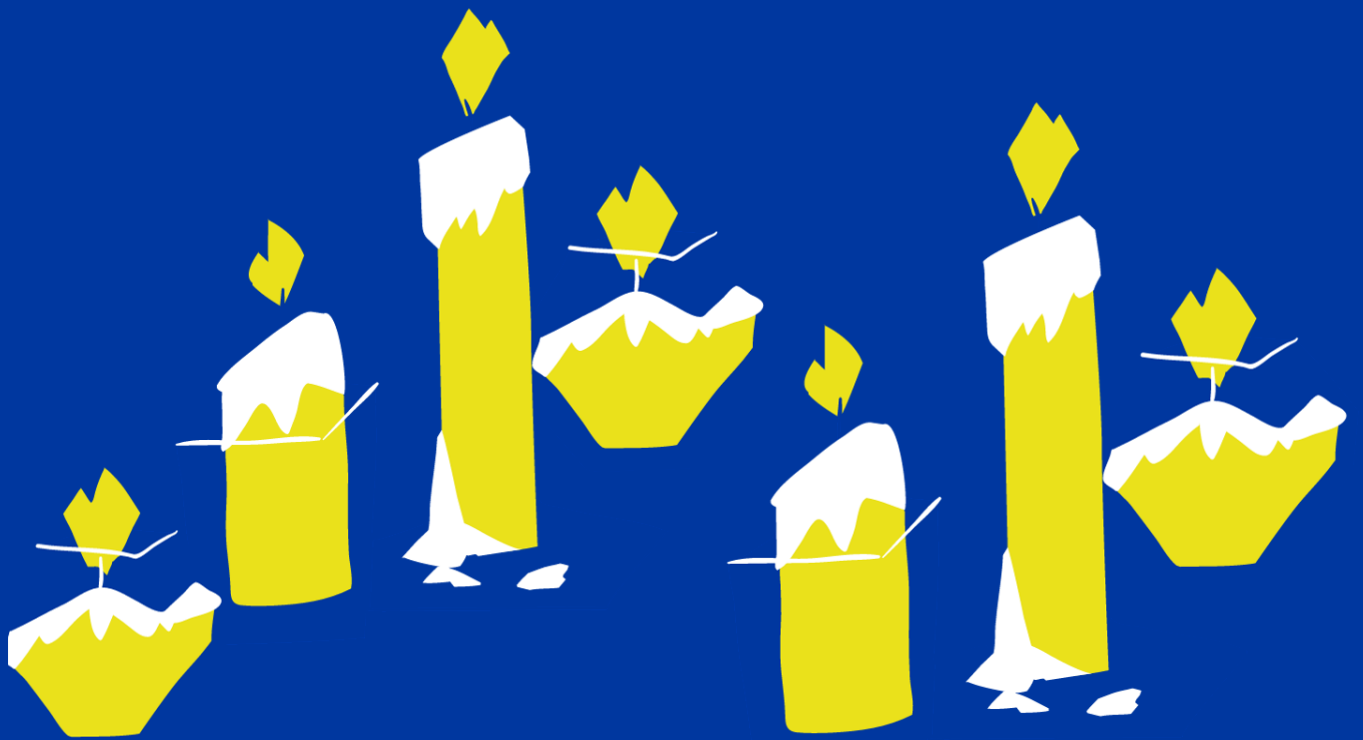


Seven Sundays of Advent



*All the darkness in
the world cannot extinguish
the light of a single candle.*

ST. FRANCIS
OF ASSISI

Advent Two

Adonai ("My Lord") Sunday

Name tags are available. We'd love to make one for you if you do not have one already.

Just fill out a form in your pew. Help yourself to coffee in the "cafe," and feel free to bring it to your pew. We're casual. We invite children to make themselves at home at our children's table, where there are weekly activity bulletins, crayons, etc...

Our live YouTube broadcast begins at 9:15 am.

The link to our YouTube channel

is available on our website,

stmarksandstjohns.org

Prelude

ENTRANCE HYMN

“Longing for Light”



1 Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for
2 Long-ing for peace, our world is trou-bled. Long-ing for
3 Long-ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone has
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see. _____
pow - er to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice. _____
bro - ken for o - thers, shared un - til all are fed. _____

Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.



Shine through the dark - ness. Christ, be our light!



Shine in your church gath - ered to - day. _____

OPENING SENTENCE

Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height and look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One.

CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins to God.

**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.**

Almighty God, have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

**Blessed are you, O Lord our God,
You call each of us to walk in your light and to seek
your ways of justice and peace for the night is passing,
and the dawn of your coming is near.
Bless this community as we light the second candle.
Wake us from our sleep so that we may be ready to greet our Lord.
Help us ready our hearts and homes, for Christ is our light and
salvation. Amen.**

OPENING VERSICLE

O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise.
And your glory all the day long.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

VENITE

Psalm 95:1-7

Come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving
and raise to the Lord a shout with psalms.

For you are a great God;
you are great above all gods.

In your hand are the caverns of the earth,
and the heights of the hills are yours also.
The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down and bend the knee,
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For you are our God, and we are the people of your pasture and
the sheep of your hand.

Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!

PSALM 23

The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

**He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

He revives my soul and guides me along
right pathways for his Name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.**

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble
me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running
over.

**Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of
my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 65:17-25

A reading from the book of Isaiah -

For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice for ever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.

They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord – and their descendants as well. Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent – its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 12 - A SONG OF CREATION

**Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord,
sing praise and give honor forever.**

**In the high vault of heaven, glorify the Lord,
sing praise and give honor forever.**

**Let the earth glorify the Lord,
sing praise and give honor forever.**

**Glorify the Lord, O mountains
and hills, and all that grows upon the earth,
sing praise and give honor forever.**

**Glorify the Lord, O springs of water, seas, and streams,
O whales and all that move in the waters.**

**All birds of the air, glorify the Lord,
sing praise and give honor forever.**

**Glorify the Lord, O beasts of the wild,
and all you flocks and herds.**

**O men and women everywhere, glorify the Lord,
sing praise and give honor forever.**

SECOND LESSON

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

A reading from the book of Second Thessalonians -

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do

not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ADVENT HYMN: "PEOPLE LOOK EAST"



1. Peo - ple, look East. The time is near of the crown-ing of the
2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is plant - ed



1. year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble, trim the hearth and set the
2. there: give up your strength the seed to nour - ish, that in course the flow'r may



1. ta - ble. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the guest is on the way.
2. flour-ish. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the rose is on the way.

A reading from the Gospel of Luke -

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, 'As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.'

They asked him, 'Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?' And he said, 'Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and, "The time is near!" Do not go after them.

'When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.' Then he said to them, 'Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

'But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.

Here ends the reading.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION *Please be seated*

You're invited to light a candle at our prayer table and write your prayer intentions on one of the Prayer Boards during the music.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of many names, God beyond all names; the beginning and the end of every story, the meaning of every life; infinite Mystery both hidden and revealed.

God of hope

Hear our prayer

O Desire of every heart, the answer to every longing: You are the vital force that draws us into the mystery of your love. Forgive those things that distract and delay us and lead us deeper into your embrace.

God of hope

Hear our prayer

God who has come, God who does come, God who is yet to come: Make us an Advent people, ready and alert to welcome and receive you in the stranger's face, the loving act, the moment of grace, the presence of healing, the birth of possibility, the gift of wonder. Let every heart prepare You a place.

God of hope

Hear our prayer

Compassionate One, hold us in your mercy: heal the sick, mend the broken, protect the vulnerable, shelter the immigrant, strengthen the weary, rescue the lost, and give courage to all who struggle. We pray today for.....

God of mercy

Hear our prayer

Leader: Gracious God, You show us the face of the Divine and reveal the fullness of our humanity. Come: renew your creation, restore us all in Christ, and enable us to continue to become more of who we are. We pray in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

**Our Father in Heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

SUFFRAGES

Help us, O God our Savior;

Deliver us and forgive us our sins.

Look upon your congregation;

Give to your people the blessing of peace.

Declare your glory among the nations;

And your wonders among all peoples.

Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;

Never forget the lives of your poor.

Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;

And your favor to those who are true of heart.

Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;

So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

THE COLLECTS

Lord God, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you, and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name, you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

“THE BLESSING” (Aotearoa)

adapted for SMSJ liturgy - original music and words by
Chris Brown, Cody Carnes, Kari Jobe, Steven Furtick

The Lord bless you and keep you,
Make Her face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord turn Her face toward you and give you peace.
Amen, amen, amen; Amen, amen, amen.

May Her favor be upon you and a thousand generations
And your family and your children and their children,
and their children.
Amen, amen, amen; Amen, amen, amen.

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more
than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to
generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus forever and ever.
Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Alleluia. Alleluia. Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

SMSJ WEEKLY CALENDAR (11/20/23-11/26/23)

The church office is open Tuesday-Friday, 9 am-4 pm.

Tuesday

Morning Foodlink Truck Delivery - HELP NEEDED
Afternoon Seed Sowers & Storytellers

Wednesday

10:30-12 pm Thanksgiving Food Shelf Distribution -
HELP NEEDED

Thursday - Church Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

10:00 am Thanksgiving Service & Coffee Hour

Friday - Church Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

Sunday

8:15 am Handbell Rehearsal
9:15 am Worship w/ Eucharist

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Family Fun Day - Thanksgiving Jeopardy following Worship TODAY!

HELP IS NEEDED for the Thanksgiving Food Shelf. We have 80 Thanksgiving food boxes and turkeys arriving Tuesday morning, and we need help unloading them. The Foodlink truck is typically here between 9:30-11:30 am. Come hang out at church or close by at New City Cafe.

Handbell Ensemble will play on The Reign of Christ Sunday, November 26! If you'd like to join us, please let Maria know so she can pick music. The **Advent Handbell Ensemble** will be starting December 3 - this is a great time to start playing if you haven't, as the carols are easy and fun!

Thanksgiving Worship will be held at 10 am on Thanksgiving Day, November 23. Join us for morning prayer and time to gather as a community.

Our **Extended Advent Season** continues. Join us throughout the season as we follow in the footsteps of the ancient church.

November 26th - Advent 3: Rex gentium/ The Reign of Christ Sunday

December 3rd - Advent 4: Radix Jesse/ Root of Jesse Sunday

December 10th - Advent 5: Clavis David/ Key of David Sunday

December 17th - Advent 6: Oriens/Morning Star Sunday

December 24th - Advent 7: Emmanuel/ God with Us Sunday

Our next **Vestry Meeting** will be held **Monday, 11/27** at 6:30 pm on Zoom.

Interested in serving as a **Food Shelf Volunteer** in 2024? The January-March schedule will be made available soon for you to sign up! Let Maria know if you'd like to volunteer on a regular basis or be put on the list of substitutes to fill in on occasion.

November Birthdays & Anniversaries

Are we missing your information? Send us an email at admin@stmarksandstjohns.org so we can add it and celebrate your special day with you!

Birthdays	Anniversaries
Kristen C. - 11/11	Celebrating an anniversary in November? Let us know!
Faythe N. - 11/20	
Catherine B. - 11/26	
Pastor Cindy - 11/28	

Worship Leaders of November-December 2023

Date	First Lesson & Psalm	Second Lesson	Prayers of the People/Greeter
11/19 Advent II	Theresa H.	Dave E.	Heather G.
11/26 Christ the King Sunday	Tom F.	Theresa H.	Mary Ellen F.
12/3 Advent IV	Sharon K.	Mary E.	Deb S.
12/10 Advent V	Heather G.	Michele H.	Sharon K.
12/17 Advent VI	Mary Ellen F.	Terri C.	Mary E.
12/24 Christmas Eve	Michele H.	Dave E.	Heather G.
12/31 Christmas I	Tom F.	Joe C.	Mary Ellen F.

Date	Hold Cup Tray	Give Single Cup	Collect Cups
11/19 Advent II	Nancy W.	Bob C.	Sharon K.
11/26 Christ the King Sunday	Mary Ellen F.	Deb S.	Nancy W.
12/3 Advent IV	Dave E.	Joe C.	Bob C.
12/10 Advent V	Sharon K.	Heather G.	Michele H.
12/17 Advent VI	Theresa H.	Nancy W.	Bob C.
12/24 Christmas Eve	Tom F.	Sharon K.	Terri C.
12/31 Christmas I	Nancy W.	Bob C.	Sharon K.



St. Mark's & St. John's Staff

Rector: The Rev'd Cynthia Rasmussen

crasmussen@stmarksandstjohns.org

Operations and Missions Director: Maria Hartz

mhartz@stmarksandstjohns.org

Musician: Andy Lacey

Audio and Video Producer: Robert Thornton

Deacon Emeritus: The Rev'd Mike Finn

wetlandnomad88@gmail.com

St. Mark's & St. John's Vestry

Co-Wardens: Michele Holmes & Walt Snyder

Vestry Members: Bob Caruso (Clerk), Samantha Glarner, Ella Gruel, Theresa Harte, Sharon Kowalski, Nancy Ramsay, and Ginnie Schindler

Diocesan Delegates: Nancy Willer, Ella Gruel, and Deb Snyder

Alternate Diocesan Delegate: Terri Censak

Beechwood Neighborhood Coalition Representative

Terri Censak