

Welcome!



SAINT JOHN'S
CATHEDRAL
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF FLORIDA

December 16, 2018 - 8 a.m.
The Third 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

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 76 “On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry”

Winchester New

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

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The People are seated.

The Lesson

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Lector A Reading from the book of Zephaniah.

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with

all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

A period of silence for reflection follows the reading.

The Canticle is read in unison.

Canticle 9 The First Song of Isaiah Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely, it is God who saves me; *
I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, *
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

A period of silence for reflection follows the reading.

The People stand.

The Gospel Luke 3:7-18

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin 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." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do

likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Gospeler

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

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 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

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 BCP 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 My flesh is food indeed.

People And my blood is drink indeed, saith the Lord.

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

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People

Thanks be to God.

+ + +

The flowers in Cummings Chapel are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ann Millan and Frank Barker and in thanksgiving for the wedding of Jessica Millan and Patrick Gouin.

SERMON NOTES

LAST 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 today.

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.

SHARE THE CATHEDRAL WITH SOMEONE THIS CHRISTMAS

Dear Friends,

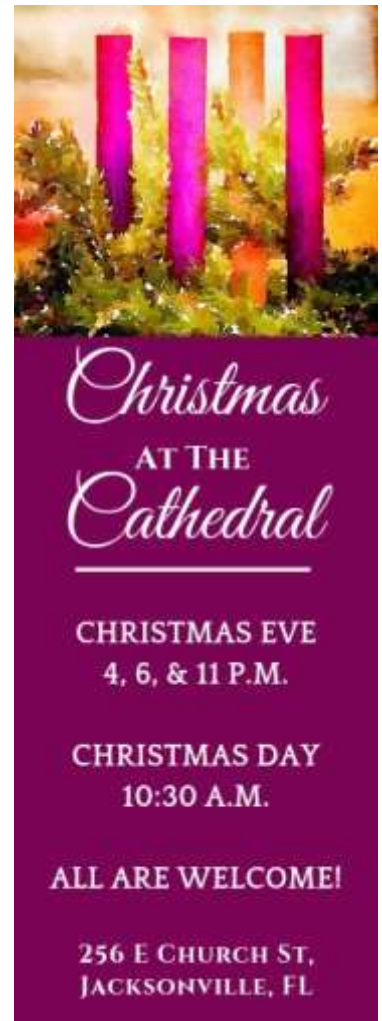
We are fast approaching the holidays. The pace of life is ramping up: more shopping, exams and holiday parties crowd our schedules. As Christmas approaches, we wait for Christ to come while the rest of the world acts as if he has already arrived. How are we to manage all this?

It strikes me that this is the best season of the year to invite someone to church. People are lonelier than ever. They are longing for peace, the kind of peace that is substantive and deep. At this time of year, people find themselves examining their families and their relationships and comparing them to some kind of Norman Rockwell painting. A comparison that often leads to sadness, shame and deep feelings of inadequacy. If life is meant to be happy and conflict-free, then they surmise that they have fallen short.

What we need is meaning. What we need is a calling that is higher than just giving presents to those we love but who already have what they need. Christmas is all around us, why not use this time as an opportunity to invite someone to hear the real story at one of our Christmas services?

I pray that God will bless you richly in this holy season.

In Christ's love,
Kate+



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

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.

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.