

# Welcome to St. Mark's and St. John's

## First Sunday of Advent

### *Advent One*

Help yourself to coffee in the "cafe". Feel free to bring it to your pew.

We invite children to make themselves at home at our children's table where there are weekly activity bulletins. Our live YouTube broadcast begins at 9:15am.

As always, the link to our live/recorded YouTube channel is available on our website, [stmarksandstjohns.org](http://stmarksandstjohns.org)

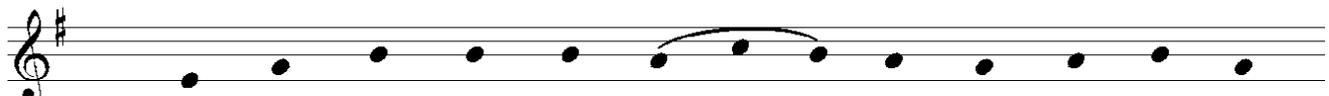
### PRELUDE

### Instrumental

### OPENING MUSIC "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

*Please Stand*

*Masked singing encouraged*



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

*The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.*

## OPENING SENTENCE

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

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Celebrant: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.  
You call nations to walk in your light  
and to seek your ways of justice and peace  
for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near.  
Bless us as we light the third candle of this wreath -  
the candle of hope.  
Wake us from our sleep,  
that we may be ready to greet our Lord when God comes  
and help us welcome God into our hearts and homes,  
for Christ is our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

*Deacon:* Let us pray. Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## THE FIRST LESSON:

*Please be seated*

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."  
*Jeremiah 33:14-16*

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25: 1-9

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
my God, I put my trust in you;  
let me not be humiliated,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

**Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**

Show me your ways, O Lord,  
and teach me your paths.

**Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.**

Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.

**Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;  
remember me according to your love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.**

Gracious and upright is the Lord;  
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

**He guides the humble in doing right  
and teaches his way to the lowly.**

All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness  
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

## THE SECOND LESSON:

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

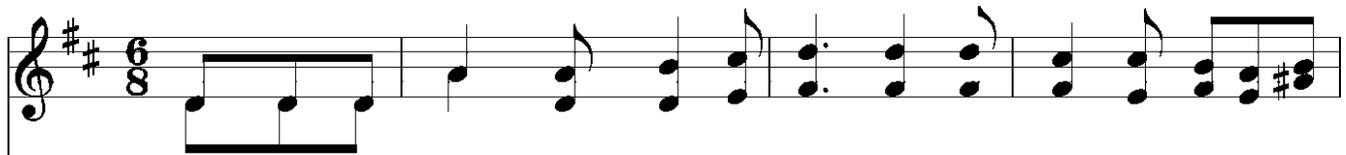
Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

*1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13*

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying.

ALL: 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
3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be



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
3. filled. E - ven the hour when wings are fro - zen God for fledg - ling time has



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.
3. cho - sen. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the bird is on the way.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

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

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

*Luke 21: 25-36*

Deacon: The Gospel of our Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## SERMON

The Rev'd Mary Ann Brody

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in God above us,**

**Creator of all things, sustainer of all life.**

**We believe in Christ beside us, companion and friend,**

**redeemer of all the broken pieces of our universe.**

**We believe in Spirit deep**

**within us, Advocate and**

**guide, who lives with us eternally.**

**We believe in God's resurrection created world**

**where all things are fixed,**

**and all creation fits together**

**in vibrant harmonies.**

**We believe in God above, beside, within,**

**God yesterday, today and forever, the three in one, the one in three.**

## 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 the Prayer Board during the music. Please stay socially distant.*

## 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 mercy

**Hear our prayer**

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

God of mercy

**Hear our prayer**

O Morning Star, bright splendor of the light eternal, illuminating all things with your radiance: Come, enlighten all who sit in darkness, and those who dwell in the shadow of violence and death. Grant us your peace, and teach us to live in the dawn of your unfailing promise.

God of mercy

**Hear our prayer**

O Desire of every heart, the answer to every longing: You are the strong force that draws us into the mystery of love divine. Forgive us those things which distract and delay us, and lead us ever deeper into the Way, the Truth and the Life.

God of mercy

**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 mercy

**Hear our prayer**

Closing Collect: Emmanuel, 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 become who we are, your faithful and loving people. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

## INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*on screen*

The Lord is here.

**God's Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

It is right indeed that we should praise you, God of love, our source and our fulfillment, for you create all things, and in you we live and move and have our being. Your wonder is manifest in land and sea and sky.

As a parent tenderly gathers their children, you embraced a people as your own to rear them in your way of compassionate love. From your own being you sent Jesus among us, incarnate of the Holy Spirit and born of Mary our sister.

Jesus revealed your care for all you have made, and showed us your way of reconciliation. Looking forward to the joy of new life Jesus suffered the pangs of the cross and in rising again became the first-born of the renewed family.

You sent your Holy Spirit and gave birth to us, your church. Your Spirit stays to nurture and to guide us.

Now we join hands around your table, and with all creation we hymn your praise for your unending love, as we sing,

**Holy, holy, holy, holy  
Holy Lord God of hosts  
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory  
Hosanna in the highest  
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord, of the lord  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

To you indeed be glory, almighty God, because on the night before he died, your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread; when he had given you thanks, he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:

**Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.**

After supper he took the cup; when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them and said:

**This cup is the new covenant in my blood poured out for you;  
do this as often as you drink it to remember me.**

And so in this great sacrament we celebrate and proclaim the mystery of our faith.

**Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come in glory.**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and our celebration, that we may be fed with the body and blood of your Son and be filled with your life and goodness. Strengthen us to do your work, and to be your body in the world.

Anoint us with your life-giving power that we might recognize your presence in each and every person.

**By Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.**

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray (sing),  
**Our Father, which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation.  
But deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

**We who are many are one body, for we share in this one bread.**

The gifts of God for the people of God take them in remembrance of Christ's life, death, and resurrection and feed on him in your hearts by faith.

## WELCOME TO THE TABLE

*All are welcome to receive communion.*

*Please be seated. Our Eucharistic Ministers will come to you. As they approach, please stand if you are able. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available.*

*If you would like to receive a blessing instead of communion, simply cross your arms in front of you.*

## COMMUNION INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

**Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### FINAL BLESSING

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Tend to your spirit and our city.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SMSJ WEEKLY CALENDAR (November 29, 2021 - December 5, 2021)

### **Tuesday**

9:30am Food Shelf Prep & Foodlink Delivery (Bob V)

### **Wednesday**

9:30am Morning Healing Eucharist

10:30-12pm Food Shelf Ministry (Bob and Paula V)

12pm Freedom Scholars, CCE, and SMSJ partner meeting

### **Thursday**

9:30am Staff Meeting

7:00pm Bible Study-The Book of Acts

*Zoom link will be available on the website*

**Friday** *Pastor Cindy's day off*

### **2022 Pledge Campaign**

We met our goal of \$95,000 in pledges for 2022!. Thank you to all who participated in this year's campaign, your support is greatly appreciated.

### **Food Shelf Volunteers Needed**

We need some help if we are going to be able to continue offering a weekly Food Shelf for our neighbors. Here are some dates we need coverage:

Tuesday, Dec. 7, Bag food (afternoon/evening)

Tuesday, Dec. 2, Unload truck, unpack food, set-up for baggers (9am)

Tuesday, Dec. 21, Bag food (afternoon/evening)

Tuesday, Dec. 28, Bag food (afternoon/evening)

Tuesday, Jan. 4, Unload truck, unpack food, set-up for baggers (9am)

Tuesday, Jan. 4, Bag food (afternoon/evening)

Tuesday, Jan. 11, Bag food (afternoon/evening)

Interested in more information or signing up? Contact Paula Valeri at [pvaleri@gmail.com](mailto:pvaleri@gmail.com)

## **Bible Study**

Continuing this Thursday, **December 2nd**, Rev' Cindy is leading a weekly Bible Study at 7:00pm and participants will be able to attend online. We are studying the Book of Acts! The Zoom link is posted on the website.

## **Weekly Worship Email**

Look out on Fridays for our weekly Sunday Service reminder email! It will include links to the live stream, our Youtube channel, and this week's bulletins. If you aren't receiving it in your inbox, check your spam and promotional folders.

## **Prayer Concerns and/or Thanksgivings**

Our newsprint "Prayer" board is back. You are welcome to light a candle and put the name(s) of those you would like us to hold in prayer. First names will be shared during the Prayers of the People. If you would like to include any of these names on our regular prayer list, please email Terri Censak at [scensak@frontiernet.net](mailto:scensak@frontiernet.net).

## **Readers and Eucharistic Ministers**

If you'd like to serve as a Reader and/or a Eucharistic Minister, please let Deacon Mike or Pastor Cindy know. The November and December schedule is attached. If you are unable to serve a particular weekend, please find a replacement and let Pastor Cindy know.

## **Monthly E-Newsletter**

If you have not been receiving our monthly E-Newsletter and you would like to, please add your name and email address to the list on the clipboard in the Narthex.

## **2022 Nominations Open**

The following positions are open for nominations:

- 1 Co-Warden, 2-year term
- 1 Vestry, 2-year term
- 2 Vestry, 3-year term
- 1 Delegate to Convention, 3-year term
- 1 Alternate Delegate to Convention, 1-year term

Nomination forms are available on the table near the coffee station.

## Worship Leaders for November and December of 2021

<b>Date</b>	<b>First Lesson and Psalm</b>	<b>Second Lesson</b>	<b>Prayers of the People</b>	<b>Hold Cup Tray</b>	<b>Give Single Cup</b>	<b>Collect Cups</b>
10/31	Tom F	Mary E	Stephanie S	Char K	Sharon K	Joe C
11/7	Heather G	Mary Ellen F	Sharon K	Mary E	Terri C	April L
11/14	Paula V	Walt S	Samantha G	Stephanie S	LaVonne N	Tom F
11/21	Kathy J	Bob V	Michele H	Heather G	Mary Ellen F	Deb S
11/28	Bob C	Deb S	Joe C	Dorothy B	Kathy J	Bob C
12/5	Bob C	Terri C	LaVonne N	Sharon K	Joe C	Char K
12/12	Mary E	Stephanie S	Tom F	Terri C	Mary E	Children
12/19	Mary Ellen F	Sharon K	Heather G	LaVonne N	Tom F	Stephanie S
12/24	Walt S	Samantha G	Paula V	Mary Ellen F	Deb S	Heather G
12/26	Bob V	Michele H	Kathy J	Walt S	Samantha G	Paula V
1/2	Joe C	Bob C	Deb S	Michele H	Nancy W	Dorothy B
1/9	LaVonne N	Kathy J	Terri C	Bob C	Dorothy B	Children