

**Centering Prayer** is an ancient practice rediscovered in recent years. It is a method of meditation used by Christians placing a strong emphasis on interior silence, centered entirely on the presence of God. **Lectio Divina** is another traditional practice of scriptural reading, meditation and prayer intended to promote communion with God that does not treat scripture as texts to be studied, but as the living word. **St. John's Episcopal Church** 100 South Main Street | P. O. Box 5068 Southampton, New York 11969-5068



Services are available online through Facebook Live: Facebook.com/StJohnSouthampton

<u>Sunday Services</u> 8:00 A.M. - Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:00 A.M. - Holy Eucharist, Rite II 11:00 A.M. - Morning Prayer, Rite I Holy Eucharist, Rite I (1st Sunday of each month) <u>Weekday Services</u> <u>Monday – Friday</u> 7:30 A.M. – Morning Prayer, Rite I 6:00 P.M. – Evening Prayer, Rite I <u>Wednesday</u> 10:00 A.M. – Holy Eucharist, Rite I

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# The Third Sunday in Lent Gaudete Sunday December 12, 2021 • 11:00 A.M.







# Verse of the Week

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near."

Philippians 4:4-5

e Quote of the Week ??



"The Christian should always remember that the value of his good works is not based on their number and excellence, but on the love of God which prompts him to do these things."

St. John of the Cross Spanish Catholic priest, mystic, and a Carmelite friar d. 14 December 1591

Announcements



Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. *Isaiah 40:3* 

# Confession

## Officiant

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy 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

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

#### Officiant

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

## Opening sentence and invitatory

OfficiantO Lord, open thou our lips.PeopleAnd our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Officiant People 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.

OfficiantWorship the Lord in the beauty of holinessPeopleO 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.

The First Song of Isaiah Isaiah 12:2-8 Ecce Deus

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2. Surely, it is God who saves me; \* I will trust in him and not be afraid.



Blessed, hallowed, worshiped, and adored be our Lord Jesus Christ on His throne in Heaven, on the altars of His churches, and in the hearts of His faithful people. And may the souls of the faithful departed through the mercies of God rest in peace.

#### Officiant and People And may Light Perpetual shine upon them. Amen.

A lesson from the Gospel according to Saint Luke.

#### Luke 3:7-18

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.

#### Sermon

#### The Offertory

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Distribution from the Reserve Sacrament

3. For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, \* and he will be my Savior.

4. Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \* from the springs of salvation.

5. And on that day you shall say, \* Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

6. Make his deeds known among the peoples; \* see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

7. Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, \* and this is known in all the world.

8. Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \* for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

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

Zephaniah 3:14-20

A Lesson from the Book of the prophet Zephaniah

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.

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.
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.

#### Announcements



## 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, 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	
People	

Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

#### The Officiant

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** *Ephesians 3:20, 21*  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

Philippians 4:4-7

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

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.

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. **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 sta	nd 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.

#### 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.
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 thy Holy Spirit.

## Collect of the Day

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. **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.**