

# CHRIST & SAINT LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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## THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 15, 2024, 10:15 a.m.

*All page numbers refer to the Book of Common Prayer. Hymns can be found in the blue Hymnal 1982.  
Service music, marked with an 'S', may be found in the front portion of the hymnal.*

**PRELUDE:** Partita on Freu dich sehr, o meine Seele *Georg Böhm*

**THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH:** *Lift thine eyes* *Felix Mendelssohn*

Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes to the mountains, whence cometh help.  
Thy help cometh from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.  
He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved. Thy Keeper will never slumber.

*Please stand at the ringing of the bell.*

**HYMN 76:** On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry *Winchester New*

**THE OPENING ACCLAMATION & COLLECT FOR PURITY** p. 355

*Celebrant* Blessed are you, holy and living One.

*People* **You come to your people and set them free.**

*Celebrant* 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.**

**KYRIE:** Hymnal S96 *Franz Schubert*

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **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. **Amen.**

## THE FIRST LESSON

Zephaniah 3:14-20

**S**ING 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.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## THE FIRST SONG OF ISAIAH: Hymnal S 213

Isaiah 12:2-6

## THE SECOND LESSON

Philippians 4:4-7

**R**EJOICE in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## HYMN 59: Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding

*Merton*

## THE GOSPEL

Luke 3:7-18

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

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**J**OHAN 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.” So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

*Gospeller* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Jared Grant

THE NICENE CREED

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**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

*Common Worship*

Watchful at all times, let us pray for strength to stand with confidence before our Maker and Redeemer.

That God may bring in God's kingdom with justice and mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

That God may establish among the nations God's scepter of righteousness, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

That we may seek Christ in the Scriptures and recognize him in the breaking of the bread, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

That God may bind up the brokenhearted, restore the sick and raise up all who have fallen, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

That the light of God's coming may dawn on all who live in darkness and the shadow of death, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

That, with all the saints in light, we may shine forth as lights for the world, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

We commend ourselves and all for whom we pray to the mercy and protection of our heavenly Father.

*The Priest adds the prayers of the congregation.*

*Celebrant* Almighty God, as your blessed Son Jesus Christ first came to seek and to save the lost; so may he come again to find in us the completion of his redeeming work; for he is now alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. (*please kneel*)

*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.

*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. Amen.

THE PEACE (*please stand*)

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: O radiant dawn

*James MacMillan*

O Radiant Dawn, Splendour of eternal Light, Sun of Justice:

Come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.

Isaiah had prophesied, The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you. *People* And al - so 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 God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

*The Celebrant continues with the proper preface.*

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:

SANCTUS: Hymnal S130

Franz Schubert

*The Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic Prayer.*

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

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Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues...*

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. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed  
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our  
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,  
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead  
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us  
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,  
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*Celebrant* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* Therefore let us keep the feast.

FRACTION ANTHEM: Hymnal SI64

*Franz Schubert*

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

### *Communion at Christ & St. Luke's:*

- At the indication of the usher, please move to the center aisle and proceed up the altar rail. Move to the open spot filling in from the center of the rail to the wall.
- Kneel as you are able and place one hand over the other, palms up, to receive the bread.
- To sip from a chalice to receive the wine, consume the bread leaving your palms empty.
- To intinct (dip) your wafer into the wine, hold it between your thumb and forefinger.
- Once the chalices have passed, exit out the side and back down the side aisles to your pew.

Gluten free wafers are available, simply let the priest know you require one. If you prefer not to receive the bread or wine but would like a blessing, gently cross your arms across your chest.

A standing station is also available in front of the pulpit.

COMMUNION ANTHEM: How lovely are the messengers *Felix Mendelssohn*  
How lovely are the messengers that preach us the gospel of peace. To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words, throughout all the lands their glad tidings.

COMMUNION HYMN 71: Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes *Bristol*

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (*please stand*) p. 365

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People* 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 ADVENT BLESSING

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

HYMN 556 v.1-5: Rejoice, ye pure in heart *Marion*

## THE DISMISSAL

*People* Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Toccata on Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart *Albert Travis*

## **WE INVITE YOUR PRAYERS**

*If you would like to be added to the Prayer List, please contact a member of clergy or BJ Taylor, Facilitator for Pastoral and Congregational Care (taylorasc@aol.com).*

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Anglican Church of Tanzania.

**In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:** Emmanuel, Glenmore and Trinity, Gretna.

**All those facing illness, surgery, injury or adversity, especially:** Ron Baldrige, Delane Coffey, Ellen Coffman, Edith Grandy, Sam Hedgecock, Bill Moore, Elmer Morales-Torres, Joyce Neighbours, Susan Pryor, Grant Singleton, Frank Stanfield, Anne Traylor, George Vick, Jim Wells, and Meriel Burgess Wright. We pray for the people of Ukraine. We pray also for peace in the Holy Land and for all those who are suffering there. We pray for our nation during this time of transition.

**Those who ask for our continuing prayers:** Carter Bernert, David Black, Tom Bolt, Linda Coupland, Betty Davis, David Durica, Marilyn Gindroz, Frank Kirchner, Wayne Lundie, Ceil McCoid, Leon Parham, William Swan, and Irene Wenger.

**Our loved ones needing continuing prayers:** Abbey Brassfield, Bob Doughty, Jonathan Glaser, Bea Greenlaw, Patsy Hatem, Sharon Hubbard, Dean Kershaw, James Kilavey, Missy Korwan, Wesley Lupo, Mike, Mavis Stapleford, Karen Stricker, Betty Thomas, Auris Torres, and Autumn Vandehei.

**This week's birthdays: Dec. 16-21**

Sara Caro, Monica Deng, Keith Ehrhard, Tim Haycox, Marsh Pierce, Kevin Rafferty, Tracy Reynolds, Juliet Saltmarsh, Scarlett Saltmarsh, Shannon Scharnhorst, Jess Stribling, and Way Way Taylor.

**This week's anniversaries: Dec. 16-21**

Joseph & Kate Bobbitt and Leslie & Thomas Yuill.



# PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## LITURGY & MUSIC

### **Blue Christmas Service – Friday, December 20, 6:00 p.m.**

At a time of year when so many experience feelings of grief, loss, and hardship, the Blue Christmas service offers a space for prayer, music, and reflection and invites us into God's promise of hope and healing. We've designed this service to include ample space for silence and reflection, all anchored with the meditative music of the Taizé community led by members of the Christ & St. Luke's choir. The service will also include Holy Eucharist. The chapel will open at 5:30 p.m. for silent prayer, followed by the service at 6:00 p.m.

**Join us for the joyous celebration of Christmas!**

### Christmas Service Times

#### **Tuesday, December 24 - Christmas Eve**

- Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist with Christmas Pageant - 4:30 p.m.
- The Feast of the Nativity with Full Choir and Brass - 10:00 p.m.  
(Prelude begins at 9:30 p.m.)

#### **Wednesday, December 25 - Christmas Day**

- The Feast of the Nativity - 10:15 a.m.

#### **Sunday, December 29**

- 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. - Christmas Lessons and Carols

## FORMATION

### **Adult Formation in Advent: Music and Poetry**

In Adult Formation the next two weeks we will continue our focus on the spiritual power of Art in this season of divine creativity. Today, Fr. Jared leads us in an exploration in some of the glorious music of this season. Next Sunday, December 21, Fr. Noah will share with us some of the great poetry that Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany have inspired through the ages. We're excited for these sessions and hope you will make a point to be with us.

### **Everything You Want to know About the Christmas Pageant**

1. Rehearsals: Please be sure you are available for at least 3 rehearsals and the December 24th rehearsal is mandatory.

Today, December 15, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 18, 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 22, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 24, Call time 3:00 p.m.

2. Original Artwork for the 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve bulletin: The original artwork must be black and white only. Submit artwork to Kathy Hanna and be sure your child's name is on the back.

3. Please contact Kathy Hanna ([kathy.hanna@christandstlukes.org](mailto:kathy.hanna@christandstlukes.org)) with any questions.

## Sunday Childcare, Children's Formation, and Children's Chapel

- The Registration Form for all children's programs may now be found online under announcements.
- 9:00 a.m. Childcare: *Children up to 3 years old* gather in the Children's Room.
- 9:00 a.m. Children's Formation: *Children 3 years to 3rd grade (3-8 years old)* gather in the meeting room (the gold room) for what was formerly known as "Sunday School." We will explore scripture and the traditions of the Episcopal church through stories, music, and art response.
- 9:00 a.m. Children's Formation: *Children in 4th & 5th grade (9-11 years old)* gather in Lower Lloyd Hall for discussion of scripture, the Episcopal Church, and Christ & St. Luke's in a fun and relaxed setting. Participants are invited to join their families or sit together for the 10:15 a.m. service.
- 10:15 a.m. Children's Chapel: *All children through 3rd grade* participate in developmentally appropriate worship during Children's Chapel in their respective rooms. Older children will be brought into church to rejoin their families at the Peace. If you would like your child under 3 to join you at the Peace, please come to the Children's Room at that time to sign them out.

### Important information for when you drop off your child:

Please escort your child to the Children's Room (under 3) or the Gold Room (3 and older). Sign them in so we have a record of who is here and please make sure there is an adult present. If your child is rejoining you for communion, please watch for them when they come down the ramp. Thank you for helping us keep your children safe!

### CSL Youth Christmas Morning Breakfast – TODAY, after Caroling, Cocoa, & Cookies at 3:00 p.m.

After regaling the neighborhood with tidings of joy (see announcement under *Fellowship*), the youth will have their now traditional Christmas morning celebration. Christmas breakfast will be served, gifts will be exchanged (\$10 gift price limit), and reindeer games will be played!

### ADMINISTRATION

#### Christmas Memorial Flowers – deadline to submit names is Wednesday, December 18

We are currently accepting Christmas memorial flower contributions online *through December 18*. Please complete the order form online and let us know if you are contributing in memory or thanksgiving of loved ones. Select "Christmas Flowers" in the drop down menu on the payment page. *Christmas Flower envelopes are also available in the Tower entrance or reception area if you prefer to write a check*. These flowers will be adorning our church for Christmas, so please consider donating to honor your loved ones. Please email Judie Belka ([office@christandstlukes.org](mailto:office@christandstlukes.org)) with questions.

## FELLOWSHIP

### **Caroling, Cocoa, and Cookies – TODAY, December 15, 3:00 p.m.**

Dress in holiday garb and join us as we regale the neighborhood with Christmas carols. After caroling, we will enjoy hot cocoa and cookies (feel free to bring your favorite Christmas cookies) and fellowship in the Main Reception area.

### **Fellowship Event for Young Families – January 17, 2025**

Parents! Save the date for January 17, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. for a special Family Night event. After a shared meal, kids will head to age-appropriate activities, while parents and caregivers join together for fellowship and conversation. We'll use this time to gauge interest and design community activities/outings for young families - families with children between birth and 18. More details to come soon. Reach out of Fr. Jared ([jared.grant@christandstlukes.org](mailto:jared.grant@christandstlukes.org)) or Kathy Hanna ([kathy.hanna@christandstlukes.org](mailto:kathy.hanna@christandstlukes.org)) with questions.

## OUTREACH

### **Together for Kenya 2024 Angel Tree**

We are truly touched and grateful for the generosity that comes from our Christ & St. Luke's church family each Christmas season in support of our Kenya Mission. The ornaments on the Angel Tree in the back of the church represent over 2,000 at risk children who are being helped with medical care, education and food. With your help, Together for Kenya can accomplish the vital work of caring for the vulnerable and marginal with grace and compassion. Please consider a gift of \$60.00.

### **Norfolk Winter Shelter**

Each year, the Norfolk Winter Shelter offers a tangible expression of the love of Christ as we serve our neighbors experiencing homelessness during the coldest times of the year. For the week of February 9-16, St. Andrew's Episcopal in West Ghent will host the shelter physically and Christ & St. Luke's will staff the volunteer roles - including cooking, cleaning, and being an overnight presence. Volunteer roles are available now for sign up! Visit [signup.com/go/wFrRMKU](https://signup.com/go/wFrRMKU) to find the full list of volunteer roles. Please sign-up early to help us prepare for this important ministry. There will be a volunteer training on January 28 for all volunteers to orient themselves to the NWS operations. A full explanation of roles will be available in the back of the Church this Sunday. Mark your calendars now. Reach out to Fr. Jared ([jared.grant@christandstlukes.org](mailto:jared.grant@christandstlukes.org)) or Jamie Lewis ([james.vb.lewis@me.com](mailto:james.vb.lewis@me.com)) with any questions.



Christ & St. Luke's  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

560 West Olney Road, Norfolk, Virginia 23507  
(757) 627-5665 info@christandstlukes.org

WORSHIP SERVICES AND FORMATION

Sunday, 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I (Chapel)  
Sunday, 9:15 a.m. Adult Forum & Children's Formation  
Sunday, 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II (Church)  
Thursday, 7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II (Chapel)

The Reverend Noah Van Niel, Rector  
The Reverend Jared Grant, Associate Rector  
The Reverend Vince Connery, Assisting Priest  
The Reverend Jess Stribling, Assisting Priest  
Kevin Kwan, Organist & Director of Music  
Marjorie Setnicky, Associate Organist  
Kathy Hanna, Director of Family, Youth and Children's Ministry  
Judie Belka, Director of Parish Operations  
Michelle Sturges, Business Administrator  
Rachel Welch, Administrative Assistant  
Will Lee, Director of Communications  
David Roberts, Sexton for Security

If this is your first time, welcome! Scan this QR code for our digital guest information or visit [christandstlukes.org/guests](http://christandstlukes.org/guests).

To make a one-time gift online, or a pledge to Christ and St. Luke's, please visit: [christandstlukes.org/give](http://christandstlukes.org/give) or text to give by texting "GIVECSL" to 73256.

Hearing assistance devices are available in the back of the Church.

