

Fourth Sunday of Advent • December 20, 2020 • 8:00 A.M.



Services now available online through

Facebook Live: [Facebook.com/StJohnSouthampton](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnSouthampton)

Sunday Services

8:00 A.M. - Morning Prayer, Rite I
9:00 A.M. - Morning Prayer, Rite II
11:00 A.M. - Morning Prayer, Rite I

Weekday Services

Monday – Friday

8:10 A.M. – Morning Prayer, Rite I
6:00 P.M. – Evening Prayer, Rite I

St. John's Episcopal Church | 100 South Main Street | P. O. Box 5068 | Southampton, New York 11969-5068

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Watch ye, for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cock-crowing, or in the morning; lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. *Mark 13:35, 36*

Opening sentence and invitatory

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips.

People **And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

Officiant Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:

People **as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Officiant The earth is the Lord's for he made it

People **O come, let us adore him.**

Venite Psalm 95:1-7; 96:9, 13

O come, let us sing unto the Lord; *

let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, *

and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are all the corners of the earth, *

and the strength of the hills is his also.

The sea is his and he made it, *

and his hands prepared the dry land.

O come, let us worship and fall down *

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is the Lord our God, *

and we are the people of his pasture

and the sheep of his hand.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *

let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth, *

and with righteousness to judge the world

and the peoples with his truth.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Canticle 15

The Song of Mary Magnificat

Luke 1:46-55

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.

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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.

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.

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 be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The First Lesson

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

A Lesson from the Second Book of the Prophet Samuel

When the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Here endeth the Lesson

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Benedictus es, Domine

Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our fathers; *
praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou for the Name of thy Majesty; *
praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou in the temple of thy holiness; *
praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou that beholdest the depths,
and dwellest between the Cherubim; *
praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou on the glorious throne of thy kingdom; *
praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou in the firmament of heaven; *
praised and exalted above all for ever.

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

The Second Lesson

Romans 16:25-27

A Lesson from the first letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith-- to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Here endeth the Lesson

Jubilate Deo Psalm 100

O be joyful in the Lord all ye lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God;
it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves; *
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving
and into his courts with praise; *
be thankful unto him and speak good of his Name.
For the Lord is gracious;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

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

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The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together, all standing

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

The people stand or kneel

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

**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.**

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Suffrages A

V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

R. **And grant us thy salvation.**

V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

R. **And make thy chosen people joyful.**

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. **For only in thee can we live in safety.**

V. Lord, keep this nation under thy care;

R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

V. Let thy way be known upon earth;

R. **Thy saving health among all nations.**

∇. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

∇. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. **And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.**

Intercessions

Collect of the Day

We beseech thee, Almighty God, to purify our consciences by thy daily visitation, that when thy Son our Lord cometh he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Sundays

O God, who makest us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of thy Son our Lord: Grant us this day such blessing through our worship of thee, that the days to come may be spent in thy favor; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Mission

Lord Jesus Christ, who didst stretch out thine arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of thy saving embrace: So clothe us in thy Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know thee to the knowledge and love of thee; for the honor of thy Name. **Amen.**

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People:

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

we thine unworthy servants

do give thee most humble and hearty thanks

for all thy goodness and loving-kindness

to us and to all men.

We bless thee for our creation, preservation,

and all the blessings of this life;

but above all for thine inestimable love

in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,

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for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we beseech thee,
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;
and that we show forth thy praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to thy service,
and by walking before thee
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Officiant

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

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Officiant

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Romans 15:13

Announcements

A Lesson from the Gospel according to Saint Luke

Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

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Sermon

The Rev'd W. Patrick Edwards

The Offertory

All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.



Dedications

The flowers on the altar this week are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Julie Gould by Darcy and George Gould.



Verse of the Week

“Then Mary said, ‘Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.’”

Luke 1:38

“ *Quote of the Week* ”



“Reason is an action of the mind; knowledge is a possession of the mind; but faith is an attitude of the person. It means you are prepared to stake yourself on something being so.”

++Michael Ramsey
100th Archbishop of Canterbury
d. 23 April 1988

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Announcements

St. John's Holiday Service Schedule

ADVENT III & IV, DECEMBER 13 & 20

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

8:00 AM MORNING PRAYER RITE I
9:00 AM MORNING PRAYER - RITE II
11:00 AM MORNING PRAYER - RITE I

CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24

ST. ANDREW'S DUNE CHURCH

2:00 PM FAMILY SERVICE
7:00 PM CHRISTMAS LESSONS AND CAROLS

CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25

ST. ANDREW'S DUNE CHURCH

10:00 AM CHRISTMAS MORNING PRAYER - RITE I

CHRISTMAS I AND II, DECEMBER 27

& JANUARY 3

ONLINE ONLY

EPIPHANY, JANUARY 6, 2021

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

7:00 PM EVENING PRAYER - RITE I

Reservations are required for all Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.

St Andrew's Dune Church is offering socially distanced, heated indoor and outdoor tent seating. For the safety of our worshipping community, Please email secretary@stjohnsouthampton.org or call the church office at (631) 283-0549 to reserve a place for you and your party at one of these services.

The Christmas Day service will be live-streamed and recorded on Facebook and YouTube.



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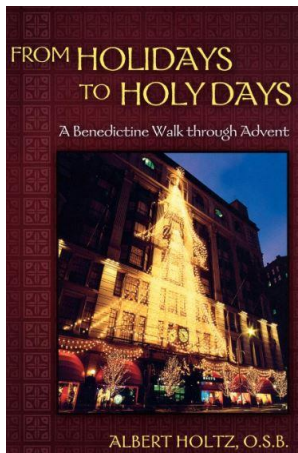
The Christmas Day service will be live-streamed and recorded on Facebook and YouTube.

Due to the recent surge in the COVID pandemic we will suspend in-person worship services from December 26, 2020 until Epiphany, January 6, 2021. Morning Prayer and homily will be live-streamed and recorded for these Sunday services, available online at St. John's Facebook page and Fr Patrick's YouTube channel.

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Advent, 2020

at Saint John's Episcopal Church, Southampton
Study and Reflections with Brother Albert Holtz, OSB's book
From Holidays to Holy Days: A Benedictine Walk through Advent

Fr Patrick will read from these meditations and offer reflections and discussions for each evening in the season of Advent through New Year's during the night office of compline.

These can be seen on St John's Facebook page (StJohnSouthampton) and Fr Patrick's YouTube channel, found by searching for Fr. W. Patrick Edwards from that Web Site.