Saint Monica & Saint James CAPITOL HILL WASHINGTON DC



The Third Sunday of Advent

The Sung Mass

December 17th, 2023 11:00 a.m.

A very warm welcome to Saint Monica and Saint James

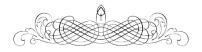
Our Celebrant and Preacher today is The Rev. John A. Weatherly

We sing from two Hymnals: The Hymnal 1982 and Lift Every Voice & Sing II, and our Mass is taken from the 1979 Book of Common Prayer, abbreviated here as H82, LEV, BCP.

Our Usher is here to help with any questions you may have.

Restrooms are found through the doors at the rear of the church on the far side of the Parish Hall.

Join us for Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall after the 11am service.



ORGAN VOLUNTARY Savior of the Nations, Come! Johann Sebastian Bach

THE GATHERING

Please stand when a handbell rings. The choir greets the assembled with these words

Choir The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Choir Almighty God, grant that we may enter your house with

reverence and love, there to offer a service acceptable in your sight,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

The Sanctuary Party pauses to light three candles on the Advent wreath. The Celebrant prays

Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the birthday of Christ experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Procession continues to the chancel as all sing

H82 76

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

After the Altar has been censed, the Mass continues BCP, p. 355

All And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ

be with you.

All And also with you.

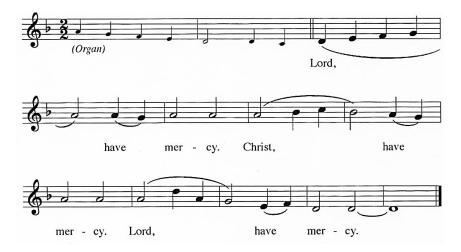
The Celebrant now says

Dear friends in Christ, we celebrate at this time the solemn season of Advent in which the Church bids us to prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ; a coming that we recall in the Child of Bethlehem; a coming that we experience in the gift of his Spirit, in the bread of the Eucharist, in the joy of human lives that are shared; a coming we wait for when God gathers up all things in Christ.

Let us in this holy season reflect on the coming of Christ who brings light to the world. Let us leave behind the darkness of sin, walk in the light that shines on our path, and renew within ourselves the hope of glory to which he beckons us.

And so as we turn towards the light, let us have on our hearts all those who see no light, for whom all is darkness and despair. Let us pray that they too may be illumined by Christ who is our light.

KYRIE



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.

All Amen.

Please sit for the reading of the lessons.

Reader A reading from 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE 15 - Luke 1:46-55

From A Hymn Tune Psalter

All repeat the Antiphon below after the Choir.



The Choir sings the verses below. All repeat the Antiphon above as marked.

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.

Antiphon

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.

Antiphon

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.

Antiphon

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.

Antiphon

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.

Antiphon

THE EPISTLE - I Thessalonians 5:16-24

Reader A reading from the First Epistle to the Thessalonians

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

If you are able, please stand for the Gospel procession.

THE ALLELUIA Cantor, then All repeat.



Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

Choir Stir up your strength, O LORD, and come to save us.

All repeat the Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL - John 1:6-8, 19-28

Celebrant The Holy Gospel + of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 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.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, Lord Christ.

All sing



Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

THE SERMON

The Rev. John A. Weatherly



THE NICENE CREED

AII

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: (You are invited to bow your head) by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. (We raise our heads again)

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

Please kneel or sit. The Intercessor leads the prayers, after each prayer the following is said

Intercessor Lord, in your mercy;
All hear our prayer.

At the conclusion of the Intercessions

Intercessor Merciful Father;

All accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son,

Our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant Let us confess ours sins against God and our neighbor.

We pause for a moment.

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.

Celebrant 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.

All Amen.

THE PEACE If you are able, please stand. The Celebrant introduces the Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you.

We greet each other in the name of the Lord. Please remain standing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated as the Celebrant makes a few announcements. Please stand to sing the Offertory Hymn. A collection will be taken.

To give online, please scan one of the following QR codes:







via *PayPal*

Representatives of the Congregation bring the people's offering of bread, wine, water, and the collection to the Celebrant. The Element Bearers stand at the Altar rail while the gifts are offered and placed on the altar.

THE OFFERTORY HYMN LEV 14

Soon and Very Soon

Celebrant Pray, dear friends in Christ, that this my sacrifice and yours

may be acceptable to God, the almighty father

All May the Lord accept this sacrifice at your hands,

for the praise and glory of his name,

for our good and the good of all his Church.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All And also with you. Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues, ending

Who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

From Advent Mass, Robert Lehman



The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues, ending with

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.

All Amen.

A time of silence is kept.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

All 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 BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia.



THE GIVING OF COMMUNION

The Celebrant says this invitation

Celebrant Behold the Lamb of God

Behold him who takes away the sins of the world.

All Lord, I am not worthy that you should come under my roof, But speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.

Please make your way to the Altar rail as directed by an usher. Kneel or stand. Both the Host and Chalice will be offered. Should you wish to receive the Chalice, please remain kneeling or standing at the altar rail after receiving the Host.

The Host and the Chalice are given with these words

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. Amen.

ANTHEM Rejoice in the Lord, Alway

Anonymous, 16th c.

Rejoice in the Lord alway, and again I say, rejoice. Let your softness be known unto all men: the Lord is e'en at hand. Be careful for nothing: but in all prayer and supplication, Let your petitions be manifest unto God with giving of thanks. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesu. Amen.

Words: Philippians 4:4-7 – Introit for the Third Sunday of Advent

COMMUNION HYMN H82 72

Hark! the Glad Sound!, the Savior Comes

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Please kneel or sit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Almighty and everliving God,

we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food

of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;

and for assuring us in these holy mysteries

that we are living members of the Body of your Son,

and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out

to do the work you have given us to do,

to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL If you are able, please stand.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

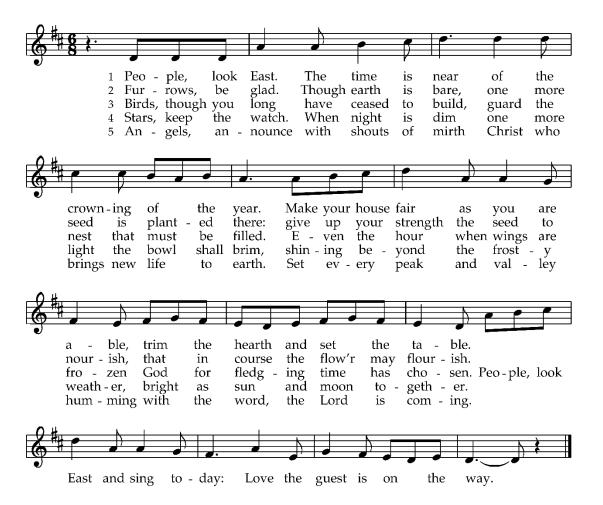
All And also with you.

The Celebrant blesses the Congregation, to which All respond

All Amen.

The Celebrant dismisses the Congregation, to which All respond

All Thanks be to God.



VOLUNTARY Besançon Carol

arr. Christopher J. Hoh

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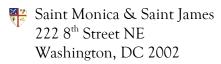


Bob Sonderman, Senior Warden seniorwarden@smjec.org 202-744-4280

Claire Miller, Parish Administrator office@smjec.org 202-481-0454

Daniel Elmer, Music Director music@smjec.org 703-919-5417

Matthieu Comeau, Sexton sexton@smjec.org



- 🛟 Saint Monica and Saint James is a part of the Diocese of Washington
- Daughters of the King, Martha Chapter
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