



# ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH

### Christmas Eve Eucharist

December 24, 2021  
8:00 p.m.



#### Ministers of the Church

*The People of St. Michael*

#### Our Vestry & Staff

Zollie White II, **Senior Warden**  
850-321-2817

Charlie Clark, **Junior Warden (Actg.)**  
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Renee Frazier  
Cassandra J. Grayson  
Lenin Mongerie  
Henry Okafor  
Lauren Sapp

Sheila Hickman, **Vestry Clerk**

Laurette Scott, **Treasurer**

Kathleen Rodgers, **Financial Secretary**

Monique Alleyne, Ivana Kenny Carmola  
and Debralee LaSeur-Helfand

#### **Organists**

Chris White, **Drummer/Choral Director**

John Grayson, **LEMS Co-Ordinator**

Elizabeth Humes, **Admin. Assistant**

#### Our Clergy

The Right Reverend John Howard  
**Bishop – Diocese of Florida**

The Reverend Hugh Chapman, **Rector**  
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**Find us on Facebook as well!**

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## CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Choral Prelude – Carols to begin at 7:45 pm

**H91**                    **Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light**                    JS Bach

Break forth, O beauteous heav'nly light,  
And usher in the morning.  
O shepherds, greet that glorious sight,  
Our Lord a crib adorning.  
This child, this little helpless boy,  
Shall be our confidence and joy,  
The power of Satan breaking,  
Our peace eternal making.

**H79**                    **O little town of Bethlehem**                    *St. Louis*

1 O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by; yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light. The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.	2 For Christ is born of Mary, and, gathered all above while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth, and praises sing to God the King and peace to all the earth.
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**H82**                    **Of the Father's love begotten**                    *Divinum mysterium*

1 Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be, he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he, of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see evermore and evermore.	2 Oh, that birth forever blessed when the virgin, full of grace, by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race, and the babe, the world's Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face evermore and evermore.
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**H109**                    **The first Nowell**                    *The First Nowell*

1 The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Refrain:  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
born is the King of Israel.  
2 They looked up and saw a star shining in the east, beyond them far;  
and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. [Refrain]

In gratitude for the One announced by the light of stars and angels, we light the Christ candle. Hear the word of the Lord: "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death, a light has dawned." For the Light of Christ that shines in the darkness for all people in all times, we give thanks.

Go now and share the good news of the gospel of peace: I have come to comfort those who mourn, to give them joy instead of sorrow, hope instead of despair. My unfailing love will not be shaken; my promise of peace stands forever. I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in Me should stay in darkness.

For God, who said "Let light shine out of darkness," has made His light shine in your hearts. No one lights a lamp and hides it. Instead, he puts it on a stand, so that those who enter may see the light. In the same way, let your light shine. You are the light of the world. Go now as children of light.

## HOLY EUCHARIST- RITE TWO

### OPENING PRAYER

Gracious Father, we pray for thy holy Catholic Church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in any thing it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son our Savior. *Amen.*

### Processional Hymn

1 O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come and behold him,  
[Refrain]  
born the King of angels.

Refrain:  
O come, let us adore him, (3x)  
Christ the Lord!

### H83 O come all ye faithful

2 God from true God, and  
Light from Light eternal,  
born of a virgin, to earth he comes!  
Only-begotten Son of God the Father:

3 Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest:  
[Refrain]

### Adeste fideles

## **THE WORD OF GOD**

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

### **THE COLLECT FOR PURITY**

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.*

### **GLORIA**

#### **L243 Glory, Glory, Hallelujah**

Haywood

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

### **THE CELEBRANT SAYS TO THE PEOPLE**

The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

### **COLLECT FOR THE DAY**

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### **THE LESSONS**

*The people sit*

## **A Reading from the Book of Isaiah (9:2-7)**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord

*People: Thanks be to God*

**Psalm 96**(*Read responsively by whole verse*)

**1. Sing to the Lord a new song;\***

**sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.**

*2. Sing to the Lord and bless his name;\**

*proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.*

**3. Declare his glory among the nations\***

**and his wonders among all peoples.**

*4. For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;\**

*he is more to be feared than all gods.*

**5. As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;\***

**but it is the Lord who made the heavens.**

*6. Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence!\**

*Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary;\**

**7. Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples;\***

**ascribe to the Lord honor and power.**

*8. Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name;\**

*bring offerings and come into his courts.*

**9. Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;\*-**

**let the whole earth tremble before him.**

*10. Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King!\**

*he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;*

*he will judge the peoples with equity."*

**11. Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;\*  
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.**

*12. Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy  
before the Lord when he comes,\*  
when he comes to judge the earth.*

**13. He will judge the world with righteousness  
and the peoples with truth**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be, world without end.**

**A Reading from the Epistle to Titus (2:11-14)**

*For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and Godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.*

The Word of the Lord

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**Gradual Hymn                      H96, v1-2    Angel we have heard on high                      Gloria**

1 Angels we have heard on high  
sweetly singing o'er the plains  
and the mountains in reply  
echoing their joyous strains

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why these songs of happy cheer?  
What great brightness did you see  
What glad tidings did you hear? [Refrain]

Refrain:

Gloria in excelsis Deo,  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

**Gospeler: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (2:1-14)**

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

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.’ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!”

After the Gospel the Reader says:

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Sequence Hymn**      **H96, v3-4**    **Angels we have heard on high**      *Hollingside*

3	Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing; come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. [Refrain]	4	See him in a manger laid Whom the angels praise above Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, While we raise our hearts in love. [Refrain]
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**Sermon**

The Reverend Hugh Chapman

**THE NICENE CREED**

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*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM IV**

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Silence*

**Lord, in your mercy,**

*Hear our prayer.*

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Silence*

**Lord, in your mercy**

*Hear our prayer.*

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence.*

**Lord, in your mercy**

*Hear our prayer.*

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

*Silence*

**Lord, in your mercy**

*Hear our prayer.*

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit especially our sick and those in need of peace and healing.

**For those at Home:**

Fr. Laughton Thomas, Rosalyn Greene, Ella Woodbury, Sam Oliver Sr., James Manning, Toni Jarmon, Rev. Leslie R. White, Rev. Ralph Griffith, Leonel Jones, Charles Walton, Joan Jackson Taylor, Franklyn Bramble, Christine Seymour, Mary Ann Nottage, Kove Lawson, Cynthia Holland, Genevieve Vaughn, Harriet Bowen. Livy Hitchcock, Sheila Gonzales, Reubina Gomez, Scott Allen, Sam & Sharal Jugger and Allan Johnson.

**For those in the care of the Doctor:**

Joycelyn Stephens, Jo Ann Robinson, Williamae Jackson, Lauren Sapp, Dr. Derek Spencer, Marva Davis, Delores Brown, Hattie Olivia Scott, Alexis Shermise Brown, Jasmine Hartin, Shevette Newkirk, Rudolph & Marva Griffith, Delois Abraham, Stella Harris, Pamela Harris Williams, Klcey Scott, Erica Scott, Renrick Alleyne, Jeffery Adams, Mayleen Rosheuvel, Ena Mason, Darlene Sheppard, Merrick Winston Edwards, Devonia Sears, Landon Dyre, Brittany Lee, Fr. William Guthrie, Herma Watson Taylor, Fred & Sheila Hickman, Barbara Gruden, Carolyn Allen, Canon. Nelson Pinder, Camilla Stapleton, Elijah Malone, Carl Maxwell, Fr. Ranfurly Brown, Al Lawson Jr., Bill Bush, Kendra Nixon, Nohemy Reid and Luann Hickman.

**For those on the front lines in the fight against the Coronavirus Pandemic:**

Especially all doctors, nurses, scientists, and our own, Dr. Shaun Laurie, Dr. Nwamaka Onyeozili, Dr. Ross Howard McMillan, Dr. Ciara Grayson, Dr. Alaine Sharpe, Zuri A. White and Cheston Williams.

**For those in the Military:**

Linzie Bogan II, Clark Bogan, Brianne Edwards, Vashti Thompson and Thandi Williams *and You may add your own petitions* give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Silence*

**Lord, in your mercy**

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled, and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

**Lord, in your mercy**

Hear our prayer.

*Collect for the Coronavirus Pandemic - Page 15.*

**Confession of Sin**

*The Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept. Minister 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 Celebrant then says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People**     **And also with you.**

**THE PEACE**

**H111 Silent night**

*Stille Nacht*

Silent night, holy night,  
all is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace,  
sleep in heavenly peace

**OFFERTORY**

Organ Interlude

**DOXOLOGY**

**H380 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow**

*Old 100th*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING** (prayer to be said)

*Father, we offer you these gifts which you have given us; this bread, this wine, this money. With them we offer ourselves, our lives, and our work, to become through your Holy Spirit, a reasonable, holy and lively sacrifice. As this bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ, so may we and all your people become channels of your love; through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

***Eucharistic Prayer A*** (remain standing)

**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 proceeds**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name.

### ***Celebrant and People:***

**SANCTUS**

**L252 Holy, Holy, Holy**

McLinn

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)***

### ***Celebrant continues***

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

***Celebrant and People***

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

***The Celebrant continues***

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.*

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

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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 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, forever and ever. *Amen*

**THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*Therefore let us keep the feast.*

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

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.

**Communion Hymn H101 Away in a manger**

*Cradle Song*

1 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2 The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes  
I love you, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,  
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay  
close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,  
and take us to heaven to live with you there.

**Meditation Hymn Solo**

**Post Communion Prayer**

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**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Recessional Hymn H87 Hark the herald angels sing**

Mendelssohn

1 Hark the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King:  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies; with th'angelic hosts proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain: Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"

2 Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of the Virgin's womb:  
veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
hail th'incarnate Deity,  
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel. [Refrain]

#### DISMISSAL

**Celebrant:** Go in Peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

#### POSTLUDE

### WELCOME TO ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

*We extend a warm welcome to our guests. Thank you for worshipping with us today. If you are without a church home, we invite you to join our church family. Please sign the guest register, **include your home address, phone number and, if you would like to receive the monthly newsletter, news of special events and other happenings, please also add your e-mail address.***

**OUR VISION** *is to be a cornerstone for serving the spiritual needs of the greater Tallahassee community, extending an eternal invitation to join our caring parish and to enrich the spiritual life of all people as we journey with Christ.*

**OUR MISSION** *is to experience the Gospel of Jesus Christ by feeding the mind, body and spirit of our community in fellowship and service.*



**HOLY COMMUNION:** All baptized Christians are encouraged to receive the real and living presence of Christ in Holy Communion. To receive the Bread, extend your hands upward, palms crossed. When receiving the Wine, please guide the chalice as it is offered. If you prefer, you may leave the Bread on your palm for the person administering the chalice to dip into the Wine and place on your tongue. All persons are welcome to give thanks for God's blessings at the altar rail, simply crossing your arms at the wrist with fingertips extending upward towards your shoulders.

## From the Rector's Desk

### The Joys of Christmas

Tomorrow our world will celebrate again the birth of the Christ Child – Christmas as we know it in the church. We go back to Bethlehem and we recapture in our readings and carols, the joy that the Blessed Virgin Mary felt in her soul, as she gave birth to the savior of all mankind. Wrapped up in those swaddling cloths, was more than a newborn infant – it was the embodiment of Mary and Joseph's hope and promise and the fulfilment of their lives. Babies usher in unbridled joys into our lives; I know the feeling, for two (2) months ago, we welcomed little Jimmy Lily in our lives, and we are still captivated, even by her smile. Babies symbolize our hopes and dreams for the future, the type of aspirations every parent longs for their children.

But in the case of Jesus' birth, there was more. For wrapped up in that bundle of joy, were not only hopes and dreams of Mary and Joseph, but the hopes and dreams of all creation. So every Christmas we recall the birth of our savior, but that's only the beginning. In fact what we celebrate at Christmas is the beginning of a new way of life made possible by the birth of that baby – also His life, death and resurrection. And how about the hope being suggested here? The prophet Micah says, we will witness a new way of life when nation will not lift up war against nation (Micah 4). What did the prophet Isaiah offer? He says the wolf will live with the lamb and the leopard will lie down with the young goat; the calf, the young lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child will lead them (Isaiah 11).

Is there a word from the New Testament? Yes there is, for the Book of Revelation says. God himself will be with them – He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more, neither will there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore. In other words – Just Joy!!

In closing, the birth of Jesus, the celebration of Christmas means the beginning of new life for everyone who is willing to follow in His footsteps and walk in the light of His forgiveness and love.

Merry Christmas.

Fr. Hugh+

## SPECIAL PRAYERS

### Capital Campaign Prayer

Most gracious Lord Jesus Christ and generous source of all abundance, in gratitude we invite you to expand our hearts as we seek to increase and improve this place of worship, peace, healing, forgiveness, outreach, service and fellowship. May all who enter here be restored and strengthened on their journey of faith. Guide us Heavenly Father, that we may make manifest your vision of a beloved and enlightened church and community, and be a shining example of the living presence of the Holy Spirit. May we and our Capital Campaign be a channel of God's abundant grace. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. *Amen.*

### Collect for the Coronavirus Pandemic

Almighty God, Heavenly Healer, we bring to you all who are affected by our present pandemic; for the infirm and infected, the anxious and afraid. By your power defend us and heal us. Let us see one another not as vectors of infection, but as opportunities for love and service, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### Suggested daily Readings for Fourth Sunday of Advent: Dec. 20 to Dec. 25.

Mon.	Isa. 11:1-9	Psalm 61, 62	John 5:30-47
Tue.	Isa. 11:10-16	Psalm 66, 67	Luke 1:5-25
Wed.	Isa.28:9-22	Psalm 72	Luke 1:5-25
Thurs.	Isa. 29:13-24	Psalm 80	Luke 1:39-48a
Fri.	Isa. 33:17-22	Psalm 148, 150	Luke 1:57-66
Sat.	Isa. 35:1-10	Psalm 45, 46	Luke 1:67-80

### Today, Friday, December 24

**Acolytes:** Colin Laurie

**Crucifer**

**Gospel Book Bearer**

**Lectors:** Zollie White II

Charlie Clark, Margaret Edwards

**Vestry:** Zollie White II

**Organist:** Debralee LaSeur-Helfand