

ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY EPISCOPAL CHURCH



CELEBRATION SERVICE THE HOLY EUCHARIST—RITE II

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023

10:45 A.M.

*You are welcomed whether you are a guest or a member,
and we invite you to join us in our worship of God.*

*If you are worshipping with us for the first time, please introduce yourself to our clergy following the service.
We also invite you to please take a moment to sign our Guest Book
which can be found at the Welcome Center.*

This Service Bulletin contains all that you will need to worship with us this morning.

*If you have a prayer request, please write it in the book that is located at the prayer desk just outside the back
of the sanctuary.*

*Please note that this worship service will be recorded and live streamed.
If you wish, you may remain out of the camera's view by sitting in the Chapel
(stained glass window area.)*

We want to honor and respect your privacy.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*We are an enthusiastically welcoming and inviting Christian community
committed to the unity of all people with God through Christ.*

DECLARACIÓN DE NUESTRA MISIÓN

*Somos una comunidad Cristiana que da la bienvenida con entusiasmo y acogedor,
comprometida con la unidad de toda la gente con Dios a través de Cristo.*

Welcome to St. Augustine of Canterbury Episcopal Church!

We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us during this Advent Season.

During these four weeks before Christmas, the Church stops to prepare for the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. Advent bridges the past and the future, and brings them into the present. Advent is a time of the Christ who was, who is, and who is to come. Christ is seen not only as a child born of Mary, crucified and resurrected, nor as the fulfillment of all things, but as an active presence here and now. Christ stirs power from the past and hope from the future, to begin his Messianic reign in the present, which begins in the hearts of those who follow the Christ.

Even as we look at our liturgical environment, we see that it echoes what nature herself displays. Indeed, Advent is that inky blue hour between night and day, between the deep purple darkness and the light, when we know in our hearts that indeed “the dawn from on high will break upon us.” It is the messenger before the day of God, as John the baptizer was the messenger before Jesus, calling people in darkness to increase in light of love, and bear fruit worthy of repentance.

It is only through our waiting and preparation, listening to the Word proclaimed, and partaking of the Sacraments that we are able to reply with Mary, “Let it be with me according to your word.” Only then will the golden dawn of the future for which we yearn begin to break forth in all of its splendor.

If this is your first time in the Episcopal Church, everything you need to follow worship is in this Worship Guide. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask anyone around you for help.

I hope to meet you before or after worship but just in case I do not, please fill out the attendance sheet in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate so we can connect with you.

Again welcome to you and your family.

Happy Advent,

Fr. Joseph C. Alsay +
Rector

+ THE GATHERING RITE +

Voluntary: “Meditation from Thaïs”

Massenet

Welcome and Announcements

See Insert

Moment of Silence

At this time you are invited to reflect, meditate, pray, or engage in other silent activity. At the tolling of the bell, please stand and face the entrance.

Opening Acclamation

Presider Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People **You come to your people and set them free. Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Deacon Repent, for the kingdom of God has come near. – *Matthew 3:2*

Deacon Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.**

Absolution

Presider 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.

People **Amen.**



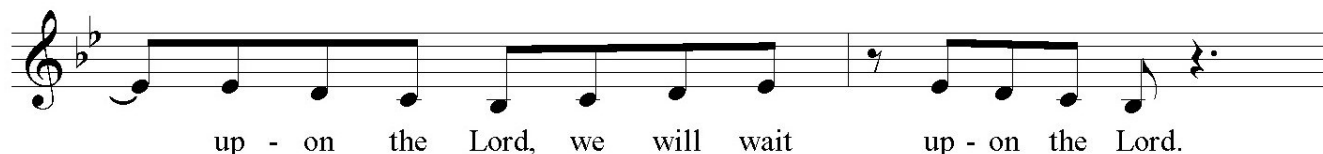
The congregation is invited to follow the Ministers of the Liturgy and place your raffia twist in the creche.

Gathering Song: "Everlasting God"

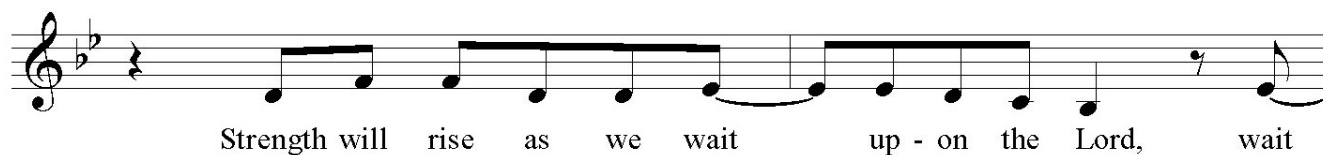
Chris Tomlin



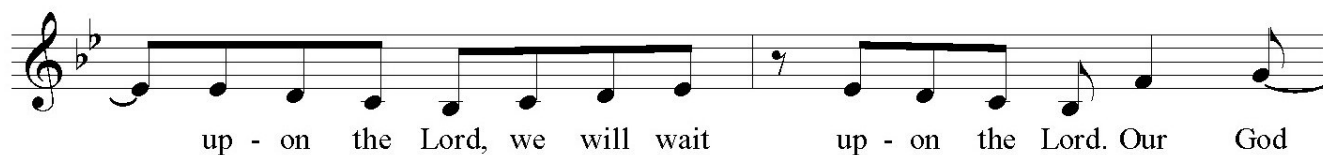
Strength will rise as we wait up - on the Lord, wait



up - on the Lord, we will wait up - on the Lord.



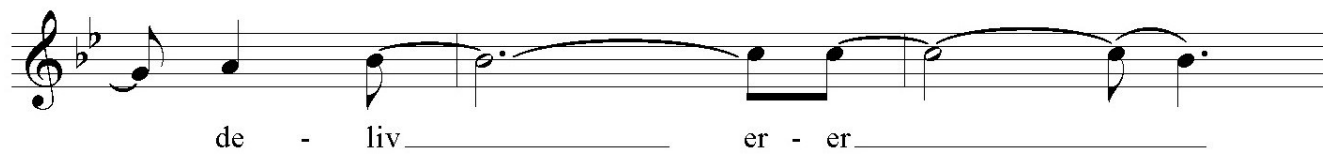
Strength will rise as we wait up - on the Lord, wait



up - on the Lord, we will wait up - on the Lord. Our God



You reign for - ev er; Our hope our strong



de - liv er - er



You are the ev - er - last - ing God the ev - er - last - ing God
You're the de - fen - der of the weak You com - fort those in need



You do not faint, You won't grow wear - y.
You lift us up on wings like eag - les.

Gathering Hymn: "The King Shall Come"

Text: *Greek; tr. John Brownlie*
Tune: *St. Stephen, Williams Jones*



The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri um - phant breaks;
Not as of old, a lit - tle child, to bear, and fight, and die,
The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and earth's dark night is past;
and let the end - less bliss be - gin, by wear - y saints fore - told,
The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings:



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn - ing sky.
O haste the ris - ing of that morn, the day that e'er shall last.
when right shall tri - umph o - ver wrong and truth shall be ex - tolled.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy peo - ple pray, come quick - ly King of kings.

Collect for the Day

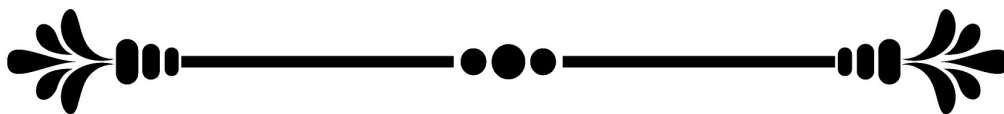
Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your 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 lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Children's Moment

During the singing of O Come, O Come Emmanuel, the children are invited to gather around the Advent Candles at the crèche.



Hymn of Light: "O come, O come, Emmanuel" (v. 5 & 6)

Tune: *Veni, Veni, Emmanuel*



O come thou key of Da - - - vid come
O come, thou Day - spring from on high



and o - pen wide your heav'n - - - ly home.
and cheer us by thy draw - - - ing nigh.



Make safe the way that leads on high
Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,



and close the path to mis - - - er - y.
and death's dark sha - dow put to flight.



Re - joice! Re - joice! E - man - - u - el



shall come to thee, O Is - - - ra - el.

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

Advent family Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. You call all nations to walk in you and to seek your ways of peace and justice, for night is past, and the dawning of your coming is near. As we light this candle, rouse us from sleep and kindle in us the fire of your justice and righteousness. That when you come, we will welcome you into our hearts and homes: for you are our light and salvation.

People **Blessed be God forever.**

After the Hymn of Light, the children are invited to follow the Cross and attend Children's Chapel. The children will return during the "Peace."

Hymn of Light: "Light Three Candles"

Wayne L Wold



Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is-ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.

+ THE LITURGY OF THE WORD +

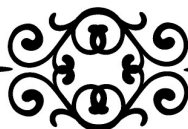
The First Lesson: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Lector A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.
They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.
For I the LORD love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,

and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.
I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

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

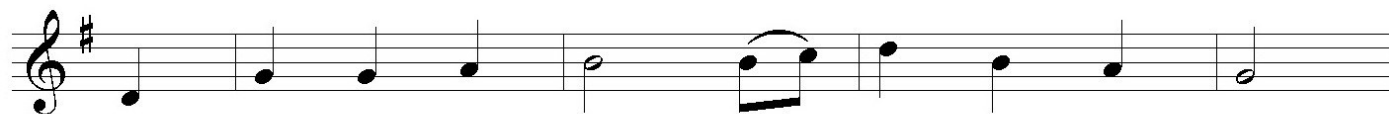


Please stand.

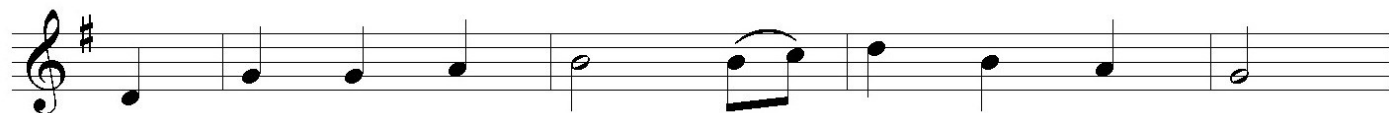
Gospel Acclamation: "Ye Servants of God"

Text: *Charles Wesley*

Tune: *Paderborn*



Ye ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim,
God rul - eth on high, al - might - y to save;
Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne!
Then let us a - dore, and give him his right:



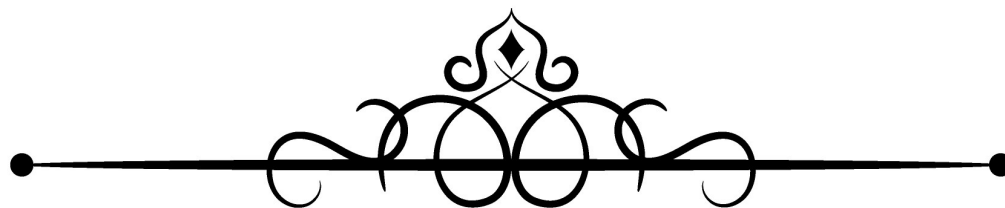
and pub - lish a - broad his won - der - ful Name;
and still he is nigh: his pres - ence we have.
Let all cry a - loud and hon - or the Son.
All glo - ry and power, all wis - dom and might,



the Name all vic - to - rious of Je - sus ex - tol:
The great con - gre - ga - tion his tri - umph shall sing,
The prais - es of Je - sus the an - gels pro - claim,
and hon - or and bless - ing, with an - gels a - bove,



his king - dom is glo - rious; He rules o - ver all.
as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus our King.
fall down on their fa - ces, and wor - ship the Lamb.
and thanks nev - er ceas - ing and in - fi - nite love.



Please remain standing.

Holy Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord according to Matthew.

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

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.

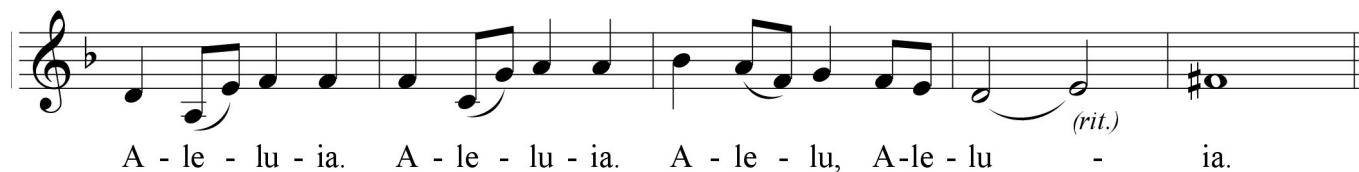
This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Gospel Response: "Alleluia"

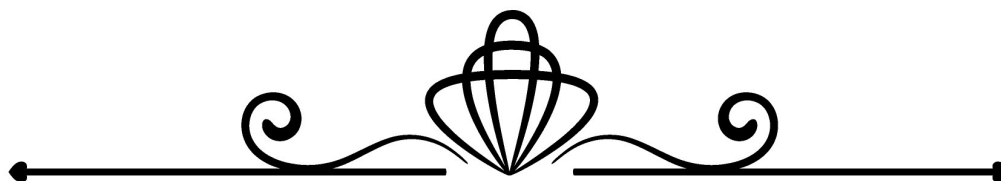
S. Chard



Please be seated.

Sermon

The Reverend Joseph Alsay



Please stand.


During the Season of Advent, we will sing our faith using a Kenyan form of the Creed thus uniting us with Christians of other places, times and cultures. *Ninasadiki means "I believe"

Nicene Creed: "Ninasadiki"


Tune: Nasadiki



I be - lieve in God, the al - might-y, NI - NA - SA - DI - KI,
And con - ceived by the Ho - ly Spir - it,
Tru - ly hu - man, he lived a - mong us,
On the third day he rose tri - um - phant,
He shall come once more then to judge us,
I ac - knowl - edge one ho - ly bap - tism,



who cre - a - ted earth and the heav - ens, NI - NA - SA - DI - KI,
he was born of the vir - gin Mar - y,
and he suf - fered much un - der Pi - late,
as was proph - e - sied in the scrip - tures,
and his king - dom shall have no end - ing,
and for - give - ness, par - don for sin - ners,



and in Je - sus, God's son from heav - en, NI - NA - SA - DI - KI,
to the earth he came as a ba - by,
he was cru - ci - fied, died, was bur - ied,
he as - cend - ed then up to heav - en,
I be - lieve in one Ho - ly Spir - it,
I ex - pect one great res - ur - rec - tion,



of e - ter - nal love, the be - got - ten, NI - NA - SA - DI - KI.
born for us and for our sal - va - tion,
he de - scend - ed down in - to hell,
and shall come a - gain in great glo - ry,
I be - lieve in one ho - ly church,
and the life of the world to come,

Prayers of the People

During the season of Advent, we invite you to write your prayers on the slips of paper provided in the envelope holders in front of each chair. Please bring your prayers forward with you as you receive communion and deposit them in the receptacles at the head of the center aisle.

Peace

Presider God will speak peace to his people, to those who turn to him with their hearts
The peace of our Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

+ THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARISTIC MEAL +

Please be seated.

Offertory Sentence

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due God's Name; bring offerings and come into God's courts. *Psalm 96:8*

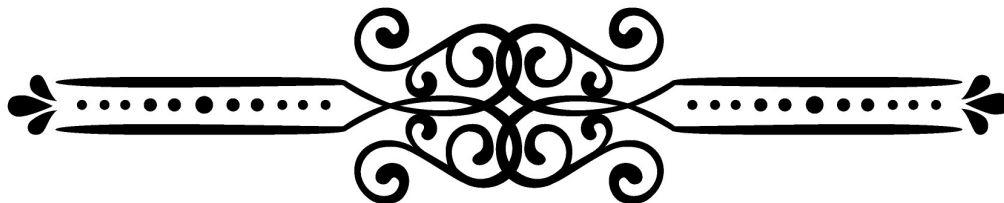
During the Offering in Song, please sign the Canterbury Connection Cards in the service bulletin and kindly drop it in the wicker basket with your offering.

To submit your offering electronically, text the amount you would like to give to 405-645-6608 or go to "bit.ly/Give SAC" in your browser and follow the instructions.

Thank You.

Offertory: "As the Deer and How Great Thou Art Medley"

arr. Justice/Barnwell



Please stand.

Presentation Song: "Soon and Very Soon"

Tune: *Very Soon*



1 Soon and ver - y soon
2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
3 No more dy - in' there,
4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon



Hal-le - lu - jah, hal-le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Please remain standing.
The Great Thanksgiving

Tune: *O Come All Ye Faithful*

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And with you His servant.**

Presider Lift up your hearts unto the Lord
People **With hearts uplifted, thanks to Him we render:
With joy we come before Him.
In gratefulness implore Him.
With thankful hearts adore Him evermore!**

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and Father, through Jesus Christ your Son. For he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh, he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world to open for us the way of salvation.

Confident that your promise will be fulfilled, we now watch for the day when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.

And so we join our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven to proclaim your glory for ever praising you as we sing,

Sanctus

Tune: *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord! God of hosts, by all adored!
Heav'n and earth cannot contain all the glory of your name!**

**Hail, Hosanna, God most high! Blest is He who now draws nigh.
In the name of God the King! Hallelujahs glad we sing;**

Hail, Hosanna! Praises due, be forever, Lord, to you.

Please stand or kneel.
Eucharistic Prayer 3

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us. We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

**Dying, you destroyed our death,
Rising, you restored our life,
Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with the blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph, Saint Augustine of Canterbury, and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Blessed are you now and forever. AMEN.

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

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.**

**Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo,
santificado sea tu Nombre,
venga tu reino,
hágase tu voluntad,
en la tierra como en el cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.
Perdona nuestras ofensas,
como también nosotros perdonamos
a los que nos ofenden.
No nos dejes caer en tentación
y líbranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria,
ahora y por siempre. Amén.**

Fraction Anthem: "Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel"

Tune: *Veni, Veni, Emmanuel*



Re - joice! Re - joice! E - man - - - u - el



shall come to thee, O Is - - - - ra - el.

Communion Distribution

All Baptized are invited to receive the Holy Meal at the Lord's Table.

For Communion, come forward as the ushers release you from your seat.

If you wish to receive Communion under both kinds, please receive a napkin from an usher. The bread will be dipped in the wine for you by one of the clergy, then placed on the napkin. After consuming the bread, please place the napkin in one of the wicker receptacles.

Continue down the outside aisle to return to your seat.

Please note that gluten-free bread is available for those who request it.

Kindly let the usher know if you need the clergy to bring the bread to you.

If you wish to only receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest.

Altar Prayer

After receiving communion, please feel free to kneel at the Altar Rail and take time for personal prayer and reflection.

Communion Meditation: "Just As I Am Communion Medley"

arr. Weaver



Post-Communion Hymn: "People Look East"

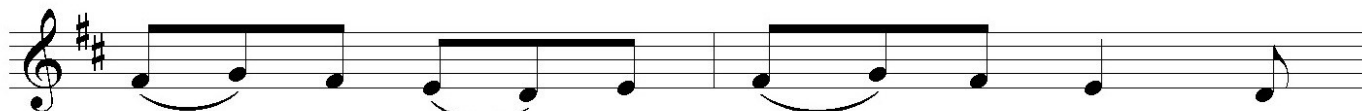
Marty Haugen



Peo - ple look east the time is near of the crown - ing
Fur - rows be glad, though earth is bare, one more seed is
Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that
Stars keep the watch when night is dim one more light the
An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new



of the year make your house fair as you are ab - le
plant - ed there: give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
must be filled. Ev - en the hour when wings are fro - zen
bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
light to earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum - ming



trim the hearth and set the tab - le
that in course the flow - er may flour - ish.
God for fledg - ling time has cho - sen.
bright as sun and moon to - geth - er.
with the word the Lord is com - ing.



Peo - ple look east and sing to - day: love the guest is on the way.
Peo - ple look east and sing to - day: love the rose is on the way.
Peo - ple look east and sing to - day: love the bird is on the way.
Peo - ple look east and sing to - day: love, the star, is on the way.
Peo - ple look east and sing to - day: love, the Lord, is on the way.



+ THE SENDING RITE +

Please stand.

Post-Communion Prayer

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Presider May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever.

People **Amen.**

Dismissal

Deacon As we await our coming Savior, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary: “Wie Schön Leuchtet der Morgenstern”

Johann Pachelbel

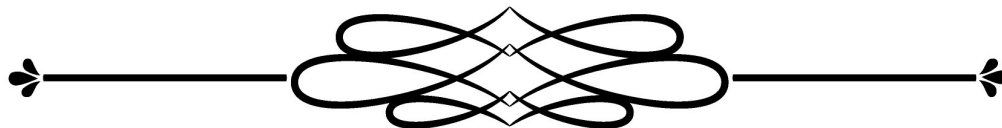
You are cordially invited to the Parish Hall following the service, so that we may get to know you.

We invite those who are celebrating birthdays or anniversaries to gather in the side chapel after the service.

Birthday & Anniversary Blessing

DOK Let us pray.

People **O God, our days are in your hand: Look with favor we pray, on those who begin another year. Grant that your wisdom, grace, love, and strength may continue to be with them all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



+ PRAYER LIST +

For those with medical and other concerns: *Maxine Grayson, Collin Wilbur, Debra Greene Jolly, Erlinda Layman, Nahomi Gudino, John Wehr, Megan Posey, JonEvah Murray, Cornerstone Counseling and Consulting, Traci Eliot, Breanna Troutman, Shary Weis, Bill Landis, Reggie Eging, Kris Wade, Mahogany Brown, Leanne Hoffbeck, Lynn England, AimeeAnn, Jim Davidson, Anita Kirkpatrick, Angela & Ron Cochran, Judy Spencer, Ann Merritt, Sandy and Bill Hodges, David King, Evelyn Wehr, Bill Collins, Richard Stuhr, Jim Emig, Lee Johnson, Edith Kenney, Evelyn Thrower, Bill Kerr, Judy Reeder, Steve Bauer, Robby Housh, Wyatt Didamo, Barbara Traylor-Lane, Valerie Lewis, Camilla Manning, Philip Worrell, Bill Johnson, Scott Mills, Tess Wade, Michael Parks, Allen Weaver, Kermit Jones, Inna Jones, Felicia Estrada-Trujillo, Ernesto Trujillo, Valdo Trujillo, Claudia Estrada, Ricardo Estrada, Tatiana Velasquez Chicas, Brandi Eaton-Wiles, Charlotte Cascio, Baby Jack, Leah Brashear, Martha Leary, Marina Jones, Julissa Estrada, Ray Friedl, Jaime Mizaal Fuentes, Rachel, Eric, Sean Acol, Damian Wiles, Melvin Jones, Luz Estrada, Sebastian Weaver, John Muran, Sr., Lois Muran, Priscilla, Jack Stephens, Patty, Patrick Hays, Jonathon and Alyse, Faith, Evelyn Wehr, Sharon and Don Bole, Neil Ray, Ricky and Eta Womack, Whitney Mayfield, Dobi, Rusty, Cathy, Lee, Pamela, Steve Gilman, Deyanira Gudino, Melissa Nelson, Lazaro Gudino, Antonia Dueñaz, Susan, John, Edward, William, Matt, Ms. Sanders and Daughters, Jan, Viola-Cleo Bradshaw, Cordelia Vogel, Amanda Yoder.*

For those in the military: Rick Narvaiz, Colby Gibson, J.R. Singleton, Bryce Singleton, Parker Singleton, Joshua Westmoreland, Megan Weimer, Ryan Natale, Rylee Natale, Brody Campbell, Justin Jones, Christopher Rosentreter, Sam Carter, Caleb Mitchell, Aaron Long, Terry Caraway, Reed Hall, Zach Renfro, Rev. Octavia Lindsey, McKenna McCullough, Noel Puryear, Simon Liszeski, Keaton Latner, Kaleigh Hensch, Kayleigh Henson, Freddie Kegler, Jay Jordan, William VanSant, Nick Coleman, Rebecka Blaire, Stephen Liszeski, Ted Liszeski, Kyle Belt, Andrew Stienl, James Roberts, John Andrews, Thomas Andrews, Chase Biel Weishaupt, Perry Harding, Nate Phillips, Ashley Adkins, Matt Lake, Derek Wolf, Jefferson C, our troops at home and abroad and their families.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom including *Carter Blue Clark, Ed Sturm, Carolyn, and Nicolae.*

We rejoice with those celebrating birthdays this week: *Sara Fields, George Holt, Lori Foster, Leah Andrews, Kiera Halligan, Art Rousseau, Carley Monroe, Cadence Dunn, Jason Mack, Chancen Flick, Claren Denning, Sherry Pendley, Clayton Cory.*

We rejoice with those celebrating anniversaries this week: *Barbara & Rick Inselman, Alex Saenz & Mona Gudino-Saenz, Melanie & Terry Cannon.*

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

+ MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY +

Today, Sunday December 17, 2023 10:45 a.m.

The Third Sunday of Advent

Presider and Preacher: The Reverend Joseph Alsay

Deacon: The Reverend Mary Ann Coffman

Eucharistic Ministers: Boyd Maser, Jay Welsh, and Tim Andrews

Acolytes: Zipporah Alsay, Caleb Alsay, and Brandon Narvaiz

Lector: Valerie Lewis

Staff Musicians: Scott Chard and Guy Nembhard

Guest Musicians: Chelsea Bushong (Harp), Aaron Bushong (Violin), Elizabeth Sousa-Bolt (Vocalist)

Organists: Roger Barton and Patrick Hays

Oblation Bearers: Reiko Osumi and Claudia Estrada

Advent Family: The Calderas

Greeters: Reiko Osumi and Dennis Shockley

Altar Guild: Patsy Hollingsworth and Janet Wells

Ushers: Rick Inselman, Mike Hall, Valerie Lewis

Camera Crew: Josh Eliot and Bri McGhee

Sound: Eric Brinley

Cover and Divider Art: Jesse Heath AI Generated

+ THIS IS OUR STORY +

The Gospels say little about the lives and deaths of Jesus' parents, Mary and Joseph. The History of Joseph the Carpenter, was composed in Egypt between the fifth to seventh centuries. This document states that Joseph was 90 years old when he married Mary, and he was miraculously blessed with physical youth, dying at the age of 111. It further states that Joseph had four sons by a previous marriage, while Mary remained a life-long virgin. This tradition contradicts the more accepted belief that Joseph lived at least until Jesus' twelfth year when he took his family to Jerusalem for the Passover Feast, but he died sometime later. The Gospels relate nothing about the death of Mary, but a tradition dating to the 5th century says that the twelve Apostles were miraculously assembled from their far-flung missionary activities to be present at her death, and this scene is a common art theme. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin is the belief Mary's body and soul were "assumed" into heaven after her death. Most churches abandoned this doctrine, but it has been dogma of the Catholic church since 1950; it is celebrated on August 15th.

If you have a liturgical question or an inquiry about anything that transpires during or around our worship service, please forward the question you would like researched to: gghaas@aol.com. Please note whether we can credit you as the source of the question.

ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY EPISCOPAL CHURCH



14700 North May Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73134

Telephone: (405) 751-7874

Website: <http://www.sac-okc.org/>

Email: saintaugustineokc@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook! <http://www.facebook.com/St.AugustineofCanterburyOKC>

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday – Holy Eucharist – 8:30 A.M. & 10:45 A.M.

Wednesday – Holy Eucharist – 12 Noon

STAFF

Rector: The Reverend Joseph Alsay

Deacons: The Reverend Karen Hansen and The Reverend Mary Ann Coffman

Administrative Assistant: Coleen Christian

Social Media Coordinator: Daphne Christian-Muran

Bulletins: Jesse L. Heath

Contribution Registrar: Kenny Koch

Staff Musicians: Scott Chard and Guy Nembhard

VESTRY

Sr. Warden: James Reeg **Sr. Warden Elect:** Michael Johnston

Jr. Warden: Jon Wallingford **Jr. Warden Elect:** William “Bill” Kenney

Treasurer: Marian Moon

Other Members: Brad Davidson, John Fink, Jay Kyte, Valerie Hall, Rick Inselman,
Valerie Lewis, Scott Myers, & Jason Seabolt

Clerk: Renee Lewis

OFFICE HOURS

To offer our staff a Sabbath, the St. Augustine business offices are closed on Mondays, with staff available remotely for urgent matters. Ministry Leaders are welcome to access the building independently with their key, as needed.

Father Joseph Alsay, Rector

Tuesday -Thursday 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M

Coleen Christian, Admin Assistant

Tuesday -Friday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

AFTER HOURS CONTACT

Father Joseph

Cell: 405-365-3226

Email: fatherjoe@sac-okc.org

James Reeg, Sr. Warden

Cell: 405-898-7795

Email: seniorwarden@sac-okc.org

Jon Wallingford, Jr. Warden

Cell: 405-250-0275

Email: juniorwarden@sac-okc.org