

**Fourth Sunday of Advent • December 20, 2020 • 9:00 A.M.**



*The Annunciation* by El Greco in the Ohara Museum of Art, Kurashiki, Japan

**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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# Fourth Sunday of Advent • December 20, 2020 • 9:00 A.M.

## Opening Hymn 66

## *Come, thou long-expected Jesus*

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:  
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,  
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.  
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

*Isaiah 40:5*

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.

*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.**

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*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!**

**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.**

### 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.**

**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.**

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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

### ***Benedictus es, Domine***

Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our fathers; \*  
praised and exalted above all for ever.

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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*

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.

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## The Apostles' Creed

*Officiant and People together, all standing*

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.  
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.**

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### 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.**

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

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, 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**

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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,  
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*

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



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## Gospel Hymn 265

### *The angel Gabriel from heaven came*

1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came,  
2 "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be,  
3 Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head,  
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born

his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;  
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee,  
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,  
in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,

"All hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,  
thy Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,  
"my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name."  
and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say -

most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!  
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!  
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!  
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!

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A Lesson from the Gospel according to Saint Luke

## The Gospel

*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.

Here endeth the Lesson.

## Sermon

**The Rev. W. Patrick Edwards**

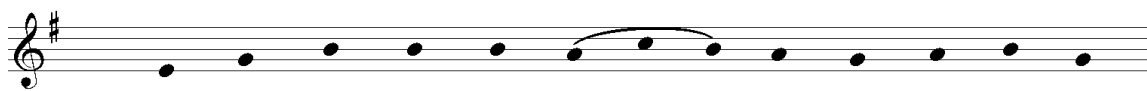
## The Offertory

**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.**

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Processional Hymn 56 (v4-6)

*O come, O come, Emmanuel*



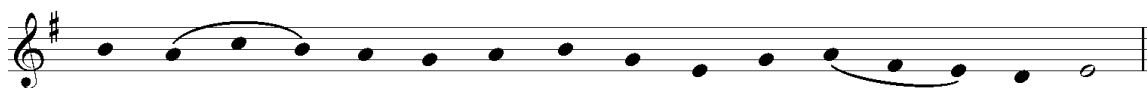
(Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from  
(Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen  
(Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us



4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to  
5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on  
6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of



4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.  
6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

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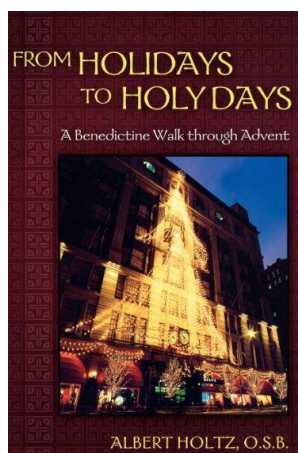
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Due to the recent surge in the COVID pandemic we will suspend in-person worship services from December 26, 2020 until Epiphany, January 6, 2021. Morning Prayer and homily will be live-streamed and recorded for these Sunday services, available online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



### 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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