

ADVENT - CHRISTMAS – EPIPHANY SCHEDULE

Dec. 21, Sunday, 9:15AM, All Parish Formation

10:00 AM, Christmas Pageant & Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Come celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent and hear the Christmas story while our children enacted the parts in our annual pageant.

Dec. 24, Wednesday, 4:00PM, Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist, Rite II

A St. John's tradition for all parishioners, with choral anthems, hymns, a Children's Sermon, and candlelight singing of *Silent Night*.

Dec. 25, Thursday, 9:00AM, Christmas Day Holy Eucharist, Rite II

A quiet service on Christmas morning.

Dec. 28, Sunday, 10:00AM, Holy Eucharist, Rite II

The First Sunday after Christmas Day; we hear the beginning of the Gospel of John.

Jan. 4, Sunday, 10:00AM, Epiphany Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Joyful music marks this festive celebration of the beginning of the season of revelation.

Jan. 11, Sunday, 9:15AM, All Parish Formation

10:00 AM, Holy Baptism & Holy Eucharist, Rite II

We celebrate the Baptism of our Lord and the baptism of Nico Martinez!



Leslie Davie, Co-Warden
Suzanne Cogan, Co-Warden

Michelle Nuñez, Treasurer
Erin Sibley, Clerk

The Reverend V. Michael Bousquet, Rector
The Reverend Karen A. Fraioli, Priest Associate
Brother Gabriel J. Giella, Youth and Children's Minister
Natacha Rist, Director of Music
Rose Chamness, Parish Administrator & Bookkeeper
Imelda J. Brierley, Nursery Caregiver

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ST. JOHN'S WESTWOOD

WE WARMLY WELCOME YOU TO
ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

December 7, 2025 | 10:00AM | The Second Sunday of Advent

HOLY EUCHARIST, Rite II

THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude *Magnificat Primi Toni, No.5*

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

Entrance Hymn

Come, thou long expected Jesus

The Hymnal 1982 66

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Presider

Blessed are you, O God, who created light out of darkness and sent your only Son to bring the light of your love to all people. We pray for your blessing upon this wreath and upon all who kindle these lights. As we gather together in this Advent darkness to await the dawn of Christ, prepare our hearts and our homes to receive our Savior.

Two candles are lit.

Presider

O Flower of Jesse's stem, you have been raised up as a sign for all peoples; rulers stand silent in your presence; the nations bow down in worship before you.

People

Come to our aid, and do not delay.

Presider

O Key of David, O royal power of Israel, opening wide the gates of heaven.

People

Come break down the prison walls of death, and set your captive people free. Amen.

Opening Acclamation & Collect for Purity

Book of Common Prayer page 355

Presider

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

People

His mercy endures for ever.

Presider

Together, let us pray.

All

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

“Lord, have mercy” Kyrie eleison

The Hymnal 1982 S 96

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy, have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

Book of Common Prayer page 357

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**

The First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

The word that Isaiah A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder’s den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover

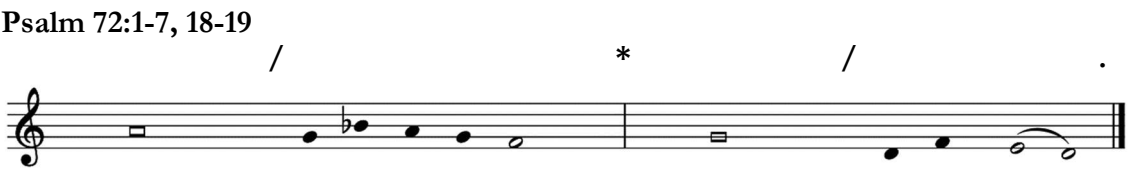
the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Reader

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.



- 1 Give the King / your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to / the King’s Sön;
- 2 That he may rule / your people righteously *
and the poor / with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prospe- / rity to the people, *
and the little hills bring / righteousnëss.
- 4 He shall defend the needy / among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush / the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the / sun and moon endure, *
from one generation / to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain / upon the mown field, *
like showers that wa- / ter the earth.
- 7 In his time shall / the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall / be no möre.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord GOD, / the God of Israel, *
who alone does / wondrous déeds!
- 19 And blessed be God’s glori- / ous Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with God’s glory. A- / men. Amën.

The Epistle

Romans 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in

accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name”; and again he says, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”; and again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him”; and again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.” 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.

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

Sequence Hymn Prepare the way, O Zion *The Hymnal 1982* 65

The Gospel Matthew 3:1-12

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

Jesus said to the In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. “I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon The Rev. Michael Bousquet

An Affirmation of Faith

Iona Abbey Worship Book page 38

**We believe in God above us,
Maker and Sustainer of all life,
of sun and moon,
of water and earth
of male and female.**

We believe in God beside us,
Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.
Born of a woman,
servant of the poor,
tortured and nailed to a tree,
a man of sorrows,
He died forsaken.
He descended into the earth
to the place of death.
On the third day,
He rose from the tomb.
He ascended into heaven
to be everywhere present,
and His kingdom will come on earth.

**We believe in God within us,
the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,
life-giving breath of the church,
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
Source of resurrection and of eternal life.
Amen.**

The Prayers of the People *Intercessions for the Christian People* page 4

Intercessor The prophet John the Baptist preached a repentance which would bear fruit in the lives of those who heard him. In penitence and faith, let us offer to God our prayer for all people, saying: In the name of Christ, hear our prayer.

Intercessor We pray for the church throughout the world, remembering especially our Christian brothers and sisters in Palestine and the Holy Land, and we pray for all those called and affirmed to particular ministries within the church for the building up of the body of Christ, that in our diverse vocations we may serve to the glory of God. In the name of Christ,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intervessor We pray for this nation and for all the nations of the world, remembering especially those who are victims of political or social injustice. We pray for those whom we have elected to public office and for political leaders everywhere, that they may administer the tasks of government with courage and equity. In the name of Christ,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intervessor We pray for all native peoples, especially the Massachusetts and Wampanoag, that our shared past may call us to repent for our ancestor’s sins and together look to a future of care for each other and God’s creation. In the name of Christ,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intervessor We pray for this community, for St. John’s, for our neighbors and friends, for those with whom we study and work. Guide and strengthen us in our common life that we may know the gifts of your grace and love. In the name of Christ,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intervessor We pray for the sick, the elderly, and those who live alone. We pray for those who are overworked and for those who cannot find work. We pray for all those in any need or trouble. This week, we pray for: Susie & Cam, Maggie Carvan, Dave Martinez, Jaxson Stephens, Pamela Mott, Clark Grew, Fred Stimson, Jenny Tatroe, Matthew & Danielle, Jonathan Tyminski, Sophie Nelson, Krish, Emily Sugg, Charlie and Elaine Steeger, Nick Copoulos, James Wachob, the family of Martha Sprague, Monica, the family of Bob Pearson, and all those whom we name now, either silently or aloud...

Silence.

Send upon them the power of the Holy Spirit, that they may abound in hope. In the name of Christ,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intervessor We pray for all those who have died in the hope of Christ, that they may live evermore by the word of him who is the source of all life. This week, we pray for Susan Crump and all those whom we name now, either silently or aloud...

Silence.

In the name of Christ,
Hear our prayer.

People

The Confession and Absolution *Book of Common Prayer* page 360

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept

All **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.**

The Peace & Announcements

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.
Psalm 96:8

As the table is prepared and as the people sing the following hymn, the community brings forward gifts of bread and wine and donations to support the ministry of the parish.

Hymn Watchman, tell us of the night *The Hymnal 1982* **640**

Eucharistic Prayer B *Book of Common Prayer* page 367

Presider

People

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Presider

People

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Presider

People

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

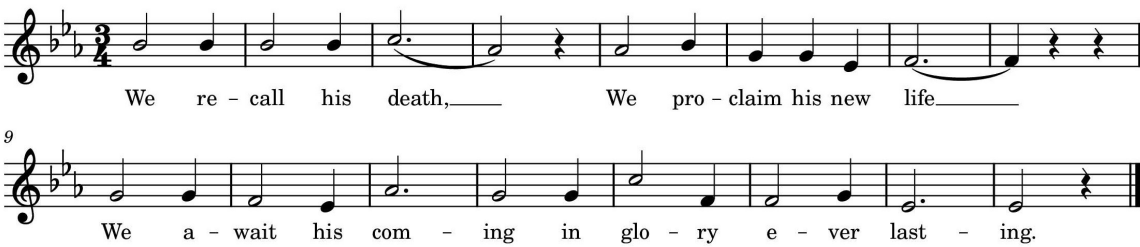
Presider It is right, and a good a joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore 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:

“Holy, holy, holy LORD” Sanctus The Hymnal 1982 S 130

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 Presider continues with the Eucharistic Prayer until saying,

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,



The Presider continues with the Eucharistic Prayer until saying,

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. A-men.

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

The Lord’s Prayer

The Breaking of the Bread Book of Common Prayer page 364

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem Agnus Dei The Hymnal 1982 S 164

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.

The Presentation and Invitation All are welcome at the Lord’s table.

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.
Please do not intinct (dip) the bread into the wine. You may receive the bread alone if you so desire.
If you do not wish to receive Communion, we still invite you to come forward for a blessing; to indicate your desire for a blessing, simply cross your hands over your chest when you approach the priest.

Communion Hymn Comfort, comfort ye my people The Hymnal 1982 67

The Postcommunion Prayer Enriching Our Worship 1 page 70

Presider Let us pray.
All Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and for nourishing us with spiritual food, in the Sacrament of Christ’s Body and Blood. Now send us forth, a people forgiven, healed, and renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Closing Hymn Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding The Hymnal 1982 59

Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Postlude Magnificat Primi Toni, No.11 Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

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This week we celebrate the birthdays of Judy Austin, Annie Kelleher, Maggie Heckscher, Will Heckscher, Fernando P. Martinez, and Paul Sugg.

Calendar of Events

Sunday, December 7

9:00AM Choir Warm-Up & Rehearsal, *in the Nave*
10:00AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II
10:00AM Nursery Care, *in the School Wing*
11:00AM Coffee Hour, *in the Narthex*
11:45AM Choir Rehearsal, *in the Nave*
4:00PM A Festival of Lessons & Carols, *St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, Dover*
5:30PM Taizé Holy Eucharist

Thursday, December 11

9:00AM Morning Prayer, Rite II, *via Google Meet*

Sunday, December 14

9:00AM Choir Warm-Up & Rehearsal, *in the Nave*
10:00AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II
10:00AM Nursery Care, *in the School Wing*
11:00AM Coffee Hour, *in the Narthex*
11:45AM Choir Rehearsal, *in the Nave*
5:30PM Taizé Holy Eucharist

Monday, December 15

7:00PM Vestry Meeting, *in the Narthex*

Tuesday, December 16

12:30PM Clericus, *Trinity Episcopal Church, Stoughton*
7:00PM Advent Forum: Mary of Nazareth, *Google Meet*

Thursday, December 18

9:00AM Morning Prayer, Rite II, *via Google Meet*

Sunday, December 21

9:00AM Choir Warm-Up & Rehearsal, *in the School Wing*
9:15AM All Parish Formation, *in the Nave*
10:00AM Pageant & Holy Eucharist, Rite II
10:00AM Nursery Care, *in the School Wing*
10:50AM Coffee Hour, *in the Narthex*
11:45AM Choir Rehearsal, *in the Nave*

Wednesday, December 24

4:00PM Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Thursday, December 25

9:00AM Christmas Day Holy Eucharist, Rite II



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS 2025



Your Name: _____

Email/Phone: _____
(in case we have any questions)

Donation Amount: _____

Dedication Preference:
(please select ONE)

- ☐ **in loving memory of**
☐ **in thanksgiving for**

Dedication Name(s):

Please place this form and check with "Christmas Flowers" in the notation line in the offering plate or mail them to St. John's so that they arrive by Mon., Dec. 22



Giving to St. John's

With cash or a check, 100% of your donation goes to support St. John's. However, to make giving more accessible, St. John's also has a Venmo account (although St. John's is assessed a fee for this service). Scan this QR code to donate to St. John's via Venmo during this service. In the field, "What is it for," please indicate what you would like your gift to support:
"Pledge" for payment on a pledge you have made to St. John's.
"Plate" to support the special offering this Sunday.

THANK YOU!