside the church, whether vaccinated or not.*

**Prelude**      *Every Valley Shall Be Exalted*      G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

**The Call to Worship with the tolling of the church bell**

**Processional Hymn # 54**      *Savior Of The Nations, Come!*

- 1 Savior of the nations, come!  
Virgin's Son, make here your home.  
Marvel now, both heaven and earth,  
that the Lord chose such a birth.*
- 2 Wondrous birth! Oh, wondrous child  
of the Virgin undefiled!  
Mighty God and Mary's son,  
eager now his race to run!*
- 3 Thus on earth the Word appears,  
gracing his created spheres;  
hence to death and hell descends,  
then the heavenly throne ascends.*
- 4 Come, O Father's saving Son,  
who o'er sin the victory won.  
Boundless shall your kingdom be;  
grant that we its glories see.*

## The Word of God

*The people standing, the Celebrant may say*

*Celebrant*      Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People*      ***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.***

*The Celebrant says*

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Kyrie**      *Mass for Three Voices*      William Byrd (c. 1540-1623)

*Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

## **The Collect of the Day**

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

*People*        ***And with thy spirit.***

*Celebrant*    Let us pray.

*The Celebrant says the Collect.*

Merciful God, who sent thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

## **The Lessons**

*INTRODUCTION: From the Hebrew Scriptures, we hear a message of encouragement to the people of Jerusalem, a vision of the gracious Lord God bringing his people home from exile.*

### **A Reading from the Book of the prophet Baruch (5:1-9)**

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; 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 out 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.

*After each Reading, the Reader may say*

The Word of the Lord.

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

**Psalm 126**     *the choir sings Anglican chant by Edward Rimbault (1816-1876)*

- 1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, \*  
then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \*  
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- 3 Then they said among the nations, \*  
“The Lord has done great things for them.”
- 4 The Lord has done great things for us, \*  
and we are glad indeed.
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, \*  
like the watercourses of the Negev.
- 6 Those who sowed with tears \*  
will reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \*  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

*INTRODUCTION: In this reading, St. Paul expresses confidence that God will complete, at the end of time, the transformation to godliness already begun in the followers of Jesus.*

**A Reading from the Epistle to the Philippians (1:3-11)**

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God’s grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

*After each Reading, the Reader may say*  
The Word of the Lord.

*People*     ***Thanks be to God.***

**Gradual Hymn # 67**     *Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*

***1***     ***Comfort, comfort ye my people,***

*Speak ye peace, thus saith our God;  
comfort those who sit in darkness  
mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.*

*Speak ye to Jerusalem  
of the peace that waits for them;  
tell her that her sins I cover,  
and her warfare now is over.*

*2 Hark, the voice of one that crieth  
in the desert far and near,  
calling us to new repentance  
since the kingdom now is here.*

*Oh, that warning cry obey!  
Now prepare for God a way;  
let the valleys rise to meet him  
and the hills bow down to greet him.*

*3 Make ye straight what long was crooked,  
make the rougher places plain;  
let your hearts be true and humble,  
as befits his holy reign.  
For the glory of the Lord  
now o'er earth is shed abroad;  
and all flesh shall see the token  
that the word is never broken.*

*Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

*INTRODUCTION: The Gospel of Luke sets the prophetic ministry of John the Baptist in the context of its time in history.*

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to St. Luke (3:1-6)**

*People                      Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice

of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People            Praise be to thee, O Christ.*

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

## **The Apostles’ Creed**

*Officiant and People together, all standing*

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;***

***And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.***

***He descended into hell***

***The third day he rose again from the dead.***

***He ascended into heaven,***

***and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.***

***From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.***

***I believe in the Holy Ghost,***

***the holy catholic Church,***

***the communion of saints,***

***the forgiveness of sins,***

***the resurrection of the body,***

***and the life everlasting. Amen.***

## **The Prayers of the People**

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ’s Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Hosam, the Archbishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem; Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Bartholomew, Patriarch of Constantinople; Francis, Bishop of Rome; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; and Ian and Laura, our Bishops, Fr. Geoff, our priest, for all the members of this congregation and the members of the Bishop's Transition Committee, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land especially António, Secretary General of the United Nations, Joe, our President, Ned our Governor, Jim, the First Selectman of the town of Washington, and the members of our Congresses and Courts, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor Bob Futh in hospital, Janet Chenery in rehabilitation, Kathy Coe, Diana Clark, Chris Smith, and Ann Hodgman's son, John, his wife, Maisie in hospital, and their newborn child in natal intensive care, and all who are housebound especially Joan Beattie, and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

We pause now so that we may add our own petitions or thanksgivings, either silently in our hearts or aloud in our midst.

*Additional petitions and thanksgivings may be included here.*

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, especially the more than 1,000 Americans who have needlessly died this week of the global pandemic, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John, our Patron, and all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen**

## **Confession of Sin**

*The Celebrant says*

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*Minister and People*

***Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.***

*The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **The Peace**

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*      ***And with thy spirit.***

*Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## **The Holy Communion**

*The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with one of the sentences of Scripture.*

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,  
an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

**Offertory Ant.**

*O Jerusalem*

Michael Wise (c. 1648-1687)



## The Great Thanksgiving

*The Celebrant faces the congregation and sings or says*

The Lord be with you.

*People*      ***And with thy spirit.***

*Celebrant*   Lift up your hearts.

*People*      ***We lift them up unto the Lord.***

*Celebrant*   Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

*People*      ***It is meet and right so to do.***

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Because thou didst send thy 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 with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying:

**Sanctus**      *Mass for Three Voices*      William Byrd (c. 1540-1623)

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:*

*Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.*

*Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.*

*Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

*The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the consecration prayer*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant,

which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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 Breaking of the Bread**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung or said*

**Alleluia.** Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

**Agnus Dei**      *Mass for Three Voices*      William Byrd (c. 1540-1623)

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.*

*The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer*

***We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.***

*Facing the people, 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 of all ages and denominations are welcome to receive Communion in this place. This is God's house and the Lord's table, not ours*

*Communion will be distributed in one kind only, the bread, and will be received in the pews, as the Celebrant moves along to share. If an attendee does not wish to receive Communion, they need only to cross their hands over their chest so to signify. Others may receive as they wish, standing, kneeling, or seated. Please wait until the Celebrant has passed before removing your masks and consuming the bread.*

**Communion Hymns # 304**      *I Come With You To Meet My Lord*

***1 I come with joy to meet my Lord,  
forgiven, loved, and free,  
in awe and wonder to recall  
his life laid down for me.***

***2 I come with Christians far and near  
to find, as all are fed,  
the new community of love  
in Christ's communion bread.***

***3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us  
share,  
each proud division ends.***

*That love that made us makes us one,  
and strangers now are friends.*

*4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord.*

*His presence, always near,  
is in such friendship better known:  
we see, and praise him here.*

*5 Together met, together bound,  
we'll go our different ways,  
and as his people in the world,  
we'll live and speak his praise.*

*for online worshippers, and for those who for other reasons choose not to receive, here is the  
Prayer for Spiritual Communion:*

### **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 are not now receiving you physically, we ask you to come into our hearts spiritually. 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.*

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

*Let us pray.*

*The People may join in saying this prayer*

***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 Bishop when present, or the Priest, gives the blessing*

*The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.***

**Recessional Hymn # 65**      *Prepare The Way, O Zion*

*1 Prepare the way, O Zion,  
your Christ is drawing near!  
Let every hill and valley*

*a level way appear.*

*Greet One who comes in glory,  
foretold in sacred story.*

*Oh, blest is Christ that came  
in God's most holy Name.*

*2 He brings God's rule, O Zion;  
he comes from heaven above.  
His rule is peace and freedom,  
and justice, truth, and love.  
Lift high your praise resounding,  
for grace and joy abounding.*

*Refrain*

*3 Fling wide your gates, O Zion;  
your Savior's rule embrace.  
His tidings of salvation  
proclaim in every place.  
All lands will bow before him,  
their voices will adore him.*

*Refrain*

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People Thanks be to God.*

## **Organ Postlude**

*The flowers on the High Altar today are given to the Glory of God*

*Anyone may reserve altar flowers on a particular Sunday for memorials.  
The Altar Flower Chart is in the Parish Hall or on the SJ Google Drive.*

## **Worship Ministers Today:**

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, *Celebrant*

Tom Brand, *Organist & Choirmaster*

John Magee, *8:00 Reader*

Mary Davis, *10:00 Reader*

Joseph Claro, *Veejay (VJ)*

Susie Magee, MB Witt: *Altar Guild*

**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**78 Green Hill Road**  
**Washington, CT 06793**

**Staff**

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, *Priest-in-Charge*  
Tom Brand, *Organist & Choirmaster*  
Dawn Rosiello, *Parish Administrator*  
Joan Burgess, *Foundation Administrator*

**Vestry**

David Gillespie, Susan McFeely, *Wardens*  
Joan M. Beattie, *Clerk*  
Laura Daly, *Clerk Pro-Temp*  
Larry Littlefield, *Treasurer*  
Hunter Brown, *Assistant Treasurer*  
*Class of 2021*  
Robert Futh, Larry Littlefield, MB Witt  
*Class of 2022*  
Sara Coles, Mary Davis, Andris Kalnins  
*Class of 2023*  
Laura Daly, Veronique Dulack, Joseph Claro

**Diocesan Delegates:** Sara Coles, MB Witt.

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