

#### **Sunday Services**

9 AM • Holy Eucharist, Rite II
11 AM • Morning Prayer, Rite I
11 AM • Holy Eucharist, Rite I
(First Sundays each month)

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

For Pastoral emergencies, please contact Cn. Richard at (631) 974-4987 or rvisconti@stjohnsouthampton.org

#### Interim Priest-in-Charge

The Rev. Cn. Richard Visconti

#### The Vestry

Lisa Gillespie – Senior Warden
Bill McCoy – Junior Warden and Treasurer
Sandra Klemuk – Secretary
Kat Doherty
Jeanne Ferrer
Pat Griffith
Florence Rolston
Lisa Vahradian
Håkan Wohlin

#### Senior & Junior Wardens of the Vestry

warden@stjohnsouthampton.org

**Lisa Gillespie** 516-375-2290

**Bill McCoy** 718-762-6683

St. John's Office Ursula Anderson

secretary@stjohnsouthampton.org or (631) 283-0549



# St. John's Episcopal Church A Parish in Southampton. NY that makes a difference



# Advent Lessons & Carols



December 22, 2024 • 11 AM

100 South Main Street | Southampton, New York 11968 | (631) 283-0549

Welcome! May the peace of Christ fill your heart as you join us in worship today.

We invite you to open your heart and mind to the Word of God.

Please remain seated for the lessons and anthems and rise to join in singing the hymns.

Choral introit

Veni Emmanuel

All stand

Hymn 102

Once in Royal David's City

Haley Willis Ludlow solo 1st verse Congregation joins in singing verses 2-6





### St. John's 2024 Outreach Recipients

In 2024, St. John's Outreach touched countless lives through the generosity of those who gave their time, prayers, and financial support. Your contributions made it possible to extend compassion and resources to individuals and communities in need, reflecting the true spirit of our mission. Below is a list of the recipients whose lives were impacted by your kindness and dedication.

ARF
SH Town Animal Rescue
Fighting Chance
K.I.N.D (Kids in Need of Desks)
3-Year school sponsorship for one child
Open Arms Care Center
Food Distribution Center in Riverhead

East End Hospice Bridgehampton Childcare Center

Heart of the Hamptons

I TRI

Island Gift of Life Julie Kremborg Scholarship Fund

Paul Koster Memorial Fund

Tunnel 2 Towers

Time for Teens

Samaritan's Purse

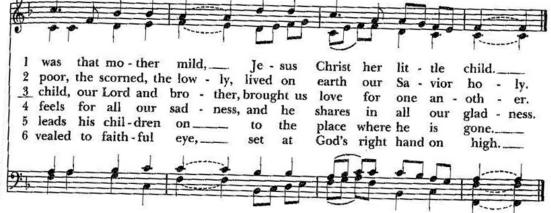
World Central Kitchen

Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry

Heifer International







All stand

#### Main Responsory

- V. I look from afar; and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth. Go ye out to meet him and say:
- R. Tell us. Art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?
- V. High and low, rich and poor one with another go, ye out to meet him and say: Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep.
- R. Tell us, art thou he that should come?
- V. Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come to reign over thy people Israel.
- R. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.
- V. I look from afar, and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth. Go ye out to meet him and say:
- R. Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?

#### The Bidding Prayer

Beloved in Christ, as we await the great festival of Christmas, let us prepare ourselves so that we may be shown its true meaning. Let us hear, in lessons from Holy Scripture, how the prophets of Israel foretold that God would visit and redeem the waiting people. Let us rejoice, in our carols and hymns, that the good purpose of God is being mightily fulfilled. Let us celebrate the promise that our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, will bring all people and all things into the glory of God's eternal kingdom. The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor hear and see the Gospel.

First, let us pray for the world God so loves, for those who have not heard the good news of God, or who do not believe it; for those who walk in darkness and in the shadow of death; and for the Church in this and every place, that it may be freed from all evil and fear, and may in pure joy lift up the light of the love of God. These prayers and praises let us humbly offer to God, in the words that Christ himself taught us.

People and Celebrant

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.

*Priest*: The Almighty God bless us with his grace: Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of angels bring us all. **Amen.** 

All are seated

Offertory

Break Forth O Beauteous Heavenly Light

All stand

#### Doxology

## announcements



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A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS was first reported by the Royal Cornwall Gazette as occurring at Truro Cathedral on Christmas Eve, 1878. The Bishop of Truro, Edward Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury, formalized the service with Nine Lessons for use at Christmas Eve, 1880. It was a hit with over 400 people attended the service that year. There is a popular, if apocryphal, legend that Bishop Benson created the service in order to lure wayward souls out of the public houses and into the Cathedral on Christmas Eve. If this is so, then the Bishop enjoyed some considerable success. By 2013 there were 1,500 in attendance for the service. (Attendance at the pubs during these services are not recorded.)

The service is enjoyed throughout the Anglican Communion, as well as by other denominations, but is particularly popular in schools and colleges where it is often the primary Christmas observance each year. The Groton School in Groton, Massachusetts, is the oldest and longest continually held Lessons and Carols service in the United States, having been conducted there since 1928.

The most widely known Lessons and Carols is the annual BBC broadcast from King's College Chapel at Cambridge University in England, with millions of listeners held each Christmas Eve. The King's College service has been broadcast since 1928, even in the depths of the Blitz, despite fears of attack, with the stained-glass windows removed and the heat turned off due to war rationing.





Images from King's College Chapel, Cambridge University in England where the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols are performed each Christmas Eve and broad cast around the world by the BBC.

All are seated

#### First Lesson

Genesis 3:1-15

A Lesson from the book of Genesis.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die." 'But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?' He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.' Then the Lord God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.' The Lord God said to the serpent,

'Because you have done this,
cursed are you among all animals
and among all wild creatures;
upon your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will strike your head,
and you will strike his heel.'

Please remain seated

Divinum Mysterium

Piae Cantiones 16th c.

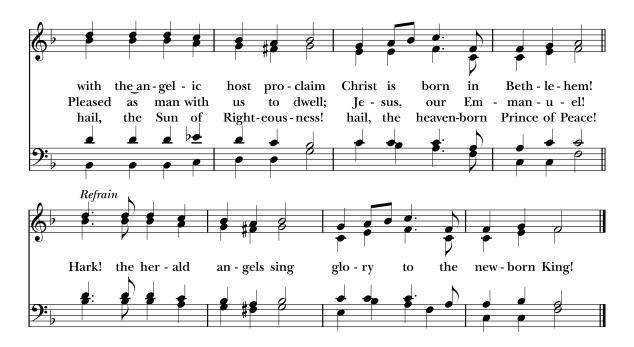
Please remain seated

#### Second Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7

A Lesson from the book of Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.



#### Postlude

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#### **Concluding Prayer and Blessing**



All stand



All are seated

#### Third Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-9

The spirit of the lord will rest upon the holy one

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.
The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

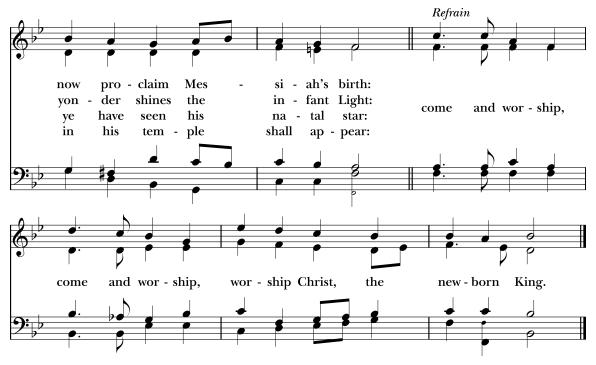
Please remain seated

Es Ist Ein Rose

Layritz / Praetorius

All stand **Hymn 107** Good Christian Friends, Rejoice Chris - tian friends, re - joice Good with heart and soul and voice; Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice: Chris - tian friends, Good re - joice with heart and soul and voice: give ye heed to what we say: Ie - sus Christ born to - day; ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this! ve need not fear the grave: Ie - sus Christ was born to save! be - fore him bow, and is in he the man - ger now. for He hath o - pened hea-ven's door, and we are blest ev - er-more. his ev - er - last - ing hall. Calls you one and calls you all gain is born day! Christ day! Christ is born for this! Christ this! Christ was born was born for Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

8



All are seated

Ninth Lesson

John 1:1-14

A Lesson of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint John.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

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. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Please remain seated

#### Fourth Lesson

Isaiah 40:1-11

God comforts his people calls them to prepare for redemption

A Lesson from the book of Isaiah.

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

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

Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!'
And I said, 'What shall I cry?'
All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.
The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.
The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.
Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,

lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!'

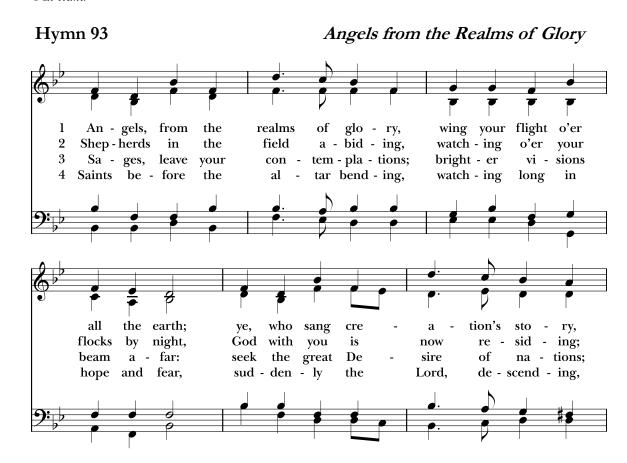
See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

All stand



Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

All stand



Please remain seated

#### Seventh Lesson

Micah 5:2-4

Savior to be born in Bethlehem

A Lesson from the book of Micah.

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.
Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labour has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.
And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;

Please remain seated

St. Louis

Brooks / Redner

Please remain seated

#### Eighth Lesson

Matthew 2:1-12

A Lesson of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew.

who is to shepherd my people Israel."

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler

All are seated

#### Fifth Lesson

Luke 1:26-38

Gabriel announces to Mary to bear Jesus

A Lesson of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.

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, favoured 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 favour 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 for ever, 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.

All stand





All are seated

#### Sixth Lesson

Baruch 4:36-5:9

People look east

A Lesson from the book of Baruch.

Look towards the east, O Jerusalem, and see the joy that is coming to you from God. Look, your children are coming, whom you sent away; they are coming, gathered from east and west, at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing in the glory of God.

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on for ever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendour everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, 'Righteous Peace, Godly Glory'.

Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look towards the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot,

led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne.

For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.

The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command.

For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

Please remain seated

Puer Nobis

Coffin / Chandler