

# Third Sunday of Advent

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Rite I

11:15 a.m. (choral)

December 14, 2025

*Welcome to All Saints' Episcopal Church!*



*In Advent, we renew the ancient practice of lighting candles arranged around a wreath as part of our observance of the season. An Advent Wreath is a circle of evergreens with four dark-blue candles around its edge, and a white candle – the Christ Candle – in the center. The four blue candles represent the four weeks of Advent. A single blue candle is lit every day during the first week of Advent and an additional one each week thereafter. As the season progresses, the additional light-giving candles signify the approach of the One who said, “I am the Light” – Jesus Christ. Finally, on Christmas Eve, the Christ Candle in the middle of the wreath is lit to show that the Light of Christ has come into the world.*

### ***A Word to parents of Young Children***

*We are delighted to have children join us for worship. We encourage you to sit close to the front of the church so that your child can get a better view of what is going on at the altar. Ask any usher for a Busy Bag – a cloth sack containing items for quiet play.*

*Please turn off cellphones and other electronic devices  
that could intrude on the solemnity of the service.*

### ***A note to our deaf and hard-of-hearing parishioners:***

*If you would like to view the livestream of our 11:15 service with closed captions, visit our  
Facebook page: <https://facebook.com/allsaintstheepiscopalchurch.fortworth>*

**The Wi-Fi network is: ASES Guest The password is: !FindTheGeniusWithin!**

**Staff Chapel  
And Office Address**  
4936 Dexter Avenue  
Fort Worth, Texas  
76107

**Sunday Morning  
Worship Address**  
9700 Saints' Circle  
Fort Worth, Texas  
76108

**Mailing Address**  
PO Box 100609  
Fort Worth, Texas  
76185

# The Holy Eucharist

(Silence is observed before the service.)

The Prelude, Melodie

*Guilmant*

The Procession (*stand*)

ABERYSTWYTH

Blue Hymnal 640, Watchman, tell us of the night

The Opening Acclamation

Red Prayer Book, page 323

The Collect for Purity

The Trisagion, Blue Hymnal S 102 (sung three times)

*Alexander Archangelsky*

## The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect of the Day

Red Prayer Book, page 184

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.*

The First Lesson, Isaiah 35:1-10 (*sit*)

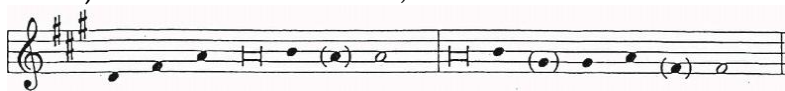
Revised Standard Version

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not pass over it, and fools shall not err therein. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The Gradual, Psalm 146:4-9

*Lauda, anima mea*

Tone V.1



4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their **help!** \*  
whose hope is **in** the **LORD** their God;

5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas and all that is **in** them; \*  
who keeps his **promise** for **ever**;

6 Who gives justice to those who are **oppressed**, \*  
and food to **those** who **hunger**.

7 The **LORD** sets the prisoners free; the **LORD** opens the eyes of the **blind**; \*  
the **LORD** lifts up **those** who are **bowed** down;

- 8 The LORD loves the righteous; the LORD cares for the **stranger**; \*  
 he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the **way** of the **wicked**.  
 9 The LORD shall reign for **ever**, \*  
 your God O Zion throughout all generations **Hallelujah!**

**The Second Lesson**, James 5:7-10 (*sit*) Revised Standard Version

Be patient, therefore, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient over it until it receives the early and the late rain. You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble, brethren, against one another, that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the doors. As an example of suffering and patience, brethren, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

**The Sequence** (*stand*)

WINCHESTER NEW

**Blue Hymnal 76**, On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry (1-3/4-5)

**The Holy Gospel**, Matthew 11:2-11 Revised Standard Version

Before the Gospel: *Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you he who is to come, or shall we look for another?" And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is he who takes no offense at me." As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to behold? A reed shaken by the wind? Why then did you go out? To see a man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, those who wear soft raiment are in kings' houses. Why then did you go out? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written, 'Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, who shall prepare thy way before thee.' Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has risen no one greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

After the Gospel: *Praise be to thee, Lord Christ.*

**The Sermon** (*sit*)

**The Nicene Creed** (*stand*)

Red Prayer Book, page 326

**The Prayers of the People**, Form I

Red Prayer Book, page 383

**The Confession and Absolution**

Red Prayer Book, page 331

**The Peace**

**The Birthday and Anniversary Blessings** (*sit*)

**The Announcements**

## **The Liturgy of Holy Communion**

**The Offertory Anthem**

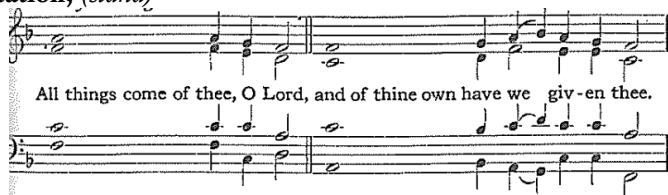
*Vaughan Williams*

This is the truth sent from above, The truth of God, the God of love, Therefore don't turn to me from your door, But hearken all both rich and poor. The first thing which I do relate Is that God did man create; The next thing which to you I tell Woman was made with him to dwell. Thus we were heirs to endless woes, Till God the Lord did interpose; and so a promise soon did run That he would redeem us by his Son. And at that season of the year Our blest Redeemer did appear; He here did live, and here did preach, And many thousands did he

teach. Thus he in love to us behaved, To show us how we might be saved; And if you want to know the way, Be pleased to hear what he did say.

**The Presentation, (stand)**

*Anonymous*



**The Eucharistic Prayer, Prayer II**

Red Prayer Book, page 340

**The Sanctus, Blue Hymnal S 113**

*John Merbecke*

**The Our Father, Blue Hymnal S 119**

*Plainsong, adapted by Charles Winfred Douglas*

**The Breaking of the Bread**

**The Agnus Dei, Blue Hymnal S 157**

*John Merbecke*

**The Ministration of Communion**

*Visitors, if you have been baptized and receive communion in your home church, please join us for Holy Communion.*

**The Communion Hymns**

**Blue Hymnal 68, Rejoice! Rejoice, believers**

LLANGLOFFAN

**Blue Hymnal 69, What is the crying at Jordan?**

ST. MARK'S, BERKELEY

**The Dispatching of Lay Eucharistic Visitors**

*Lay ministers may be sent forth with Holy Communion to parishioners unable to travel to church.*

**The Ablutions Anthem**

*Basque Carol*

The angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame; "All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary, most highly favored lady," Gloria! "For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be, all generations laud and honor thee, thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold, most highly favored lady," Gloria! Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head, "To me be as it pleaseth God," she said, "my soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name." Most highly favored lady, Gloria! Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn, and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say – "Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

**The Post-Communion Prayer**

Red Prayer Book, page 339

**The Blessing**

**The Procession (stand)**

ST. FLAVIAN

**Blue Hymnal 615, "Thy kingdom come!" on bended knee**

**The Dismissal**

Red Prayer Book, page 366

**The Postlude, Verset**

*Guilmant*