

Welcome to **St. John's Cathedral**



**“...show the light
of your countenance,
and we shall be saved.”**
- Psalm 80:3b

December 18, 2016 - 8 a.m.
The Fourth Sunday of Advent

LOVE *at the* CORE.

Welcome to St. John's Cathedral! We are so glad that you are here.

We worship God in the heart of the city. We are surrounded by the poor in an area of town that is often neglected. In his life, Jesus often ministered to the poor and needy, and we believe that by worshipping **God in the urban core, we can catch a glimpse of God's love.**

We welcome all people. Our nursery is open all morning on Sundays. We would love to get to know you better, and you can help us by filling out a visitor card located in your pew and placing it in the offering plate as it comes by, or by handing it to an usher. Please let us know if you need prayers and if you would like us to email you our online newsletter. Listening devices are always available for the hearing impaired and large-print bulletins for those who have trouble with their eyesight. Please ask an usher if you need these items or anything else. We want to help you feel at home here.

We believe that worship should be beautiful and sacred, a moment to hush the hurriedness of our lives and experience the peace of God. I **hope that you feel God's love this morning.**

Faithfully,

The Very Reverend Kate Moorehead,
Dean

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT AT 9 AM TODAY

Holiday shopping and decorating can be extremely hectic. So, if you're certain you see a camel or two, nomadic sheep, piglets, donkeys, kings and a few angels wandering about the buildings and grounds of St. John's Cathedral today, don't be afraid, you're not hallucinating! And there's no need to get out your shepherd's staff or call animal control. Just follow the adorable crowd into the cathedral, because once again it's time for our charming Children's Christmas Pageant during the 9 a.m. service. Our Christmas Pageant has become a much loved tradition at St. John's Cathedral for all our children and families who participate, as well as for those who simply answer the call to "come and see." This is a special opportunity to journey back in time with us to the very first Christmas when God gave the world the best gift of all...Jesus. Again, we hope you will join us during the 9 a.m. service today!



THE HOLY EUCHARIST

On each of the four Sundays of Advent, a candle is lit on the Advent wreath as the light of Christ comes into the world.

In Procession, Hymn 54 “Savior of the nations, come!” *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Celebrant Blessed be our God.
People For ever and ever. Amen.

Celebrant and People

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.

The Celebrant and the People say together

The Magnificat

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name. He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever.

The Collect of the Day

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

The Celebrant continues

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The People are seated.

The Lesson

Romans 1:1-7

Lector A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

A period of silence for reflection follows the reading.

The Psalm is read in unison.

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.

Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

O Lord God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?

You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

A period of silence for reflection follows the reading.

The People stand.

The Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

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

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place

to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

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

The People are seated.

The Sermon

The Reverend Raja Zabaneh

A period of silence for reflection follows the sermon.

The People stand.

The Nicene Creed

The Celebrant and People say

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People *All remain standing as able.*

The Leader and People pray responsively

Hear us, good Lord, as we pray to you with the words, Lord, come among us.

Almighty God, we ask you to guide us as we seek to bring about your peace in this broken world. Help us to find a way to heal the division that threatens to divide this nation. Guide us to seek and serve justice. Keep our loved ones safe. Help us to show both mercy and compassion. You alone can guide us. Lord, we wait for you.

Lord, come among us.

Be present with those who are sick or suffering in any way. Bless those who mourn. Comfort the lonely in this holiday season and come to the aid of those who are poor and in need. I invite you to speak aloud the names of those in need....Lord, we wait for you.

Lord, come among us.

Embrace the souls of those who have died. May they see you face to face. I invite you to speak **aloud the names of those who have died....Lord, we wait for you.**

Lord, come among us.

Bless this community, Lord, as we seek to worship and serve you without fear. Help us to make space for you in our busy lives so that we may be ready for the coming of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Lord, we wait for you.

Lord, come among us.

We give you thanks for the many gifts that you have given us: for the love of family and friends, for our children, for the gifts of music, art and literature, for the freedom to worship you, and for this beautiful cathedral. Lord, we wait for you.

Lord, come among us.

The Celebrant concludes the prayers.

The Confession of Sin

The People kneel.

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

Celebrant and 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.

The Celebrant says

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.

Amen.

The Peace

The People stand.

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Clergy and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Representatives of the congregation bring forward the People's offerings of money, and other gifts. The People stand when the offerings are brought forward and placed on the Altar.

Hymn 380, stanza 3

“Praise God, from whom all blessings flow”

Old 100th

The Great Thanksgiving, from the Prayer Book of the Church of England

The People stand.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation; to you be glory and praise for ever!

From the beginning you have created all things and all your works echo the silent music of your praise. In the fullness of time you made us in your image, the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech that with angels and archangels and all the powers of heaven we may find a voice to sing your praise:

The Celebrant and People say

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 People stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord! As a mother tenderly gathers her children you embraced a people as your own. When they turned away and rebelled your love remained steadfast. From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary, to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied. He offered his life for sinners and with a love stronger than death he opened wide his arms on the cross.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it: and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends, and taking bread, he gave you thanks. He broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take eat: this is my body which is given for you

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, 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. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

The Celebrant and People say

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; we remember his dying and rising in glory, and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand. Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation; may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son. As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence, form us into the likeness of Christ, and build us into a living temple to your glory. Remember Lord your Church in every land. Reveal her unity, guard her faith, and preserve her in peace. Bring us at the last with John and all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendor for which you have created us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by him, with him, and in him, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

The Celebrant and People say

Blessing and honor and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

The Celebrant continues

And now, as our Savior Christ has 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.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Celebrant continues

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.)

Please join us at God's table.

All baptized people are welcome to receive communion. Everyone is welcome to come to the altar for a blessing. If you would like a blessing, please fold your arms across your chest.

The Postcommunion Prayer

The Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The Celebrant and People say together

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 Blessing

May Almighty God watch over you who wait for Christ to come again, you who long to see His face. And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

In Procession, Hymn 66 “Come, thou long expected Jesus”

Stuttgart

The Dismissal

Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

+ + +

The flowers in Holy Communion Chapel, Cummings Chapel and at the High Altar are given to the glory of God, and in loving memory of Amelia Shields DeMuth, Amelia Sheilds Ferber, Bayard Shields Ferber, Carl Robertson Kurtz, Jr., Bayard Benoit Shields, Paul L. Ferber, and other members of the Shields and Ferber families, by Paul S. Ferber.

SERMON NOTES

THIS SUNDAY AT THE CATHEDRAL

SUNDAY, DEC. 18

▶ **Holy Eucharist**

8 a.m. Cummings Chapel

▶ **Holy Eucharist with Christmas Pageant**

9 a.m. Cathedral

Celebrate the coming of Christ through story and art from our talented cathedral children.

▶ **Holy Eucharist with *Messiah* Sing-a-long**

11 a.m. Cathedral

Join us as Canon for Music Tim Tuller and the Cathedral Choir lead us in singing selections from Handel's *Messiah*.

▶ **Birthday Blessings**

Sunday, December 18

Joann Watson, Daniel Abdelnour

Monday, December 19

Shirley Bush, Samuel Craddock

Tuesday, December 20

Lanea McCrea, Liesl Gavronsky-Howsare,
Yetiva Comacho

Wednesday, December 21

Doug Maurer, David Vormack, Sarah Miller,
Samuel Holcomb

Thursday, December 22

Tammie Corey

Friday, December 23

Noel Dana, Robert Nichols

Saturday, December 24

John Waidner, Henry Jenks

THIS WEEK AT THE CATHEDRAL

MONDAY, DEC. 19

▶ **Friends of Bill W.**

5:30 p.m. Ingram Lounge

▶ **Boy Scouts**

6 p.m. Taliaferro Hall

TUESDAY, DEC. 20

▶ **Holy Eucharist**

12:10 p.m. Cummings Chapel

▶ **Yoga**

5:45 p.m. Cummings Chapel

▶ **EFM (Education for Ministry)**

7 p.m. Ingram Lounge

▶ **Girl Scouts**

7 p.m. Basement "Coffee House"

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 21

▶ **Holy Eucharist**

7 a.m. Holy Communion Chapel

12:10 p.m. Cummings Chapel

▶ **Chorister Rehearsal**

5:30 p.m. Choir Room

▶ **Choir Rehearsal**

7:30 p.m. Choir Room

THURSDAY, DEC. 22

▶ **Holy Eucharist**

12:10 p.m. Cummings Chapel

THIS WEEK AT THE CATHEDRAL CONTINUED

FRIDAY, DEC. 23

► **The Greening of the Cathedral**

9 a.m. Cathedral

The Sanctuary Guild invites everyone to join them for this festive event in preparation for Christmas! Bring your family and friends to assist in adorning our beautiful church with garland, wreaths and poinsettias. A variety of refreshments will add to the good cheer of this beautiful Christmas experience. You don't have to be an interior decorator to help; all hands are welcome.

► **Contemplative Holy Eucharist**

12:10 p.m. Cummings Chapel

SATURDAY, DEC. 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE

► **Family Service with Holy Eucharist**

4 p.m. Cathedral

Nursery available.

► **Holy Eucharist with Bishop Howard,**

Cathedral Brass and Choir

6 p.m. Cathedral

Nursery available.

► **Holy Eucharist with Cathedral Brass and Choir**

11 p.m. Cathedral

Incense will be used. No nursery available.

NEXT SUNDAY AT THE CATHEDRAL

SUNDAY, DEC. 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY

► **Holy Eucharist**

8 a.m. Cummings Chapel

► **Holy Eucharist with Cathedral Choir**

10:30 a.m. Cathedral

UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY, DEC. 26 - OFFICES CLOSED

SATURDAY, DEC. 31 - **NEW YEAR'S EVE**

► **The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols**

5 p.m. Cathedral

A candlelight service of Christmas scripture and traditional carols sung by the Cathedral Choir.

No nursery available.

SUNDAY, JAN. 1 - **NEW YEAR'S DAY**

► **Holy Eucharist**

8 a.m. Cummings Chapel

► **Holy Eucharist**

10:30 a.m. Cathedral

MONDAY, JAN. 2 - OFFICES CLOSED

► **Feed the Homeless**

Monday, Jan. 2, Sulzbacher Center

Dinner preparation begins at 2 p.m. and is served at 6 p.m. Please call Don Wucker at 398-4776 for more information.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

► **Donate Christmas Flowers**

You can contribute donations towards flowers for our Christmas Eve and Day services in honor of your loved ones. If you donate by this Wednesday, December 21, we can list the names of your loved ones in the Christmas Eve and Day bulletins. Donation envelopes are located in the pews, or you can donate online at www.jaxcathedral.org and click “Donate Altar Flowers” under the Give tab.

► **St. Mary’s Bag-a-month Club - December Items**

Donate to those in need at St. Mary’s! The theme for December is first aid supplies. Pick up a marked brown bag this Sunday and fill it with pain and fever relievers, cough and cold medicine, band aids, etc. Bring your bag back before the last Sunday of the month.

► **Growing into the Fullness of God: Stewardship 2017**

God is doing amazing things in and through St. John’s Cathedral, and we are all invited to grow into God’s fullness through a financial pledge to the life and ministry of the cathedral. Pledge cards are available in the church office and the back of the church. You may also pledge online at www.jaxcathedral.org/pledge-2017/.

► **Send us your photos!**

If you have taken any photos from any cathedral events within the past year, we would love to include them in a year-in-review slideshow! This slideshow will be shown at our Annual Parish Meeting in early 2017. Please email all photos to Helen Likins, Communications Coordinator, at hlikins@jaxcathedral.org. You can also call Helen at the office (ext. 117) if you have any questions about sending your photos.

► **Adult Christian Formation 2017**

After the holidays, our Wonderful Wednesday dinner and programs will resume on Wednesday, January 4, and our Sunday Christian Formation classes will resume on Sunday, January 8. On Wednesday, January 4, we will hold an Evening Prayer service to commemorate the Epiphany. Beginning the following Wednesday, January 11, we will start Alpha, a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith. Each session looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. On Sundays in January and February, the theme for the Dean’s Forum in Taliaferro Hall on Sundays will be, “God and Human Conflict: Living Faithfully in a Violent World.” More details on Sunday morning and Wednesday evening offerings in the spring will be announced.

► **Next Sunday for Baptisms: January 8**

If you are interested in having your child baptized, or in being baptized yourself, please contact Parish Coordinator Carl Worrell at our office (cworrell@jaxcathedral.org). The deadline to sign up is Tuesday, January 3!

ART EXHIBIT RECEPTION, FRIDAY, JANUARY 6 AT 5:30 P.M.

An exhibition by Nadine Terk, entitled "Imagination Cannot Be Caged," is currently being displayed in the cathedral's art gallery, Taliaferro Hall. It will be on exhibition until Sunday, January 15.

Terk is the president of and a performer in the Civic Orchestra of Jacksonville, and is a marvelous visual artist as well as a gifted musician. The works in this exhibition are the result of her internship at the Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival where she was the first Visual Artist in Residence.

The paintings in the exhibition are an exploration of movement and sound. Working in abstraction and thinking about mood and tempo, the paintings represent a bow moving through space as music is created. Terk, as you might suspect, plays the violin. The abstract images move in and out of space in patterns that suggest the musical compositions that are their inspiration. In one painting, Terk turns to nature, and the rays of the sun which appear from the clouds suggest images not unlike those in her other paintings. This magnificent world of nature and imagination that Terk evokes bursts forth and cannot be caged.

A reception and gallery talk by the artist has been scheduled for Friday, January 6 at 5:30 p.m. in Taliaferro Hall.



ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

256 East Church Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
(904) 356-5507 - www.jaxcathedral.org
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
and Friday 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

You can now watch our 11 a.m. service live on our website!

Just click the Live Broadcast link on the homepage.

Forgot your checkbook or cash? Text the dollar amount of your gift to
904-584-3116. (Example: \$20)