



St. Joseph's
Episcopal Church

The Rev. Mother Kassinda Ellis, Rector
www.stjosephqv.org

Sunday, December 4, 2022

Second Sunday of Advent

Year A





St. Joseph's Episcopal Church

We welcome you to St. Joseph's Episcopal Church with open arms and open hearts.

Please be reverent while we worship; we encourage you to fully participate in our service with responses and song, but ask that you do so with your device muted. Please use the chat to add your prayers, thanksgivings, and petitions so that we may include them in the service.

Prelude Hymn | 66 (1982 Hymnal)

BORN TO REIGN
IN US FOREVER



WELCOME

Officiant:

The Rev. Judith Alexis, Supply Priest

Voice of the People:

Marie Gonel



Opening Hymn | 57 (1982 Hymnal)



LO! HE COMES WITH
CLOUDS DESCENDING





Lighting of the Advent Candle

A reading from the Book of Isaiah, chapter 40, verses 3-5

“In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Today we relight the candle of Hope and Expectation. Let this candle remind us of the great hope we have in Christ the Messiah and in God's promises. As we light the candle of Preparation and Peace let it remind us to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ.

Father, guide us in confession of our sins. We know that in the greatness of your love, you have promised to forgive us. Cleanse us as we prepare our lives for the coming of Jesus again. This we ask in His name. **Amen.**



Lighting of the Advent Candle

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;

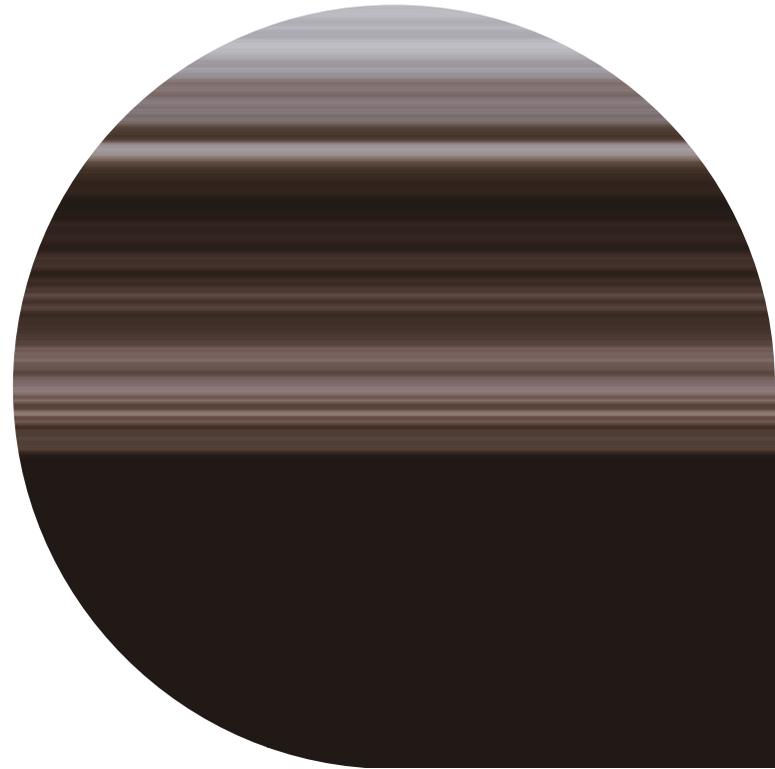
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.



Opening Sentences

Watch, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning, lest he come suddenly and find you asleep.

Mark 13:35-36



Confession of Sin

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

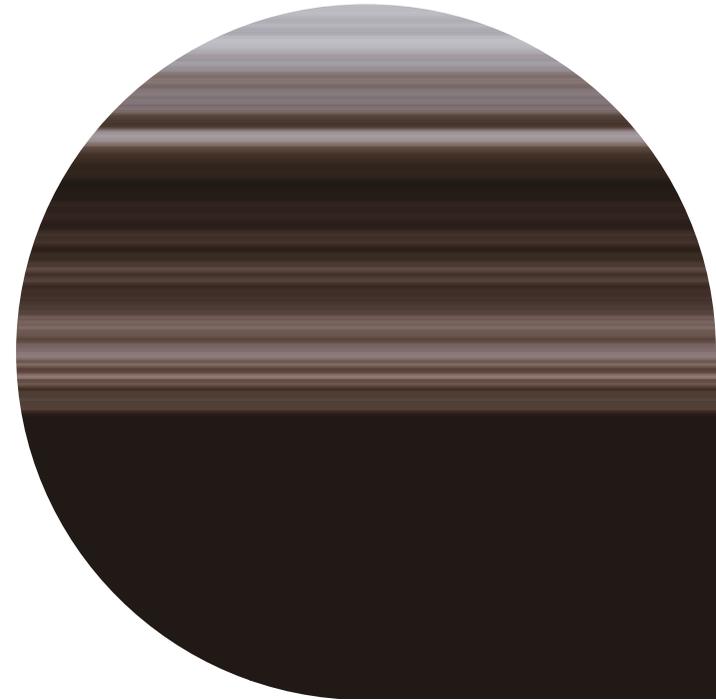
Confession of Sin

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.

Confession of Sin

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

Amen.



The Invitatory

Celebrant Lord, open our lips.

People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

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.

The Invitatory

Our King and Savior now draws near: Come let us adore him.

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *

and a great King above all gods.

continued

The Invitatory

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.

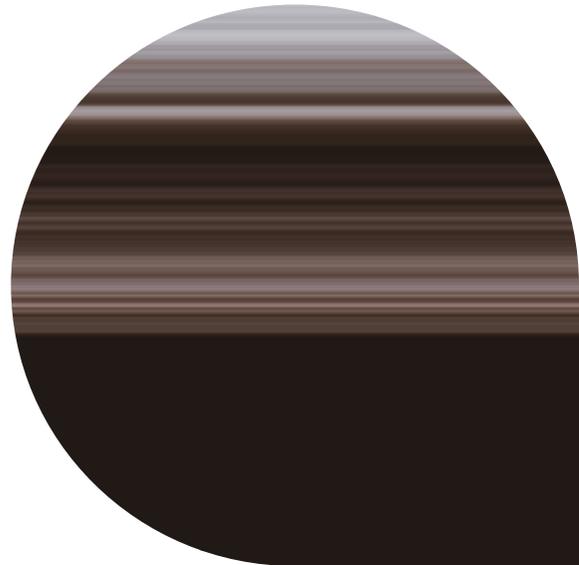
The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.

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

continued

The Invitatory

For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!



Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 | Norma Mays

- ¹ Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- ² That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
- ³ That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- ⁴ He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.

continued

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 | Norma Mays

⁵ He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.

⁶ He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.

⁷ In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no
more.

continued

The Old Testament | Kristina Sledge

A reading from Isaiah, Chapter 11, verses 1 to 10.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

continued

The Old Testament | Kristina Sledge

he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

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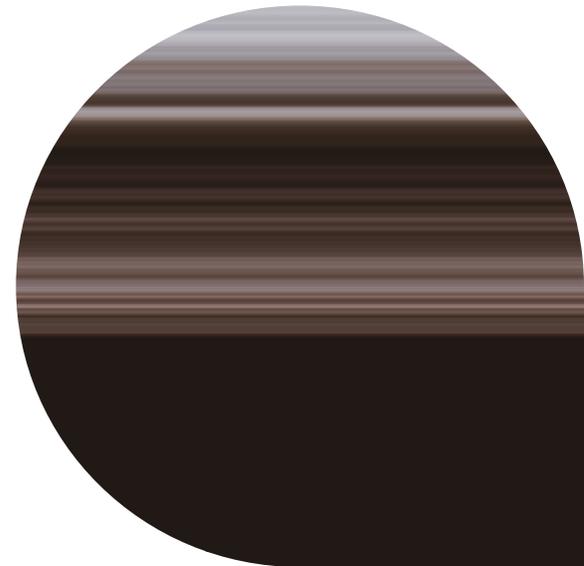
The Old Testament | Kristina Sledge

They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.



Canticle 15 | The Song of Mary

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.

He has mercy on those who fear him *

in every generation.

continued

Canticle 15 | The Song of Mary

He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

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.

continued

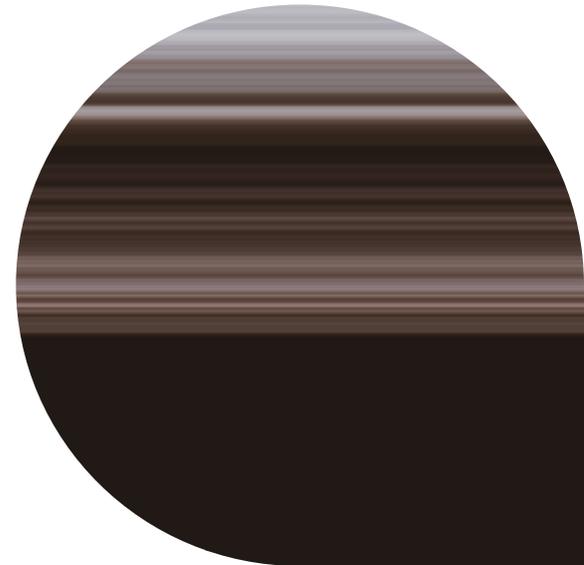
Canticle 15 | The Song of Mary

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.

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.



The Epistle | Joan Carrott

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Church in Rome, Chapter 15, verses 4 to 13.

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

continued

The Epistle | Joan Carrott

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again,

continued

The Epistle | Joan Carrott

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**



Gospel Hymn | 76 (1982 Hymnal)

A misty forest scene with a path leading to a riverbank. The text is overlaid on the image.

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

by John Chandler

Performed by Ruth and Joy Everingham

Words reproduced from Singing the Faith Electronic Words Edition No. 182

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The Gospel

A reading from the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, Chapter 3, verses 1 to 12.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’”

continued

The Gospel

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance.

continued

The Gospel

Do not presume 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.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

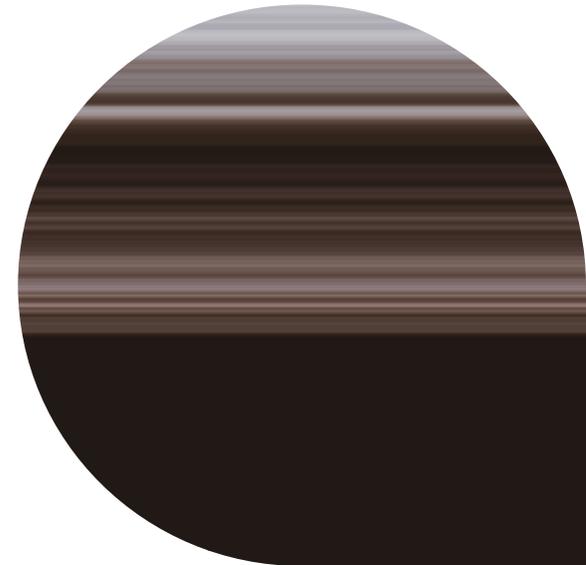
continued

The Gospel

His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.



SERMON



The Apostles' Creed

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

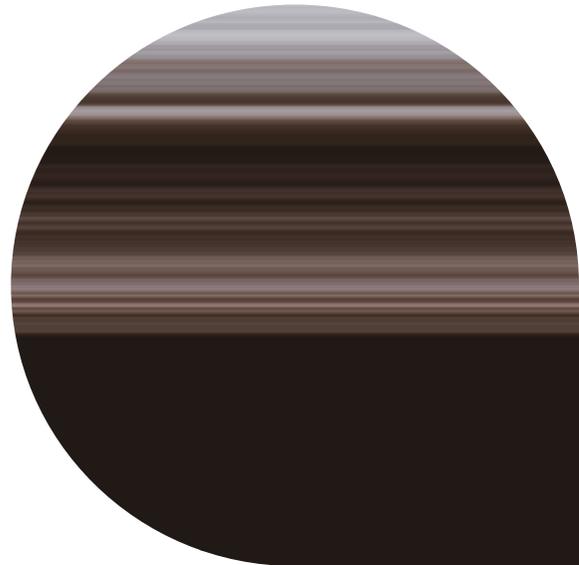
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

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.

continued

The Apostles' Creed

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.



The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

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.

continued

The Suffrages

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

R. **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

V. Day by day we bless you;

R. **We praise your Name for ever.**

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;

R. **Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.**

V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;

R. **For we put our trust in you.**

continued

The Suffrages

V. In you, Lord, is our hope;

R. And we shall never hope in vain.



A Collect for Grace

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, 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.**

The Collect of the Day

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.



Prayers of the People | Pietra Jones

Friends, may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing. Let us come before the Lord, praying, “Blessed are you, Lord God; may the earth be filled with your glory.”

continued

Prayers of the People | Pietra Jones

Grant your Church, O God of encouragement, to live in harmony with one another in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that we may glorify you with one voice. Make us a people of repentance and bless us with your Holy Spirit and fire.

Blessed are you, Lord God;
May the earth be filled with your glory.

continued

Prayers of the People | Pietra Jones

Grant this nation, O God of justice, the will to defend the needy and the poor. May we sincerely work for that day when hurt and destruction are no more.

Blessed are you, Lord God;
May the earth be filled with your glory.

continued

Prayers of the People | Pietra Jones

Grant your creation, O God of faithfulness, the hope of renewal. May we who are stewards of this earth, also live at peace with all you have created.

Blessed are you, Lord God;
May the earth be filled with your glory.

continued

Prayers of the People | Pietra Jones

Grant this city, O God of understanding, prosperity. May all people know and do justice. Teach us and our leaders how best to meet the needs of all our neighbors.

Blessed are you, Lord God;
May the earth be filled with your glory.

continued

Prayers of the People | Pietra Jones

Grant all the needy, O God of steadfast love, your mercy. Prove yourself to be a God of righteousness and faithfulness. To all their pain and suffering bring your healing and peace. With your winnowing fork clear from their lives all the forces of oppression.

Blessed are you, Lord God;

May the earth be filled with your glory.

continued

Prayers of the People | Pietra Jones

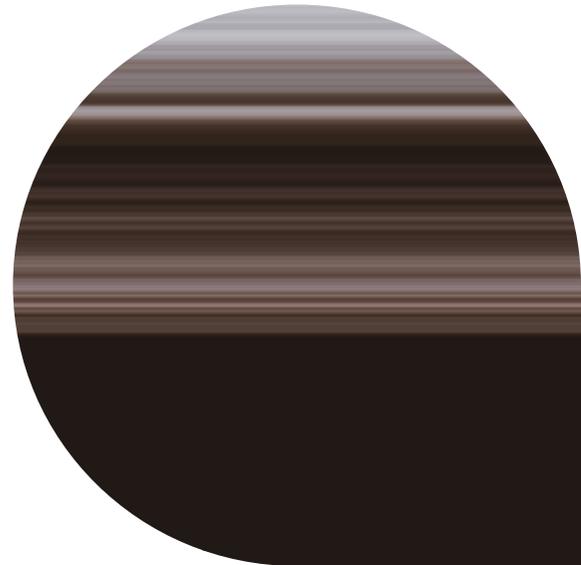
Grant to those who have died, O God of hope, eternal life in you. Bring the departed into your glorious dwelling where all their hope will be fulfilled in your Christ.

Blessed are you, Lord God;
May the earth be filled with your glory.

continued

Prayers of the People

Show your goodness, O Lord, and hear our prayers. Look past our selfish desires and remember your own faithfulness. In your great compassion, consider our petitions and in your mercy do in our lives that which is truly good. We pray in the name of your Son, who with you and the Holy Spirit, reigns One God, now and forever. **Amen.**



Prayers for the Community

- † The Jones family gives praise to the Almighty in thanksgiving for Pietra Jones who celebrates a birthday today, December 4th. May God grant her good health and continue to bless her.

Birthday and Anniversary Blessing

O God, our times are in your hand, Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year (and another year together). Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers for the Community

We pray for the government and people of the island nation of Barbados as they celebrate 56 years of independence and 1 year as a Parliamentary Republic on November 30th.

Prayer List

Janelle Adams
Daphne Aguero
Keisha Alexander
Michael Anguria
Melissa Arrington-Hubbard
Audrey Arthurs
Sonia Barton
Allison Brown-Cunningham
Sade Curtis
Edris Bryan

Byfield Family
Rose Carrott
Ann-Marie Chambers
Lorna Charles
Marina & Percival Chester
Hyacinth Dane
Perpetua & Randolph Ellis
Yolanda Evans-Humber
Kirima Forbes
Fitzroy Gabbidon

Prayer List

Claudette & Anthony Grant

Hiroshi Hiasa

Dorrell Holness

James Hunter

Natalie Hunt-Laviscount

Norma Jarrett

Afua Johnson

Kimtrell Jones

Pietra Jones

Noel Kong

Charles Kozakiewicz

John Lake

Sr. Sheila Marie

Rosalind Meriku

Sandy Michael

Carlton Mitchell

Crystal Nurse

Lucille Nurse

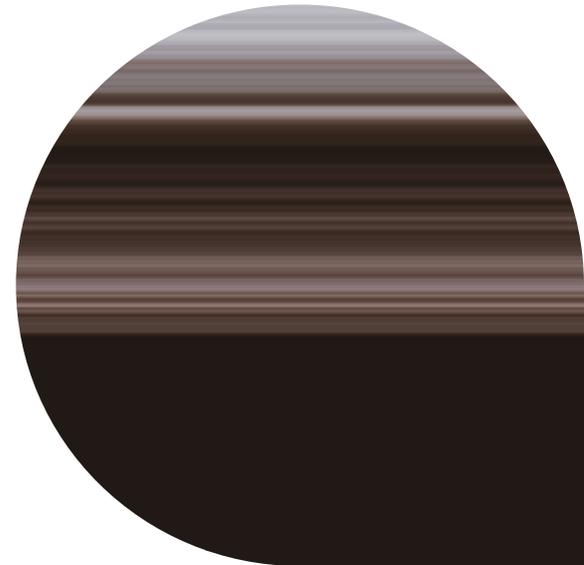
Kathleen Nurse-Lewis

Verely Powerful

Prayer List

Hortense Reid
Chandra Robinson
Shelly Robinson
Sheila Samms
Joy Sanders
Rosa Segovia
Walter Simpson
Patsy Stephenson
Desmond St. Louis
Maureen Tai

Peter Tavalacci
George Upshaw
Marilyn Warwell
Pat Wynter



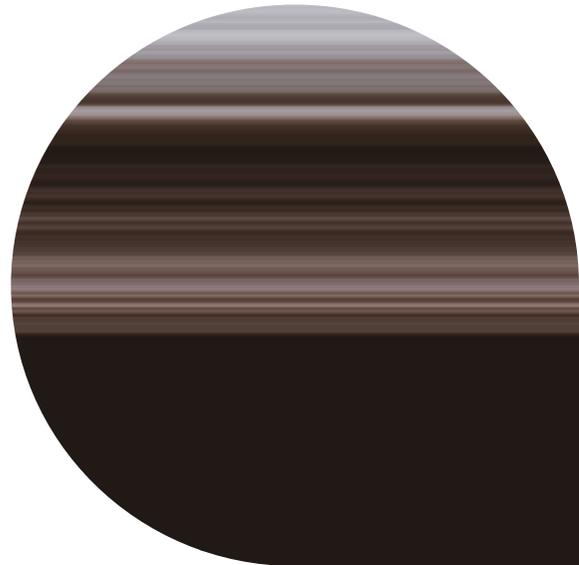
A Collect for the Sick

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servants, and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that those for whom our prayers are offered may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

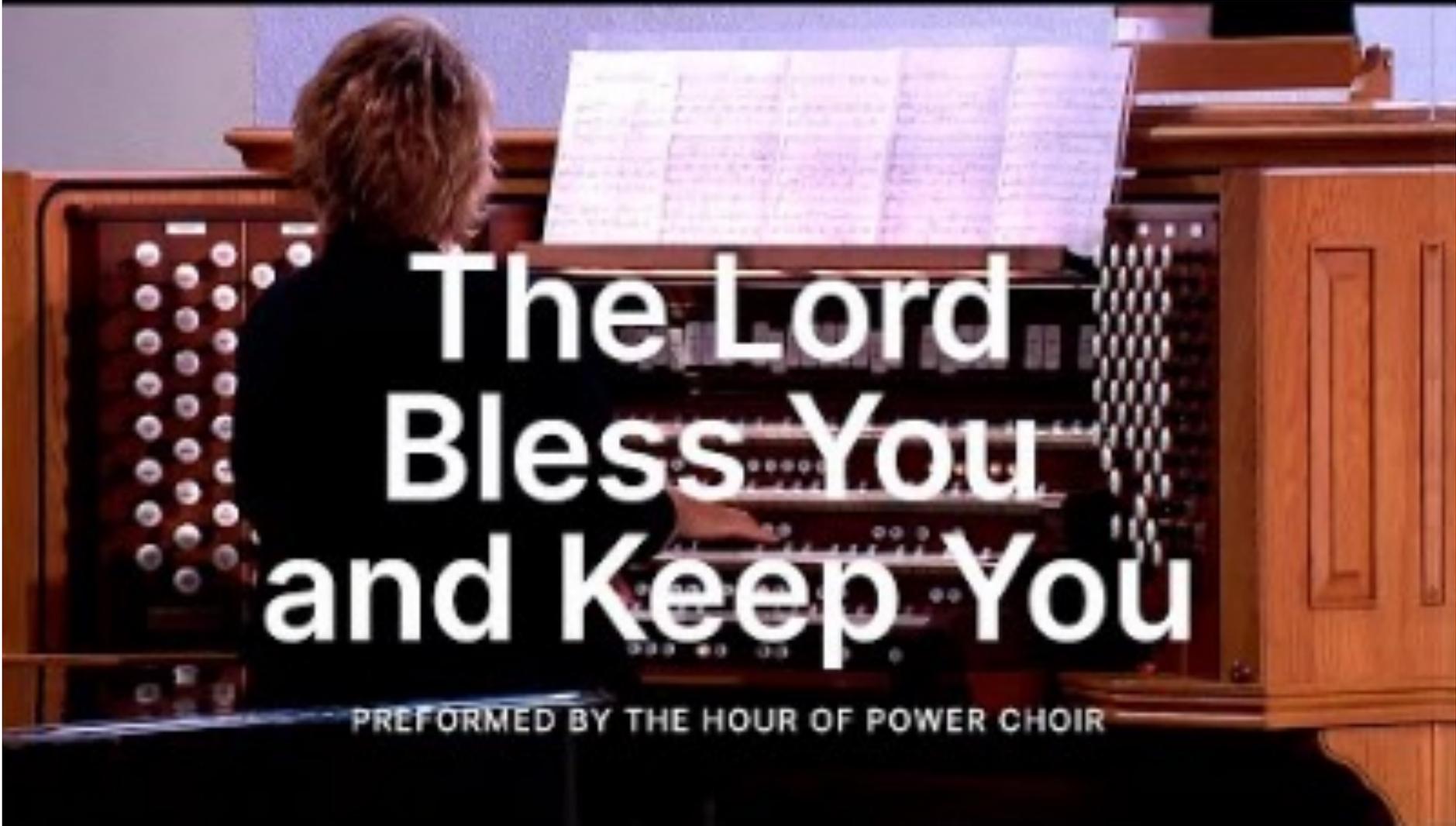
The Peace

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.



The Peace | LEV 231

A person with long brown hair, seen from the back, is seated at a wooden organ console. They are looking at a large sheet of music on the console. The organ has a dark wood finish with a decorative panel of small circular lights on the left side. The background is a plain wall.

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

PERFORMED BY THE HOUR OF POWER CHOIR

Offertory Prayer

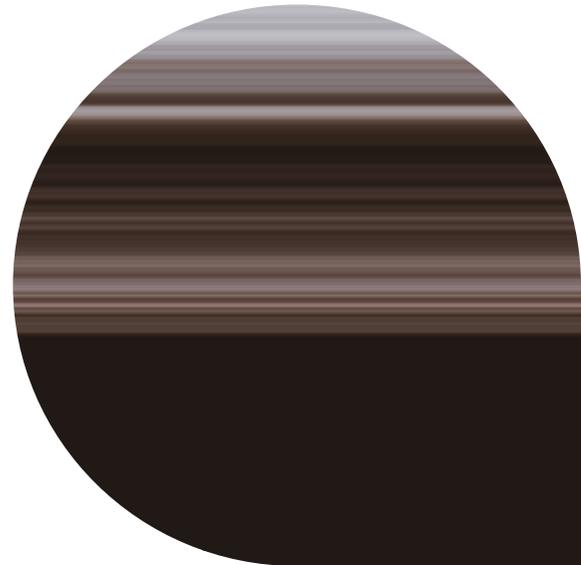
Gracious and generous God, Creator and Giver of all that is good, we thank you for our many blessings. We acknowledge that all that we have is from you. We offer you thanks and praise for the beauty of the earth, our work, our family, our loved ones, and all the gifts we have been given.

You are with us always, In each dark hour, you are here. In each bright hour, you are here. Blessed by your grace, may we show gratitude by sharing what we have been given.

continued

Offertory Prayer

By serving our brothers and sisters, we serve you. We remain ever grateful for your constant love, the gift of your Son Jesus, and the presence of your Holy Spirit with us. **Amen.**



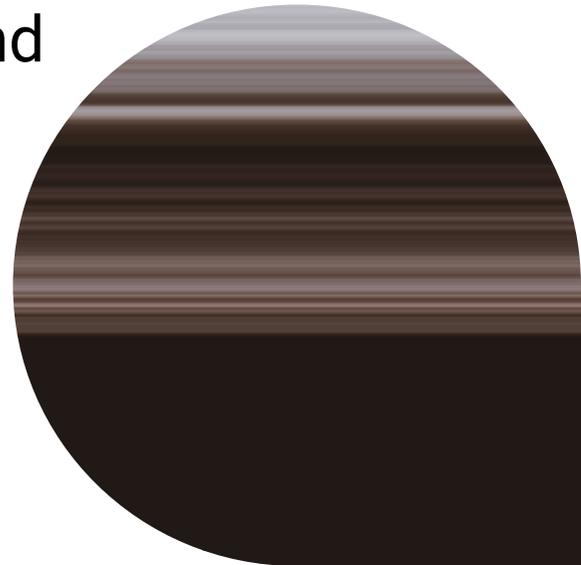
The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

continued

The General Thanksgiving

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.



Concluding Prayer

Let us pray for one another and the coming week: May God's Holy Spirit be greatly visited upon all who worship here today and upon all our church family. If there is anger or pain in any of us, let it be left upon the altar. Gracious Lord, make us prayerful people. Teach us to look for your guidance in all our undertakings. May we see You this week in the face of every family member, stranger, and friend. May we know the wonderful peace and love of God, share it with one another, and tell it out abroad. **Amen.**

The Blessing & Dismissal

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

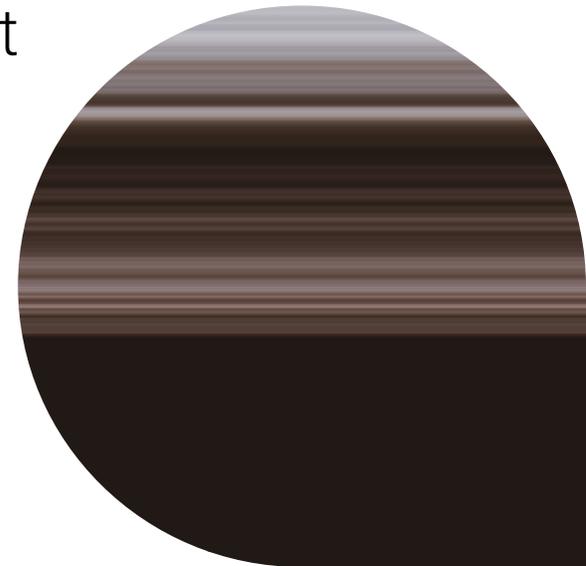
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Closing Hymn | Freedom is Coming



Announcements



St. Joseph's Episcopal Church

The Church Administrator will be on vacation from Monday, December 5, 2022, through Friday, January 6, 2023. The Office will remain open, however, you may direct issues to any of the two Wardens; Robert Saunders at 917 609 4427 or Stepvone Harper at 516 451 4709.

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, December 26th and will open on January 3, 2023.

THE RECTOR'S WINTER BALL

Friday December 9, 2022
9 PM to 2 AM at Antun's
Tickets \$160 per person
Formal Attire

Honorees

Norma & Errol Byfield
Garfield DaCosta
Shirley Jones
Pauline Parchment
Claudia Sawney

This event is sponsored by The Vestry and Fundraising Committee. For additional information, please contact Roxanne Adams or any member of the Committee.

The background features a soft-focus bokeh of warm, golden-yellow and white lights against a light blue sky. The bottom portion of the image shows a close-up of white, fluffy snow.

Rector's Winter Ball Souvenir Journal

Contribute to the Souvenir Journal. Prices range for \$25 to \$275. The contract form is located on our website on the Events page. Please contact Roxanne Adams, Angela Brown, Coretta Johnson, or Cynthia Lewis for more information.

St. Joseph's Episcopal Church Tree Lighting Ceremony

Join us for Caroling,
Santa selfies, and more

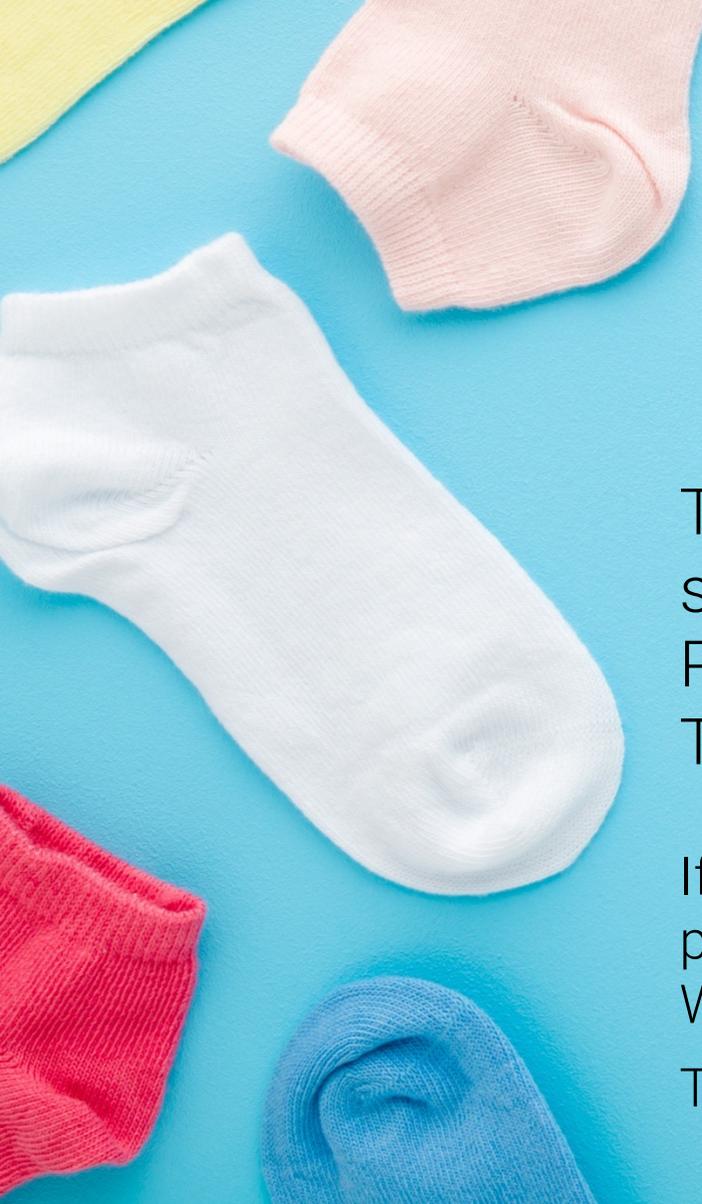
Saturday, December 10th

5 PM

99-10 217th Lane

Queens Village, NY





Willing Workers for Jesus

ANNUAL SOAP & SOCK DRIVE

Now to December 17th

The Willing Workers for Jesus are collecting soap, socks, and toiletries for seniors in nursing homes. Please place items in the marked receptacle at St. Thomas or at the St. Joseph's rectory.

If you are unable to drop packages at either location, please contact Betty Adamson at 516-476-7111 or Nichola Walker at 516-972-5536 for pick up.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.



St. Joseph's
Episcopal Church

Worship with us in-person
on Sundays at 11 AM
St. Thomas' Episcopal
Church, Bellerose, NY





Sunday School starts
at 11 AM at St.
Thomas Episcopal
Church, Bellerose

Children will return to
service during the Peace

Virtual Wednesday Morning Service

10:30 AM

Zoom information is posted on our
website at www.stjosephqv.org/worship



End of Announcements



St. Joseph's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Mother Kassinda R.T. Ellis, Rector

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 [@parishhealth](https://www.pinterest.com/parishhealth)