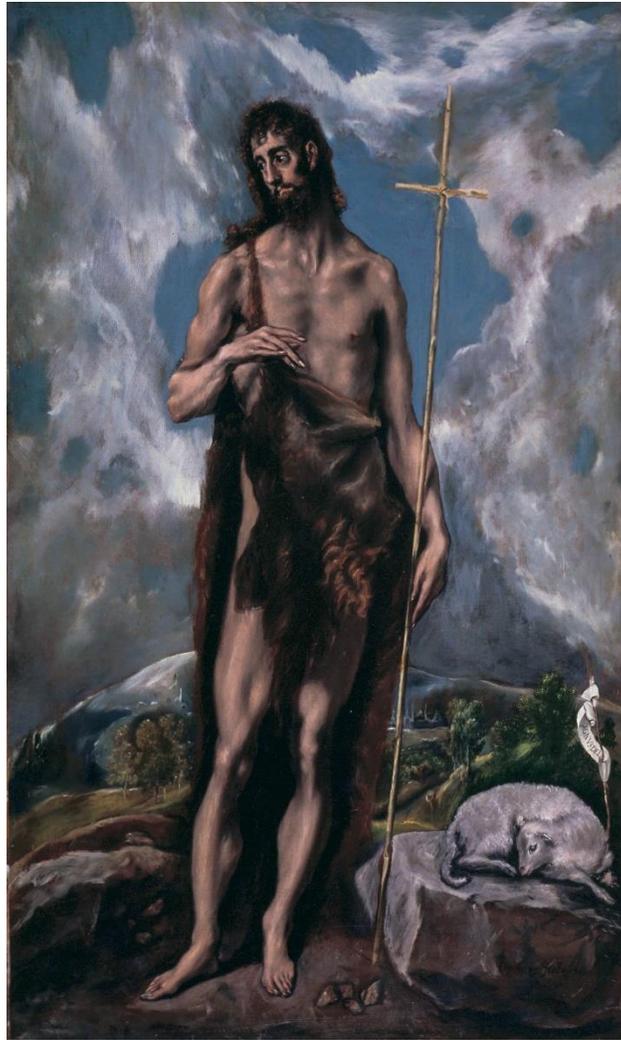


Third Sunday of Advent • December 13, 2020 • 9:00 A.M.



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

San Juan Bautista by El Greco in the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco

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Opening Hymn 59

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding

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.

In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Isaiah 40:3

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 kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

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Officiant and People together, all kneeling

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 Officiant alone stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Opening sentence and invitatory

Officiant Lord, open thou our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your 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 will be, forever. Amen.**

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

People **Come let us adore him.**

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

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.

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.

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!

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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.

Psalm 126

In convertendo

1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.

2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

3 Then they said among the nations, *
"The Lord has done great things for them."

4 The Lord has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.

5 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.

6 Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.

7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

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

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

A Lesson from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;

he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,

to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;

to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,

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the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;

they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

For I the Lord love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;

I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;

all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,

so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

Here endeth the Lesson

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.**

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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 *1 Thessalonians 5:16-24*

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

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Here endeth the Lesson

Jubilate Deo Psalm 100

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.
Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

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 Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together, all standing

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

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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.
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

The people stand or kneel

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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.**

Suffrages A

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.

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

R. For only in you can we live in safety.

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V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

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

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. Your saving health among all nations.

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

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

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Intercessions

Collect of the Day

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.**

A Collect for Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Mission

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

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People:

**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.**

**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,**

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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.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

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

The Officiant

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

2 Corinthians 13:14

Announcements

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Gospel Hymn 640

Watchman, tell us of the night

1 Watch-man, tell us of the night, what its signs of prom - ise
2 Watch-man, tell us of the night; high - er yet that star a -
3 Watch-man, tell us of the night, for the morn - ing seems to

are. Trav - eler, o'er yon moun-tain's height, see that glo - ry -
scends. Trav - eler, bless - ed - ness and light, peace and truth its
dawn. Trav - eler, dark - ness takes its flight, doubt and ter - ror

beam - ing star. Watch-man, does its beau - teous ray
course por - tends. Watch-man, will its beams a - lone
are with - drawn. Watch-man, let thy wan - derings cease;

aught of joy or hope fore - tell? Trav-eler, yes; it
gild the spot that gave them birth? Trav-eler, a - ges
hie thee to thy qui - et home. Trav-eler, lo! the

brings the day, prom - ised day of Is - ra - el.
are its own; see, it bursts o'er all the earth.
Prince of Peace, lo! the Son of God is come!

Two groups may sing antiphonally, alternating by sentences.

Words: John Bowring (1792-1872) Music: *Aberystwyth*, Joseph Parry (1841-1903)

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A Lesson from the Gospel according to Saint John

The Gospel

John 1:6-8,19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’” as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, “Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?” John answered them, “I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.” This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Here endeth the Lesson.

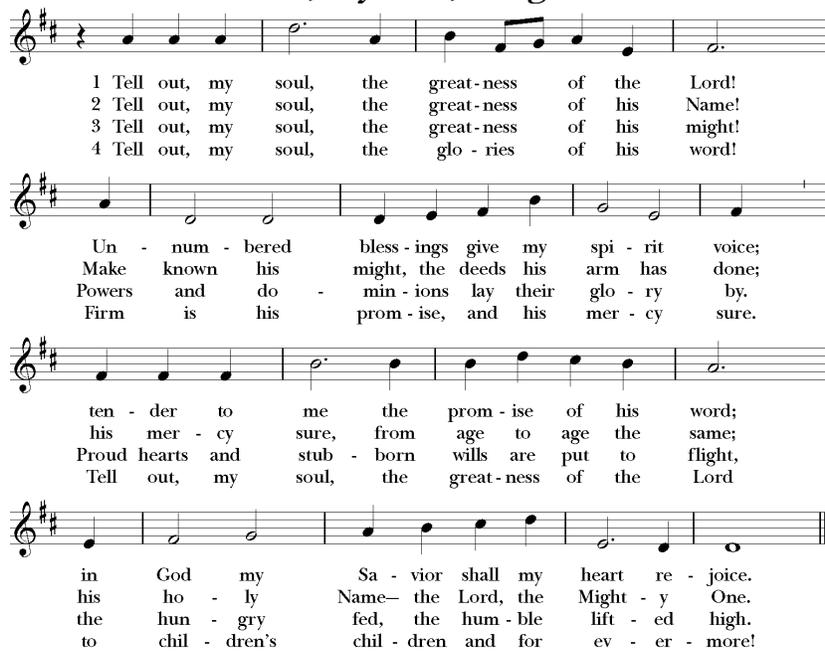
Sermon

The Rev. W. Patrick Edwards

The Offertory

**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.**

Processional Hymn 438 *Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord*



1 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!
2 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his Name!
3 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his might!
4 Tell out, my soul, the glo - ries of his word!

Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spi - rit voice;
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
Powers and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.
Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.

ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word;
his mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;
Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,
Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord

in God my Sa - vior shall my heart re - joice.
his ho - ly Name— the Lord, the Might - y One.
the hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.
to chil - dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

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Verse of the Week

“The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;”

Isaiah 61:1-4

“ *Quote of the Week* ”



“In the world it is called Tolerance, but in hell it is called
Despair...the sin that believes in nothing, cares for nothing, seeks to
know nothing, interferes with nothing, enjoys nothing, hates nothing,
finds purpose in nothing, lives for nothing, and remains alive because
there is nothing for which it will die.”

Dorothy L. Sayers
English crime writer and poet
d. 17 December 1957

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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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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.



St. John's Episcopal Church Christmas Flowers

I/We wish to give Christmas flowers to the Glory of God.

Name(s) of Intention: _____

Given by: _____

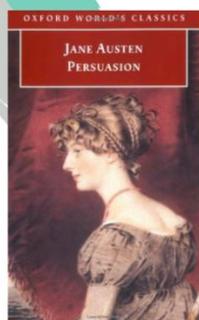
Dedications will be included in the Christmas bulletins
*Please indicate whether the offering is a memorial, thanksgiving, etc.
Make checks payable to Saint John's Altar Guild

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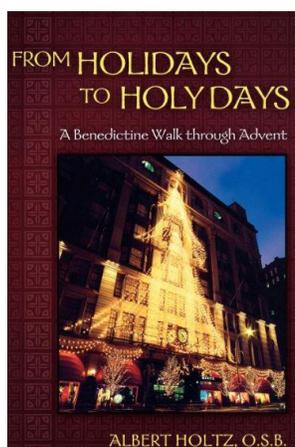
Book Club Meeting

Thursday, December 17 at 6:30 PM



St. John's Episcopal Church
Southampton

Please message us or contact
Deborah Edwards or Sandra J. Klemuk
for more information.



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.

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