



# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

## THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT

December 15, 2024  
10:30 A.M.

**St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church**  
in the Admiral District of West Seattle

*We acknowledge that we are on the unceded traditional land of the Coast Salish people,  
including the Duwamish and Suquamish People past and present.*

*We honor with gratitude the land itself and the Duwamish and Suquamish tribes.*

*Please know, that wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you have a place at St. John's.*

Portions of this service are from the optional expansive-language versions of the 1979 *Book of Common Prayer*, as authorized by the 79th General Convention in 2018.

## THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

### Prelude

*Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming*

Jeanine Yeager (b. 1938)

*At the sound of the church bell all rise as able.*

### Hymn 481

Rejoice, the Lord is King!

TUNE: *Gopsal*



1 Re - joice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore! Mor -  
2 The Lord the Sa - vior reigns, the God of truth and love: when  
3 His king - dom can - not fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven; the  
4 Re - joice in glo - rious hope! Our Lord the Judge shall come, and

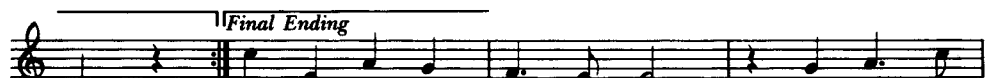
*Refrain*



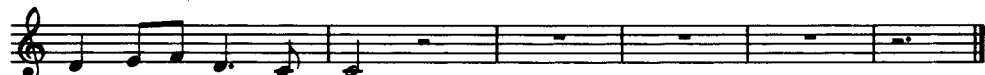
tals, give thanks and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more.  
he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove. Lift  
keys of death and hell to Christ the Lord are given.  
take his ser - vants up to their e - ter - nal home.



up your heart! lift up your voice! Re - joice! a - gain I say, re -



joice! up your heart! lift up your voice! Re - joice! a -



gain I say, re - joice!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.

Music: *Gopsal*, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); arr. John Wilson (b. 1905)

66. 66 with Refrain

Used with permission under One License A-706851.

### Opening Acclamation

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

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

— from *Enriching Our Worship 1*

*Presider* 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.**

## Trisagion S102

First time cantor/choir  
Then repeated twice by all.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are: "Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us." The music is in a key with one flat (B-flat major or D minor) and a 4/4 time signature. The vocal line features a mix of quarter and eighth notes, with some phrases held over. The piano accompaniment provides a steady harmonic support with chords and moving lines.

Setting: Ver. Hymnal 1982, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924)  
Used with permission under One License A-706851.

## The Collect of the Day

### Third Sunday of Advent

*Presider* God be with you.

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

*Presider* Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Sending of Children to Children's Chapel

*All children about age 3 through 4th grade are invited to go forward to the stairs in the front of the church for a prayer sending them and their leaders to Children's Chapel.*

*Presider* Children of God, go forth to receive God's word. May it light your way, and fill your lives with hope and joy. In the name of Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

*You may be seated.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### First Reading

#### Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

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

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

## **Response**

*Read in unison.*

**Canticle 9** • The First Song of Isaiah *Ecce, Deus* Isaiah 12:2–6

- 1 Surely, it is God who saves me; \***  
**I will trust in him and not be afraid.**
- 2 For the LORD is my stronghold and my sure defense, \***  
**and he will be my Savior.**
- 3 Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \***  
**from the springs of salvation.**
- 4 And on that day you shall say, \***  
**Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name;**
- 5 Make his deeds known among the peoples; \***  
**see that they remember that his Name is exalted.**
- 6 Sing the praises of the LORD, for he has done great things, \***  
**and this is known in all the world.**
- 7 Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \***  
**for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.**

## **Second Reading**

**Philippians 4:4–7**

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

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

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

## **Holy Gospel**

*Standing as able.*

**Luke 3:7–18**

*Presider* The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

*Presider* The Gospel of our Savior.

*People* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*You may be seated.*

### **The Sermon**

**The Reverend Canon Elise B. Johnstone, D. Min.**

*There will be a moment for quiet personal reflection.*

### **The Nicene Creed**

*Standing as able.*

*People* **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 became truly human.**

**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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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

*Intercessor* In this season of Advent, we come close to God and God comes close to us. In this time of waiting, we come together to tell of God's blessings, to sing, and to pray. We join our hearts as one, saying to God, "We wait with longing."

*Silence may be kept.*

*Intercessor* We long to be whole, long for healing, long for our world to make sense. We long for justice. We pray for the leaders of our city, our country, our world. Grant them wisdom. We pray for justice-seekers everywhere. Grant them perseverance. We pray for our earthly home.

God of Advent,

*People* **we wait with longing.**

*Intercessor* We wait with expectation. May we look to Christ among us and Christ within us. May we be surprised by grace in the unlikeliest of people and places. In every humdrum ordinary moment we watch for birth. God of Advent,

*People* **we wait with longing.**

*Intercessor* We wait with preparation. Sanctify our getting ready for the coming of Christ. May we refuse to be distracted by our culture's obsession with things. May we seek to be truly present in this season. God of Advent,

*People* **we wait with longing.**

*Intercessor* We wait with compassion. Embolden us to love one another. Teach us to show care and kindness to those who find themselves at society's edge. Wake us up to the needs of others. May we look to Christ as our example. God of Advent,

*People* **we wait with longing.**

*Intercessor* We wait with faith. We put our trust in you, O God. We pray for the church universal, for spiritual leaders and seekers. Thank you for walking with us in our faith and in our doubt. Guide those who are making tough decisions. God of Advent,

*People* **we wait with longing.**

*Intercessor* We wait with lament. Give hope to those who are soul-weary, relief to those who suffer. Bind our wounds of body, mind and soul. We pray for the needs on the minds and hearts of those in this community, especially \_\_\_\_\_, and those we now name either silently or aloud \_\_\_\_\_.

*Silence may be kept.*

Remind us that we have one another to rely on. God of Advent,

*People* **we wait with longing.**

*Intercessor* We wait with joy. May the sparkle and sweets of the season remind us of the goodness in our lives. We give you thanks for all of the blessings that surround us, especially \_\_\_\_\_, and those we now name either silently or aloud \_\_\_\_\_.

*Silence may be kept.*

God of Advent,

*People* **we wait with longing.**

*Intercessor* We wait with memory. We pray for all who have died, especially \_\_\_\_\_, and those we now name either silently or aloud \_\_\_\_\_.

*Silence may be kept.*

May they rest in peace and rise in glory. God of Advent,

*People* **we wait with longing.**

*Presider* We wait with hope. In our waiting, may we draw ever closer to you. May we renew our strength. May we wait in faith for the birth of Christ, keeping watch for all of the ways that God comes to dwell with us. **Amen.**

## Confession

*Presider* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*A moment of reflective silence is kept.*

*Said by all* **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 our Savior 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.**

*Presider* 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 Peace

*Presider* The peace of Christ be always with you.

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

*Those present celebrate the peace with a bow, hands raised in blessing, or the peace sign.*

*You may be seated.*

## Welcome and Announcements



### **Tuesday, December 24**

**5:00 p.m., Christmas Eve, Christmas Pageant & Holy Eucharist**

**9:30 p.m., Festive Carol Singing with the Choir**

**10:00 p.m., Christmas Eve, Holy Eucharist**

*Hypoallergenic incense will be used at this service.*

### **Wednesday, December 25**

**9:30 a.m., Christmas Day, Holy Eucharist**

### **Sunday, December 29**

**9:30 AM, First Sunday after Christmas, Combined Service**

**Christmas Lessons & Carols with Holy Eucharist**

### **Sunday, January 5**

**6:30 PM, Twelfth Night Party in the Parish Hall**

### **Monday, January 6**

**6:30 PM, Feast of the Epiphany, Eucharist & Blessing of Chalk  
at First Lutheran Church of West Seattle**

# THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

## Offertory Sentence

*Presider* Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom, and you are exalted as head over all.

— 1 Chronicles 29:11

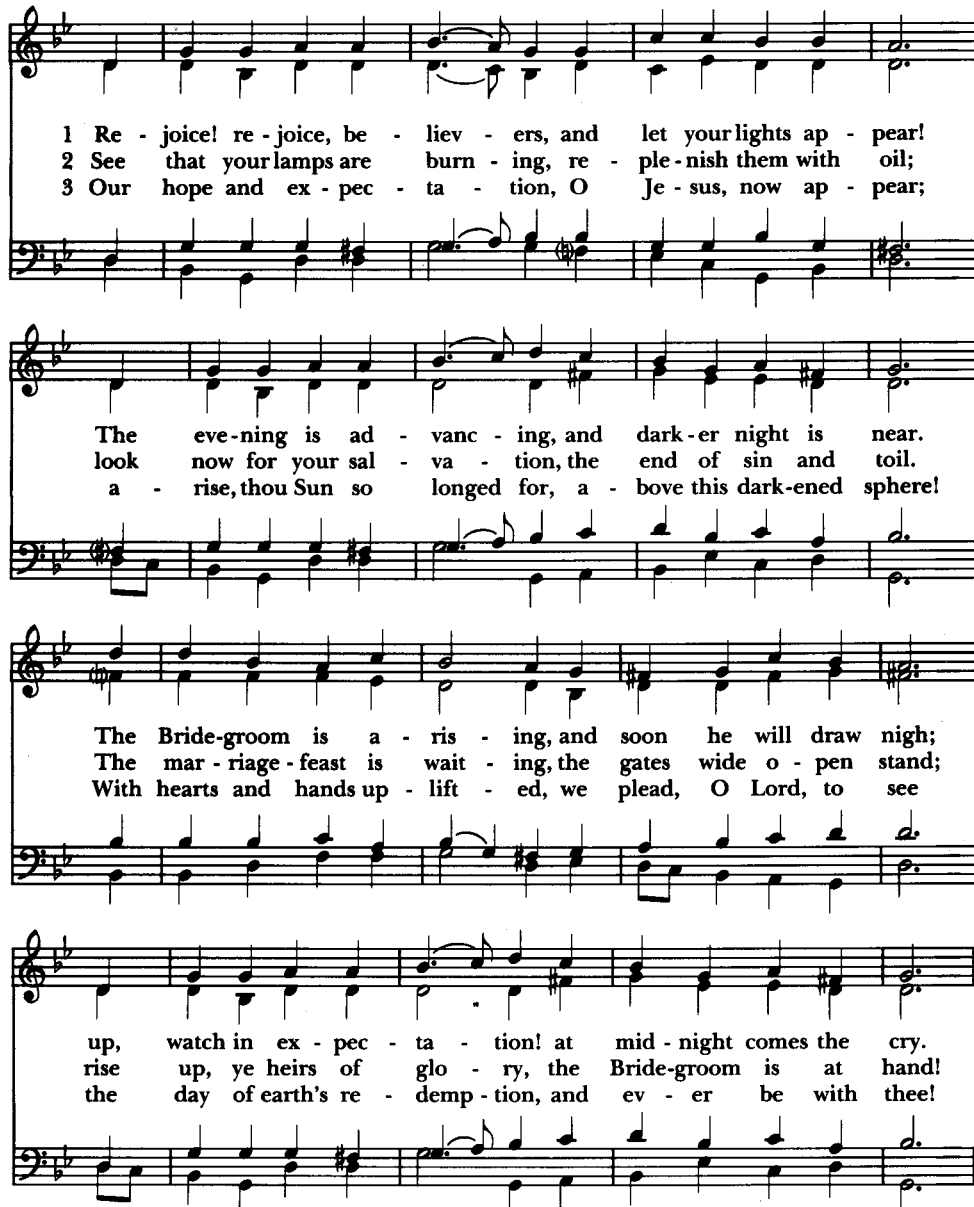
If you wish to make online donations to the ministry of St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church, please visit:  
<https://sjbwestseattle.org/give>

Please stand as you are able.

## Hymn 68

Rejoice! rejoice believers

TUNE: *Llangloffan*



1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!  
2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple - nish them with oil;  
3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.  
look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.  
a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened sphere!

The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;  
The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;  
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.  
rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride - groom is at hand!  
the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt.

Music: *Llangloffan*, melody from *Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru*, 1865

76. 76 D

Public domain.

The congregation's gifts of money for the mission and ministry of St. John's and food for the Food Bank and Little Free Pantry are presented and placed on the Holy Table.

## Presentation

*People* All things come from you, O God, and from your own have we given you.

Please remain standing.

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Eucharistic Prayer B*, expansive language

*Celebrant*                      *People*  
God be with you. And al - so with you.

*Celebrant*                      *People*  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant*                      *People*  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## Sanctus S130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, ———

Ho ly, ho ly, ho ly Lord, God of power and might ———

hea - ven and earth are full, ——— full of your glo ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est

Blest is the one who comes ——— in the name of the Lord. ——— Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)  
Used with permission under One License A-706851.

*Please remain standing.*

*Presider* We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior 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 Jesus 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, according to his command, O Father,

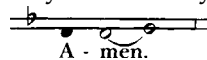
*People* **We remember Christ's death,  
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,  
We await Christ's coming in glory;**

*Presider* And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed John the Baptist, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.



## The Lord's Prayer

*Presider* And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

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

Setting: Plainsong; adapt. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944)

## Breaking of the Bread

*The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

## Fraction Anthem S151

*Introduction sung by cantor or played on keyboard, then sung by all.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us  
keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Setting: From *Missa orbis factor*; Plainsong, Tonus Peregrinus; arr. David Hurd (b. 1950)  
Used with permission under One License A-706851.

## The Invitation to Communion

*Presider* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*You may be seated.*

*To receive Communion, you are invited to come to the altar rail and stand or kneel at one of the cushions. To receive the bread (wafer), please hold your hands palms up, and the Presider will place a wafer in your hands. Gluten-free bread is available for those requiring it. Please indicate this by holding your hands palms down initially. If you do not wish to partake of the consecrated wine from the common chalice, you may consume the wafer at the altar rail or return to your seat to consume it.*

*To receive the wine, please consume your wafer, and then wait for the Eucharistic Minister to bring the common cup to you at the altar rail. Please do not attempt to intinct (dip) the wafer into the chalice. If you prefer not to partake of the common cup, but would like to receive the words of ministrations, simply cross your arms in front of your chest when the Eucharistic Minister comes to you at the altar rail.*

*Reception of the sacrament in one kind (either bread or wine) is considered a full experience of the sacrament.*

*If you would prefer to receive a blessing instead of communion, when you come to the altar rail, simply cross your arms in front of your chest, and the Presider will greet you and offer God's blessing.*

*If you are unable to come forward, ask an usher or someone nearby to request that communion be brought to you.*

### **Communion Anthem**

*Christ is the World's True Light*

W.K. [Walter Kendall] Stanton (1891-1978)

### **Prayer for Those Worshipping at Home During the Time of Communion**

*Those worshipping at home are invited to pray.*

*People* **O Christ, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.**

— from *Saint Augustine's Prayer Book*, Forward Movement, 2014

### **Postcommunion Prayer**

*Please stand as you are able.*

*Presider* Let us pray.

*People* **Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of 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 Savior. Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

*Presider* May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God: most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

# Hymn 59

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding

TUNE: *Merton*

*Descant*

2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;  
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;  
2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;  
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, comes with par - don down from heaven;  
4 so when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,  
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.  
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

1 "Cast a - way the works of dark-ness, O ye child-ren of the day."  
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.  
3 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for - given;  
4 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.  
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent., tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, alt.

Music: *Merton*, William Henry Monk (1823-1889); desc. Alan Gray (1855-1935)

87. 87

Public domain.

## Dismissal

*Presider* Go in peace to love and serve Jesus Christ our Savior.

*People* Thanks be to God.

## Postlude

*Angel of Hope*

David Lanz (b. 1950, Seattle)

## Serving in Worship Today

**Advent Wreath:** Carol Eaton, Wilma Hansen; **Acolytes:** Kayla and Naomi Crosby;  
**Altar Guild:** Carolyn Koehler; **Closer:** Katie Bucy;  
**Coffee Hour:** Jan Johnson, Cathie Knox-Browning;  
**Eucharistic Minister/Intercessor:** Jeana Frazier; **Livestream:** Walter Johnstone;  
**Music:** Joyce Gibb; **Preaching/Presiding:** The Rev. Cn. Elise B. Johnstone;  
**Readers:** Andrew Campbell, Zakris Pierson; **Ushers:** John Kettel, Ron Thompson;  
**Verger:** Layne Bautista.

## WHAT IS ADVENT?

The Episcopal Church dictionary shares that Advent is, "The first season of the church year, beginning with the fourth Sunday before Christmas and continuing through the day before Christmas. The name is derived from a Latin word for 'coming.' The season is a time of preparation and expectation for the coming celebration of our Lord's nativity, and for the final coming of Christ 'in power and glory.'" Welcome to Advent!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Today at St. John the Baptist

- 8:30 a.m. Spoken Holy Eucharist in the Church  
9:40 a.m. Adult Formation in person or Zoom, meeting ID: 829 1404 0672 passcode: 981247  
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Music in the Church and livestreamed on our YouTube channel  
10:30 a.m. Children's Chapel  
Families begin worshipping in church together, and then children (ages 3–10) will be dismissed for Children's Chapel, with a Godly Play story, returning to the nave at the Peace.  
11:45 a.m. Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall  
11:45 a.m. Button Room Celebration in the Button Room

### Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall

Join us for a time of fellowship in the Parish Hall following our 10:30 a.m. service every Sunday for snacks and coffee. Newcomers are especially invited to attend so we can better get to know you and welcome you to SJB.

### Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

If you are interested in providing snacks and hospitality during our weekly Coffee Hour, please sign up to host a Sunday on the blue sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall. We are currently in need of Coffee Hour hosts starting December 22 through January. Please consider signing up to support this ministry. Thank you!

### Christmas Flowers— Memorials and Honoraria

As we prepare our beautiful place of worship for the joyous feast of Christmas, you have the opportunity to make a dedication in memory of or in honor of someone significant to you.

Envelopes are available in the pew racks, or you can donate online.

Alternatively, you can contact the church office no later than noon on Wednesday, December 18, to be included in the Christmas bulletins.

## Youth Group Tonight

All youth 6th–12th grades are invited for tonight's youth group in the Parish Hall from 7– 8:30 p.m. Join in for food, fun, and fellowship!

## Coffee Hour Host Organizational Conversation

Have you hosted coffee hour some time in the last few years? Are you interested in possibly hosting coffee hour? Please join Canon Elise and Lilith Lysistrata for a conversation to discern how we might best be approaching coffee hour hosting for where SJB is right now. We will get some coffee and snacks and meet in the Community Room at Noon on January 19.

## 2024 Pledge Fulfillment

We are so grateful to all of you for your support of SJB's mission and ministry in 2024. If you have not yet met your annual pledge amount and would still like to give towards that commitment, or if you would like to make any kind of offering for 2024, there is still time! Contact Cn. Elise or [finance@sjbwestseattle.org](mailto:finance@sjbwestseattle.org) for more information on your 2024 pledge and giving amounts. Thank you!

## Adult Formation: *Rule of Life*

Our Adult Formation topic for Advent will be *Rule of Life* led by the Rev. Robert Stevens. A rule of life is an intentional plan of including spiritual practices in our regular daily lives. 9:40–10:20 a.m., in the library and continues through December 22. Email Canon Elise for the Zoom link or more information: [elise@sjbwestseattle.org](mailto:elise@sjbwestseattle.org)

## Wednesday Evening Prayer on Zoom

Join us on Zoom Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. for Evening Prayer. At the beginning of our time together we will assign roles and participate together in this sacred way to wind down at the end of the day. If you wish to have a social time preceding, join or log in at 6:15 p.m. (optional). Meeting ID: 229 332 884.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/229332884>

## Monday Night Advent Study

Join for our Monday night Advent study, composed by Kate Bowler, academic and the leader of the *Everything Happens* podcast.

"May our (Advent) waiting be filled with a hope that is both honest and defiant, a hope that holds space for all that is still broken while believing in a love that will one day make everything right." —Kate Bowler  
In the SJB library or on Zoom (email Cn. Elise for the Zoom link) December 2, 9, 16, 23, 6:30–7:30 p.m.

## Cold and Flu Season Reminder

We encourage you to take precautions to protect yourself and others from illness, such as getting your Flu and Covid vaccines, joining worship via our livestream on Sunday if you are ill, and considering wearing a mask when attending in-person events. Your attention to these precautions helps us to protect our most vulnerable. Thank you.

## 2025 Estimates of Giving

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who have submitted their Estimate of Giving cards for 2025. There is still time to pledge your support to SJB for next year— contact Cn. Elise with any questions.

## Button Room: The End of An Era— Today

Today we celebrate Anne Rogers, her love of creating, and The Button Room Ministry as this era of crafting at SJB comes to an end, following the 10:30 a.m. service.

## Christmas Pageant Organization Gathering December 22

Our annual Christmas Pageant occurs in the Liturgy of the Word at the 5 p.m. service on Christmas Eve, and all children, regardless of age, are welcome to participate— it is low-barrier participation— no lines must be memorized! There will be an organization gathering following the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, December 22. Please contact Jackson Espeut for more information [familylife@sjbwestseattle.org](mailto:familylife@sjbwestseattle.org)

## AdventWS

Sunday, December 22, 6 p.m., plan to come to a service of song, meditation, and scripture with the SJB Choir under the direction of Dr. Thomas Aláan, along with the beautiful accompaniment of Joyce Gibb, as we begin to shift from Advent and look towards the celebration of the Incarnation.

## Christmastide at SJB

Mark your calendars now for SJB's Christmas Services! On Tuesday, December 24, we will mark Christmas Eve with a 5 p.m. Pageant and Holy Eucharist. At 9:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve, join the SJB Choir for festive carol singing before the 10 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Incense. And join us at 9:30 a.m. to celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord on Christmas Morning, Wednesday, December 25.

## One Service on December 29— Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist

We'll gather for a service of Christmas Lessons and Carols for one combined service at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, December 29— please join us as we continue the celebration of Christmas throughout the 12 days!

## Twelfth Night Party

We'll gather in the Parish Hall on Sunday, January 5, 6:30 p.m., for a festive celebration to include food, king cake, wassail, and song! If you'd like to contribute, contact Anne Rogers, 206-694-3690.

## Epiphany Service with First Lutheran Church, WS

We have been invited to share the celebration of Epiphany with our full communion partner neighboring church of First Lutheran Church of West Seattle, 4105 California Ave SW. Our joint service will be Monday, January 6, 6:30 p.m., with the blessing of chalk.

## Services for Paul Abrahamson

Services for Paul Abrahamson will be held Saturday, January 11, 2 p.m., at St. John the Baptist. Please continue to keep Maggie and family in prayer.



## St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church in the Admiral District of West Seattle

### A Note from Our Rector

We are so glad you are worshipping here today!

#### Visiting?

If you are visiting with us, we would be glad to answer any questions you may have about the Episcopal Church or about St. John's. I'm Elise, the Rector (the priest in charge) of St. John's—I encourage you to reach out to me—I'd love to meet you!

#### Interested in Baptism?

In the Episcopal Church, we believe that Baptism by water and in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit is full initiation into the Body of Christ, the Church— regardless in which Christian tradition you may have been baptized.

If you are interested in Baptism, please reach out to me—I would love to talk with you about this.

As we like to say here, wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you have a place at St. John's!

Welcome!

Elise+  
[elise@sjbwestseattle.org](mailto:elise@sjbwestseattle.org)

If there is a ministry you're interested in knowing more about or getting involved, you can also contact the office  
[office@sjbwestseattle.org](mailto:office@sjbwestseattle.org)

### St. John the Baptist Vestry

#### Class of 2024

Maria Weber, *senior warden*  
Betty Ede  
Sharon Parker  
Tom Taylor

#### Class of 2026

Kitt Gassman  
John Hainze  
Lurilla Lee  
Cathy Thompson

#### Class of 2025

Katie Bucy  
Dan Johnson  
John Kettel, *junior warden*  
Anne Rogers

#### Chair

The Rev. Cn. Elise Johnstone  
**Clerk**  
Carol Sutcliffe  
**Treasurer**  
Monte Frazier

Would you like to request that our Prayer Chain pray for you or someone you know? Would you like to add a name to the Prayers of the People? Please visit

<https://sjbwestseattle.org/prayers>

### St. John the Baptist Staff and Office Information

3050 California Ave SW Phone 206-937-4545  
Seattle WA 98116 [www.sjbwestseattle.org](http://www.sjbwestseattle.org)  
Office Hours: Monday–Thursday 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

The Rev. Canon Elise B. Johnstone, *rector*  
[elise@sjbwestseattle.org](mailto:elise@sjbwestseattle.org)

The Rev. Robert G. Stevens, *curate*  
[robert@sjbwestseattle.org](mailto:robert@sjbwestseattle.org)

Katelyn Cowell, *parish administrator*  
[office@sjbwestseattle.org](mailto:office@sjbwestseattle.org)

Thomas Aláan, DMA, *choir director*  
[thomas@sjbwestseattle.org](mailto:thomas@sjbwestseattle.org)

Anita McKay, *bookkeeper*  
[finance@sjbwestseattle.org](mailto:finance@sjbwestseattle.org)

Jackson Espeut, *family life minister*  
[familylife@sjbwestseattle.org](mailto:familylife@sjbwestseattle.org)

Wayne Heuschele, *sexton*  
Nora Jindrich, *nursery and youth assistant*

David O. Ruberg, *bulletin guru*  
Joyce Gibb, *pianist*

If you wish to reach a staff person who does not have an email listed, please contact the office.  
[office@sjbwestseattle.org](mailto:office@sjbwestseattle.org)

### What's going on at SJB this week

Sunday, December 15, 8:30 AM	Nave
<b>Spoken Holy Eucharist</b>	
Sunday, December 15, 9:40 AM	Parish Hall
<b>Adult Formation: Rule of Life</b>	
Sunday, December 15, 10:30 AM	Nave
<b>Holy Eucharist with Music</b>	
Sunday, December 15, 10:30 AM	Nave, Large Godly Play Room
<b>Children's Chapel with Godly Play</b>	
Sunday, December 15, 11:45 AM	Button Room
<b>Button Room Celebration</b>	
Sunday, December 15, 7:00 PM	Parish Hall
<b>Youth Group</b>	
Monday, December 16, 6:30 PM	Library; Zoom
<b>Advent Study</b>	
Tuesday, December 17, 7:00 PM	Community Room
<b>AA Into Action</b>	
Tuesday, December 17, 7:00 PM	Library
<b>Vestry Meeting</b>	
Wednesday, December 18, 6:30 PM	Zoom
<b>Evening Prayer</b>	
Wednesday, December 18, 7:00 PM	Library
<b>Endolyne Board Meeting*</b>	
Thursday, December 19, 6:30 PM	Choir Room
<b>Choir Practice</b>	
Thursday, December 19, 7:00 PM	Community Room
<b>AA 12x12 Meeting</b>	
Saturday, December 21, 8:30 AM	Parish Hall
<b>Al-Anon</b>	
Saturday, December 21, 10:30 AM	Parish Hall
<b>The Lord's Lunch</b>	
Sunday, December 22, 8:30 AM	Nave
<b>Spoken Holy Eucharist</b>	
Sunday, December 22, 9:40 AM	Parish Hall
<b>Adult Formation: Rule of Life</b>	
Sunday, December 22, 10:30 AM	Nave
<b>Holy Eucharist with Music</b>	
Sunday, December 22, 10:30 AM	Nave, Large Godly Play Room
<b>Children's Chapel with Godly Play</b>	
Sunday, December 22, 11:45 AM	
<b>Christmas Pageant Organization Gathering</b>	
Sunday, December 22, 12:00 PM	
<b>Walking Through the Bible</b>	
Sunday, December 22, 6:00 PM	Nave
<b>AdventWS</b>	
*Indicates that a group is renting SJB for this use.	