

Welcome!



SAINT JOHN'S
CATHEDRAL
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF FLORIDA

December 9, 2018 - 9 a.m.
The Second Sunday of Advent

LOVE *at the* CORE.

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

You may notice that we are celebrating a special season right now. This season is called Advent. The name comes from the Latin word *adventus* which means coming. Since the year 496, the church has prepared for the Feast of Christmas with a season of waiting and of prayer. As the days grow darker, the church begins the services of Advent by bringing light into the darkness. Each week, we light one additional candle on the Advent wreath that stands next to the altar. When the entire wreath is lit, it is time for the light of Christ to enter the world.

While the rest of American culture has already launched into Christmas, we here at the Cathedral are preparing. We are waiting not just to celebrate the Christmas holiday, but we are waiting to see Jesus again. All Christians wait for him, we long to see him face to face.

Please know that we are so happy that you have joined us. You bring us joy just by walking in the door. No matter where you came from, no matter how you are dressed, no matter if you understand the worship or find it all new, you are welcome. We believe that worship should be a beautiful and sacred time, a way to slow down the rush of our lives and to experience the peace of **God. I hope that you feel God's love this morning.**

If you have questions or you are in need of prayer, please come to one of the side altars during communion or come and find me or one of the priests after the service. May God bless you.

In Christ's love,

Kate+

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Introit The People That Walked in Darkness (From *A Christmas Cantata*) Marjorie Elliott
St. John's Celebration Singers

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.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Celebrant Blessed be our God.
People Forever 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.

Children age four through fifth grade follow the Cross in procession to Children's Chapel in Cummings Chapel. The children rejoin their families at the Peace.

In Procession, Celebration Hymnal 240 “Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

The Collect of the Day

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

The Celebrant continues

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 People are seated.

The Lesson

Malachi 3:1-4

Lector A Reading from the book of Malachi.

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

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

A period of silence for reflection follows the reading.

The People stand.

Celebration Hymnal 245 “O Come, o come Emmanuel” (*St. 1 & 2*)

Gospeler

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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 Iturea 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.'"

Gospeler

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Celebration Hymnal 245 "O Come, o come Emmanuel" (St. 3 & 4)

The People are seated.

The Sermon

The Very Reverend Kate Moorehead

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*

Eternal God, in this season of Advent, awaken your whole Church to see our unity more than what divides us; Give us strength and courage to find quiet moments to sit still and wait for you to come. Lord, we wait for you.

Lord, come among us.

We give you thanks for the gift of our lives, our loved ones and the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus. Lord, we wait for you.

Lord, come among us.

We ask your blessing on all who are sick, grieving, struggling with poverty or alone during the holidays. (We pray especially for...) Lord, we wait for you.

Lord, come among us.

We ask you to bring peace to the world and to this our city, that we may respect and honor one another. Lord, we wait for you.

Lord, come among us.

We ask you to help us learn to tell the truth of our stories so that other people may be drawn to you. Lord, we wait for you.

Lord, come among us.

We ask you to welcome into your embrace those who we love who have died, that they may see you face to face. (We remember especially...) 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

Offertory

My Soul in Stillness Waits
St. John's Celebration Singers

Marty Haugen

As the Altar is prepared for Communion, representatives of the congregation collect the offerings of the People. The people stand when the offerings are brought forward and placed on the Altar.

Celebration Hymnal 244 “Come thou long expected Jesus”

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer III

BCP of the Church of Ireland

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 our thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

Father, Lord of all creation, we praise you for your goodness and your love. When we turned away you did not reject us. You came to meet us in your Son, welcomed us as your children and prepared a table where we might feast with you.

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.

He opened wide his arms upon the cross and, with love stronger than death, he made the perfect sacrifice for sin.

Lord Jesus Christ, our redeemer, on the night before you died you came to table with your friends. Taking bread, you gave thanks, broke it and gave it to them saying, Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

Lord Jesus, we bless you: you are the bread of life.

At the end of supper you took the cup of wine, gave 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 in remembrance of me.

Lord Jesus, we bless you: you are the true vine.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ:

Dying, you destroyed our death, rising, you restored our life; Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Holy Spirit, giver of life, come upon us now; may this bread and wine be to us the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us, who know our need of grace, one in Christ, our risen Lord.

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Blessed Trinity: with your whole Church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of thanks and praise and lift our voice to join the song of heaven, for ever praising you and singing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, — God of
 6 pow - er and might, — heaven and earth — are
 11 full of your glor - ry. Ho - san - na in — the high - est.
 17 Bless - ed — is he who comes — in the
 22 name of the Lord. — Ho - san - na
 26 in — the high - est, — Ho - san - na
 30 in — the high - est.

Thanks be to you, our God, for your gift beyond words.
Amen. Amen. Amen.

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

Celebrant and people

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 The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.
People *We being many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.*

The Celebrant continues

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Remember that he 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. You are also invited to receive prayers and anointing with holy oil in one of our transept chapels (Ascension to the south, and Holy Communion to the north) where anointers wait to pray with you.

Music at Communion

Celebration Hymnal 562 “Be Thou My Vision”
Celebration Hymnal 713 “See Ye First”

Invitation to Parents and their Children

There are no Sunday school classes today. All children and parents are invited to make Advent Wreaths together in Burwell Court and the Bishop's Garden after the service.

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, Celebration Hymnal 435 “God of Grace and God of Glory”

The Dismissal

People Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
 Thanks be to God.

+ + +

The flowers at the High Altar and in Cummings Chapel are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for the Cathedral Choir by Ron Hafner.

SERMON NOTES

Season's Blessings
Advent and Christmas at St. John's Cathedral

Wednesday, December 12

A Cathedral Christmas Dinner | 5 p.m.

Join us for this parish-wide holiday celebration of good food and good cheer!

Purchase tickets on our website under Give or after each service.

Friday, December 21–Saturday December 22

Youth Lock-In | 6 p.m.–9 a.m.

Feel the excitement of waiting and watching expectantly during the last days of Advent.

Saturday, December 22

Pageant Rehearsal | 10 a.m.

Sunday, December 23

Christmas Pageant | 9 a.m.

Monday, December 24 Christmas Eve

Family Service | 4 p.m.

Services with Cathedral Choir | 6 & 11 p.m. (incense will be used at 11 p.m.)

Tuesday, December 25 Christmas Day

Service with Cathedral Choir | 10:30 a.m.

Monday, December 31 New Year's Eve

The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols | 5 p.m.

CALL FOR CHRISTMAS PAGEANT PARTICIPANTS

WAY, way, way back in the day, church services were conducted only in Latin, which no one spoke and hardly anyone understood. Makes perfect sense, right? So, in 1223 St. Francis of Assisi was granted permission from Pope Honorius III to set up a manger with hay and a few animals in a cave just outside Greccio, Italy. In that cave, Francis performed a mass at midnight on Christmas. Villagers came to view the scene and to hear the story of our **Lord's birth. Francis' display evolved into our modern-day Christmas Pageant providing parishioners an opportunity to interact with Christ's humble, albeit glorious, birth. Yet another reason to dearly love St. Francis of Assisi!**



Our version of Francis' "cave mass" will be performed at St. John's Cathedral on Sunday, December 23 during the 9 a.m. service in the sanctuary. There's a part of everyone, kids and kids at heart! This is a wonderful opportunity for the whole family, even the well-mannered family pet, to get involved. We have the additional blessing of the Celebration Singers joining us this year. It's also a great opportunity to share the Gospel message with a friend by bringing someone with you to church on Sunday, December 23.

Please join the herds of cows, sheep, donkeys, camels, elephants, dinosaurs, (why not?), pigs, (kosher of course), swarms of bumble bees, heavenly hosts, wise men and women, Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus. All participants must attend the dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 22 at 10 a.m. in Ingram Lounge. Refreshments, as well as craft activities, will be available all morning long.

If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact me at 904-629-0470, thunt@jaxcathedral.org or Cheryl Bowen, 904-349-0922, cheryldi33@icloud.com.

May your blessings be too numerous to count.

Merry Christmas,
Terry Jamerson Hunt, Director of Children's Ministries

CALL FOR VESTRY AND CONVENTION DELEGATE NOMINATIONS

The Vestry Nominating Committee will nominate candidates for vacancies on the Vestry as well as Delegates to the Diocesan Convention. The election for those positions will be conducted at the Parish Annual Meeting on February 3, 2019. Parish members are encouraged to submit the names of nominees to Nicole Andress: nadress@jaxcathedral.org. You must obtain the permission of your nominee before submitting his or her name to the Nominating Committee. Nominations must be submitted by December 15, 2018.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR VESTRY MEMBERS (4 to be elected): A Vestry nominee 1) must be a communicant of St. John's Cathedral in good standing for a period of at least 12 months prior to election; 2) if a nominee has served two full terms (for a total of six years), there must be a two-year break before he or she may be nominated again; 3) must be actively involved in the ministries of the Parish; 4) must be willing to accept active leadership, including responsibility for decision making that represents the entire Parish; 5) must, if called upon, serve on the boards of affiliated corporations of the Cathedral; 6) must be willing to invest the time necessary in the ministry of leadership, including attendance at worship, Vestry meetings and other scheduled Vestry activities, special events, and satellite activities; and 7) must be otherwise eligible. In addition to the above qualifications contained in the bylaws, the Vestry believes that nominees for service should possess special skills, gifts and talents in visionary and strategic thinking, be courageous, and have skills in fiscal planning and policy. Finally, the Vestry is seeking members who represent the diverse composition of our congregation.

DIOCESAN CONVENTION DELEGATES (2 to be elected): The Senior Warden fills one of the five delegate positions. The remaining four delegates serve two year terms, with one or two rotating off each year. At the 2019 Annual Meeting, we will elect two delegates and two alternates for the 2019 Diocesan Convention.

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.

Please remember St. John's Cathedral in your will or trust.