

8:00 SERVICE



# The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist

(831) 708-2278 125 Canterbury Drive Aptos CA 95003  
[www.st-john-aptos.org](http://www.st-john-aptos.org)



Sunday, November 27, 2022  
The First Sunday of Advent

# Welcome to St. John's!

- **COVID-19 Protocols: Face Masks (N95 or KN95)** are required indoors, encouraged outdoors when in close proximity to others. **Physical distancing** is required indoors.
- **Restrooms** are located on both ends of the building.

## **NOTICE: Vestry Election to be held NEXT Sunday, December 4, 2022**

The Vestry Nomination Committee is pleased to announce that three people have agreed to serve for the class of 2023 vestry term. Liz Lindsley, Susan Von Schmacht, and Anne Baker will be on the ballot for the election at church on Sunday, December 4.

Although there are three open vestry positions and three candidates, in order to serve each person must receive a mark of approval from at least half of the people voting. A list of people eligible to vote is on the usher's table in the Sanctuary. Please offer your thanks, encouragement, and prayers for those who are willing to accept this responsibility.

*Nomination Committee: Alliee DeArmond, Sherrie Dewitt, Jon Showalter, Chris Rowen*

## **Schedule of Parish Events**

- Sun., Dec. 4, 2022 Annual Parish Meeting, Part 1: Election of Vestry Members
- Sat., Dec. 17, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Christmas Craft & Bake Sale with Musical Entertainment
- Wed., Dec. 21, 7 p.m, Blue Christmas Service
- Sat., Dec. 24, 4 p.m. Family Christmas Eve service
- Sat., Dec. 24, 10 p.m. Midnight Mass with music
- Sun., Dec. 25, 11 a.m. Service of Lessons and Carols
- Sun., Dec. 25, 12:30 p.m. Christmas Lunch Potluck.
- Sun., Feb. 5, 2023 Annual Parish Meeting, Part 2: Election of Delegates to Diocesan Convention

## **Reminder to Bring Cups for Communion if Desired**

If you prefer to receive Eucharistic wine from a cup for health reasons, please bring your own cup to use. This will help St. John's to reduce waste and allow us to save the plastic cups for visitors.

**Pastoral Emergencies/ Priest On-Call: 831-531-7187**  
**For prayer requests, email [prayer@st-john-aptos.org](mailto:prayer@st-john-aptos.org)**  
**(routes to a group of 40+ parishioners who will pray for you immediately)**

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Rite II from the Book of Common Prayer (1979)

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## The Blessing of the Advent Wreath

*Presider* Holy One, we praise you for your son Jesus Christ,  
who is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples,  
the wisdom that teaches and guides us, the Savior of every nation.  
Let your blessing come upon us as we light this wreath.  
May it be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation.  
May he come quickly, and not delay.

*All* Come, Lord Jesus.

## † The Liturgy of the Word †

### Opening Acclamation

*EOW 1*

*Presider* Blessed be the one, holy and living God  
*People* **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

### The Collect for Purity

*Presider* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Kyrie** (Translation: Lord, have mercy. / Christ, have mercy.)

*BCP 356*

*Presider* Kyrie eleison.  
*People* **Christe eleison.**  
*Presider* Kyrie eleison.

### Collect of the Day

*Presider* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Presider* Let us pray. (Silence.) Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### Introduction to the Hebrew Bible Reading

Advent, which means "coming," refers not just to the coming of Christ at Christmas, but also to the Second Coming of Christ at the end of time. On the first Sunday of Advent, our readings are focused on the Second Coming – a time when all will be made right in the world. This passage from Isaiah promises a day when violence will cease and all people will come together to worship God.

## Isaiah 2:1-5

*New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)*

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

*Lector*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

A bell is rung. We wait until we cannot hear the bell ringing anymore before continuing.

## Psalm 122

*BCP Version*

- 1        I was glad when they said to me, \*  
          "Let us go to the house of the LORD."
- 2        Now our feet are standing \*  
          within your gates, O Jerusalem.
- 3        Jerusalem is built as a city \*  
          that is at unity with itself;
- 4        To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, \*  
          the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the LORD.
- 5        For there are the thrones of judgment, \*  
          the thrones of the house of David.
- 6        Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: \*  
          "May they prosper who love you.
- 7        Peace be within your walls \*  
          and quietness within your towers.
- 8        For my brethren and companions' sake, \*  
          I pray for your prosperity.
- 9        Because of the house of the LORD our God, \*  
          I will seek to do you good."

## **Introduction to the Second Reading**

This passage from Paul's letter to the Romans reflects the belief among early Christians that they would see the Second Coming of Christ in their own lifetimes. The image of "waking from sleep" refers to the Resurrection at the end of time, when the dead will come to life, and "the day" that Paul says is near is "the day of the Lord," the Second Coming.

### **Romans 13:11-14**

*New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)*

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

*Lector*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            Thanks be to God.

A bell is rung. We wait until we cannot hear the bell ringing anymore before continuing.

## **Introduction to the Gospel Reading**

In this passage, Jesus is speaking about the end times and tells the disciples that no one will know in advance when the Second Coming will happen; we should simply live in such a way that we are ready for it at any moment.

### **Matthew 24:36-44**

*New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)*

*Deacon*            The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

*People*            Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

*Deacon*            The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*            Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**Sermon: The Rev. Mary Lou McKenney, Assisting Priest**

## The Nicene Creed

*English Language Liturgical Consultation (ELLC), EOW 53*

*All* We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## Prayers of the People: An Advent Litany *The Wideness of God's Mercy, Jeffrey Rowthorn*

*Deacon:* God of justice and peace, from the heavens you rain down mercy and kindness; hear and answer our prayers, that all on earth may stand in awe and wonder before your marvelous deeds.

*Intercessor:* O Holy Wisdom, Breath of the Most High,  
pervading and permeating all creation:

*People:* **Come and make us friends of God.**

*Intercessor:* O Lord of lords and Leader of the house of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the burning bush and gave him your law on Sinai:

*People:* **Come and save us with outstretched arm.**

*Intercessor:* O Root of Jesse, standing as a signal to the nations,  
before whom all kings are mute, to whom the nations will do homage:

*People:* **Come and save us, delay no longer.**

*Intercessor:* O Key of David and Ruler of the house of Israel, what you open nobody can close, what you close nobody can open:

*People:* **Come, proclaim liberty to captives and set the down-trodden free**

*Intercessor:* O radiant Dawn, to whom this day we pray for....

Pause; the People add their own petitions.

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for Anglican Episcopal Church in Japan. In our diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for for the parishes of St. Andrew's in Ben Lomond & Saratoga. From our parish prayer list, we pray for Deahna Marie, Albaro & Ivan Serna, and Georgeanne.

Splendor of eternal light and Sun of justice:

*People:* **Come, give light to those who live in darkness and the shadow of death.**

*Intercessor:* O King of the nations, the Ruler they long for, we pray for those who have died, that they may now enjoy the vision of your splendor.

Cornerstone binding us all together:

*People:* **Come, save the people you fashioned from the dust of the earth.**

*Intercessor:* O Emmanuel, our King and our Lawgiver,  
the Anointed of the nations and their Savior:

*People:* **Come and save us, O Lord our God.**

*Presider:* Give us ears to hear, O God, and eyes to watch, that we may know your presence in our midst during this holy season of joy as we anticipate the coming of your Christ. **Amen.**

## Confession of Sin

*Church of England*

*Deacon* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence, to allow time for individuals to silently confess specific sins to God.

*All* **Eternal God, giver of light and grace, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in what we have thought, and in what we have said and done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We have wounded your love, and marred your image in us. We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light. Amen.**

## Absolution

*EOW 1*

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

## The Peace

*Presider* The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

Because the sharing of the peace symbolizes being reconciled with one another before receiving communion, it is particularly appropriate to seek out anyone with whom you may have had a conflict recently and offer a sign of peace at this time.

## Community Prayers

*Modified from BCP 830, 421, 431, & 831*

### For Birthdays, Baptism Anniversaries, Wedding Anniversaries, and Travelers

*Presider* Watch over Pat Rebele (11/29), Matt McCabe (11/29) and Karen Greenleaf (12/3), O Lord, as their days increase.

*People* **Bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives.**

*Presider* We ask for courage, patience and vision for \_\_\_\_\_, who celebrate their baptism anniversaries this week.

*People* **Strengthen them in their Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others.**

*Presider* Send your blessing upon \_\_\_\_\_ as they celebrate their wedding anniversary.

*People* **May they so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace.**

*Presider* O God, whose glory fills your whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go, preserve \_\_\_\_\_ as they travel.

*People* **Surround them with your loving care, protect them from every danger, and bring them in safety to their journey's end. Amen.**

# † The Holy Communion †

## The Offertory

During the offertory portion of the service, we offer our gifts to God. At St. John's, that takes the form of both financial gifts and gifts of our time. Time donated is documented on a form and put in the offering plate along with financial offerings. If you're participating online, you can find links to donate on the Virtual Worship page of our website: [www.st-john-aptos.org/virtual-worship.html](http://www.st-john-aptos.org/virtual-worship.html)

## Offertory Sentence

*Deuteronomy 16:16-1 (NIV)*

“No one should appear before the LORD empty-handed; each of you must bring a gift in proportion to the way the LORD your God has blessed you.”

-The Law of Moses, regarding offerings at the Festival of Booths

## Eucharistic Prayer 3

*EOW #3*

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*Presider* All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

*Presider & People*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*Presider* Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

*All*            **Dying, you destroyed our death.  
Rising, you restored our life.  
Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

*Presider*    Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

*All:*            **Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*BCP 364*

*Presider*    As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

*All*            **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever.  
Amen.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.

*Presider*            Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People*                **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

## **Invitation to Communion**

*Presider*      **The Gifts of God for the People of God.**

Receiving communion is an act of renewing one's commitment to Christ and receiving grace to continue to follow him. Please join us in the circle, even if you choose not to receive communion, which you can indicate by crossing your arms over your chest as the servers come by. If you choose not to receive, the priest will say a blessing over you instead.

## **Distribution of Communion**

The bread is distributed first. Please hold out your hands to indicate your desire to receive; the priest will place the bread in your hand. Gluten-free wafers are available if needed; they are in a separate gold container on the paten (plate) with the bread.

The wine will be served in the common cup (chalice) and from a flagon (pitcher) that is not shared with others. To receive from the non-shared flagon, you must have brought a cup from home; hold out that cup as the servers come around so they can see that you would like to receive from the flagon instead of the chalice. If you would like to abstain from the wine entirely, cross your arms over your chest when the wine comes by.

## **For Online Participants: Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

Those not physically present to receive communion can say this prayer while communion is being distributed: "In union, O Lord, with the faithful of St. John's, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body, with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all the love of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live in you, and may you live in me, both in this life and in the life to come. Amen."

If you live in Santa Cruz County and would like someone to bring you communion at home, please contact the church office at 831-708-2278 or email [LEVs@st-john-aptos.org](mailto:LEVs@st-john-aptos.org).

## **Post-Communion Prayer**

*Church of England (adapted)*

*All*      **We praise and thank you, creator God, for you have not left us alone.  
You have come among us as Emmanuel, the promised of ages,  
and come to us still in word and Spirit, in bread and cup.  
Make us holy, and bring us to perfection,  
that when Christ comes again we may shine like lights before his face,  
who with you and the Spirit lives forever. Amen.**

## **Advent Blessing**

*BOS 2018, p.18*

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

## The Dismissal

*BCP 366, adapted for the season*

*Deacon*            Go in peace to watch and wait for Christ.

*People*            Thanks be to God.

## Serving Today at 8 a.m.

*Presider:*            The Rev. Tracy Wells Miller, Rector  
*Preacher:*           The Rev. Mary Lou McKenney, Assisting Priest  
*Server:*             Win Fernald  
*First Reading:*     Brian Raney  
*Epistle:*             Barbara Raney  
*Usher:*             Bart Coddington  
*Altar Guild:*        Cindy Phillips, Wilma Staver, Eileen Fernald



## The Leadership of St. John's

**Ministers:** All of us!



### Clergy Staff

**The Rev. Tracy Wells Miller** (“Mother Tracy”), Rector  
rector@st-john-aptos.org, (831) 708-6828 (cell)

**The Rev. Joan Anderson** (“Deacon Joan”), Deacon  
deacon@st-john-aptos.org, (831) 262-7385 (cell)

**Lay Staff**    staff@st-john-aptos.org

**Chrys Sparks, Office Manager**  
admin@st-john-aptos.org, (831) 708-6850 (cell)

**Andrew S. Carter, Director of Music Ministries**  
music@st-john-aptos.org, (831) 291-2888 (cell)

**Matt McCabe, Sexton**  
matt@st-john-aptos.org, (831) 419-4998 (cell)

**Maritza Medina, Nursery Coordinator**  
maritzayjuan@sbcglobal.net, (831) 325-8405 (cell)

**Rosa Miriam Escobar, Janitor**

**Diane Scofield, Helpful Shop Manager**  
helpfulshop@st-john-aptos.org, 831-332-7711 (cell)

**Lisa Freeman, Community Youth Prog. Director**  
community-youth@st-john-aptos.org, 831-854-7265 (cell)

**Madison Carter, Media Technician**

**Assisting Clergy**    clergy@st-john-aptos.org

The Rev. Mary Craig Caruthers (“Rev. Mary Craig”)

The Rev. John Duncan (“Father John”)

The Rev. Eliza Linley (“Amma Eliza”)

The Rev. Mary Lou McKenney (“Rev. Mary Lou”)

### Vestry (Governing Board)

To reach the entire vestry, email vestry@st-john-aptos.org.

**Administration Team**    vestry-admin@st-john-aptos.org

Mother Tracy, Rector

Win Fernald, Senior Warden

Debra Spencer, Junior Warden

Nelson Crandall, Treasurer

Jon Showalter

### Internal Ministry Support Team

vestry-internal@st-john-aptos.org

Kathy Butler, Alliee DeArmond, Antonette Wood

### External Ministry Support Team

vestry-external@st-john-aptos.org

Joanna Phillips, Chris Rowen

**Realm** (view directory & giving info, post messages to parishioners)  
www.onrealm.org (contact the office for a password)