St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Canton, Ohio

Photo by D. Rotthoff

Sunday, December 11, 2022

Third Sunday of Advent

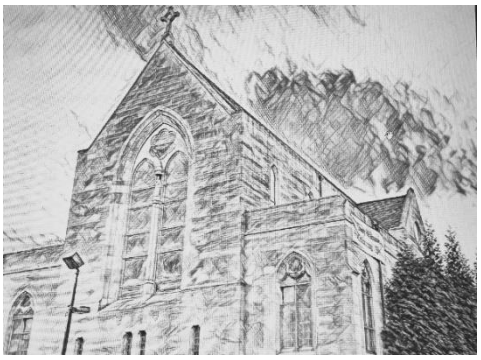
Holy Eucharist Rite II

Welcome to St. Paul's

Online and in-person services begin with music at 10:25 a.m.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
425 Cleveland Ave SW
Canton OH 44702
(330) 455-0286

Website: www.stpaulscanton.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/stpaulscanton
e-mail: stpaulsoffice@att.net
We're on YouTube: StPaulsCanton



Our mission

St. Paul's is a radically welcoming Episcopal community in downtown Canton, grounded in faith, called by God's Love to minister to the world.

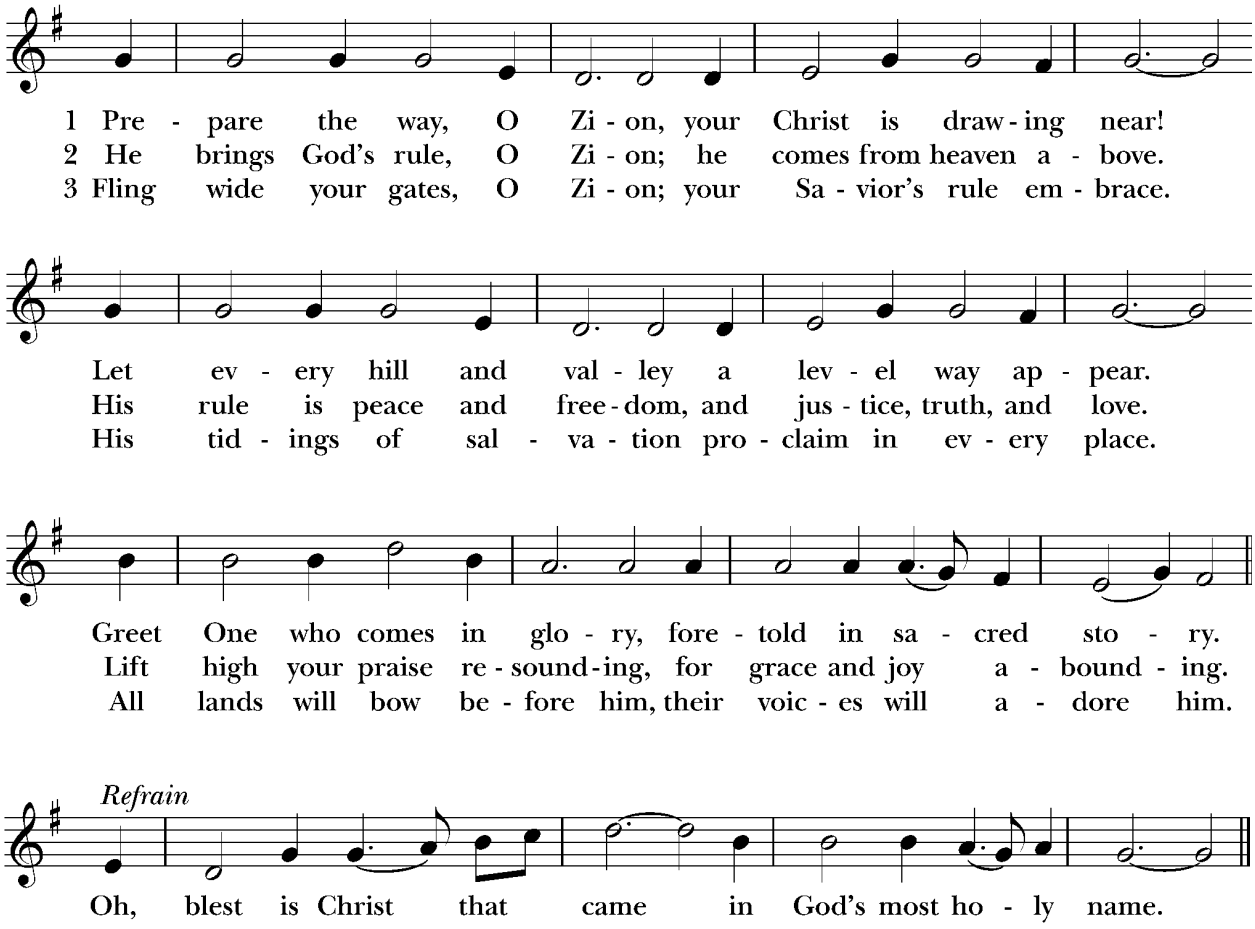
Third Sunday of Advent
Holy Eucharist Rite II

Readings and Psalm
First Lesson: Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm: Canticle 15
Second Lesson: James 5:7-10
Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

Prelude: *Es ist ein Rose* by Gerald Near

The Word of God

ENTRANCE HYMN *"Prepare the Way, O Zion" (Bereden väg för Herran) (H 65)*



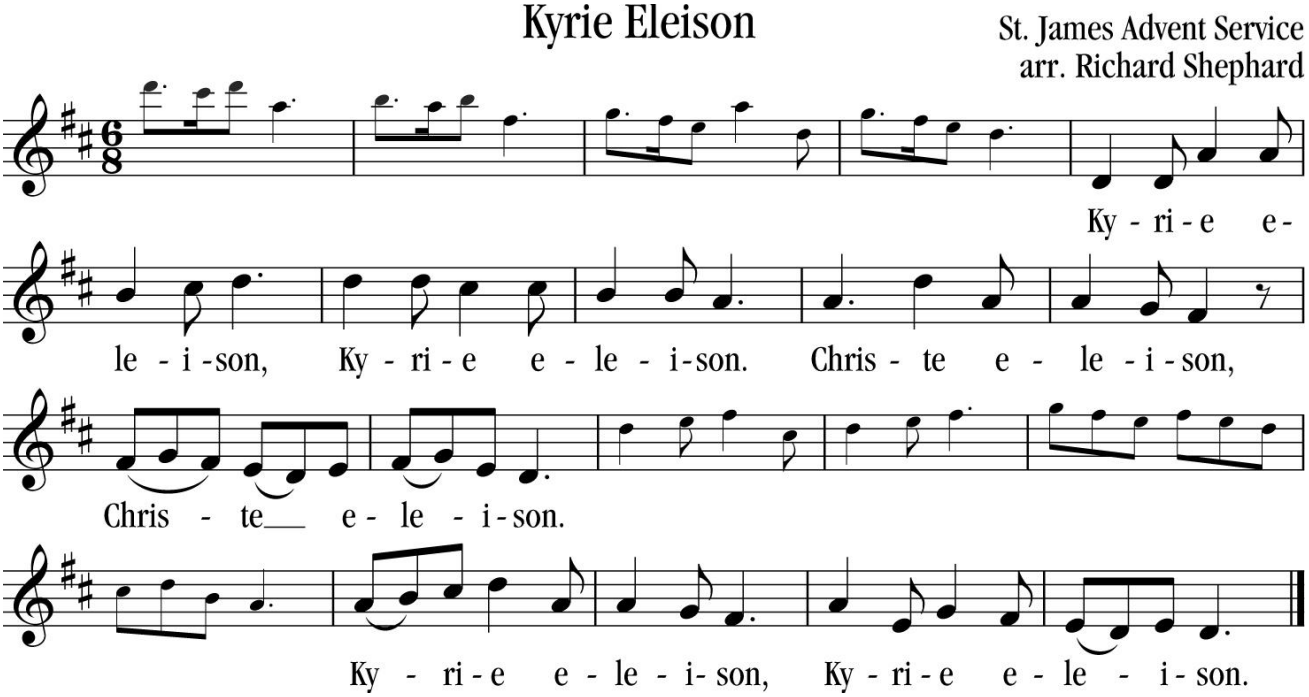
OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 355)

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.
People You come to your people and set them free.

COLLECT FOR PURITY (BCP p. 355)

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.

SONG OF PRAISE



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 357)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:1-10

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

1 The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus 2it 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.

3Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
4Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."

5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
6then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
7the 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.

8A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
9 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.

10 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Canticle 15

Remain seated.

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.
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.

SECOND READING: James 5:7-10

Remain seated.

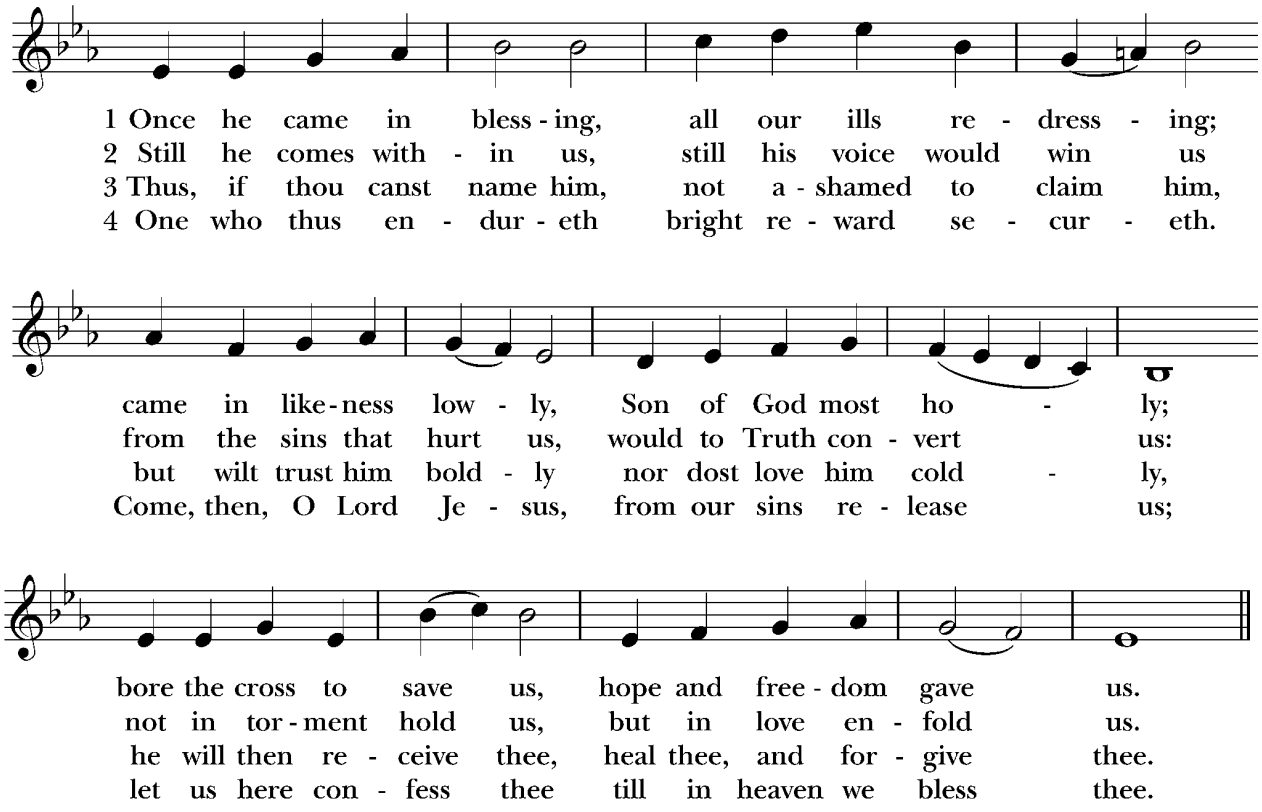
A Reading from the letter of James.

7 Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. 8You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. 9 Beloved do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! 10As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN*: "Once He Came in Blessing" (Gottes Sohn ist kommen) (H 53)* *All stand.*



GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-11

All stand.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

2 When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his
disciples 3and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for
another?" 4Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: 5the blind
receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are
raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. 6 And blessed is anyone who
takes no offense at me."

7 As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did
you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? 8 What then did
you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes
are in royal palaces. 9What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and
more than a prophet. 10This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,

who will prepare your way before you.'

11 Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John
the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON: ***Rev. Dr. Robin Woodberry, Deacon-in-Charge***

Celebrant Let us affirm our faith with the words of the Nicene Creed

THE CREED

All stand.

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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and
was made man.

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 and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

submitted by Rev. Shannan Vance-Ocampon, Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church, North Plainfield, NJ

Deacon: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Leader: The Lord has done wonderful things for us,
offering us new life when we were in the wilderness;
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! O my soul!

The Lord has done wonderful things for our community,
offering us the gift of new opportunities, new vistas in ministry, and endless possibilities to spread God's love;
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! O my soul!

The Lord has done wonderful things for us,
offering us the challenge of changing paths;
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! O my soul!

Praise the Lord! Let us gather to praise our God!
Let us gather for worship in this Advent Season
of waiting, of preparation, of new life, and new possibilities!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! O my soul! Amen.

We pray for the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

YOUR INTERCESSIONS AND THANKSGIVINGS ARE INVITED

For Ed Sutek, Chris Moore, Rick Senften, Flo Myers, Bill, Rachel, Mary Lou, David Swope, and for all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble.
Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We pray for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially Sondra Brahler. We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

COLLECT FOR PEACE

Said by all

Grant, O God that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatred cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The People sit, stand or kneel.

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

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.

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

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

The people greet each other in the name of the Lord

Church Announcements

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE
Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

OFFERTORY HYMN*: "Come Lord Jesus" by Oliver Tarney*

The Great Thanksgiving
(Please remain standing)

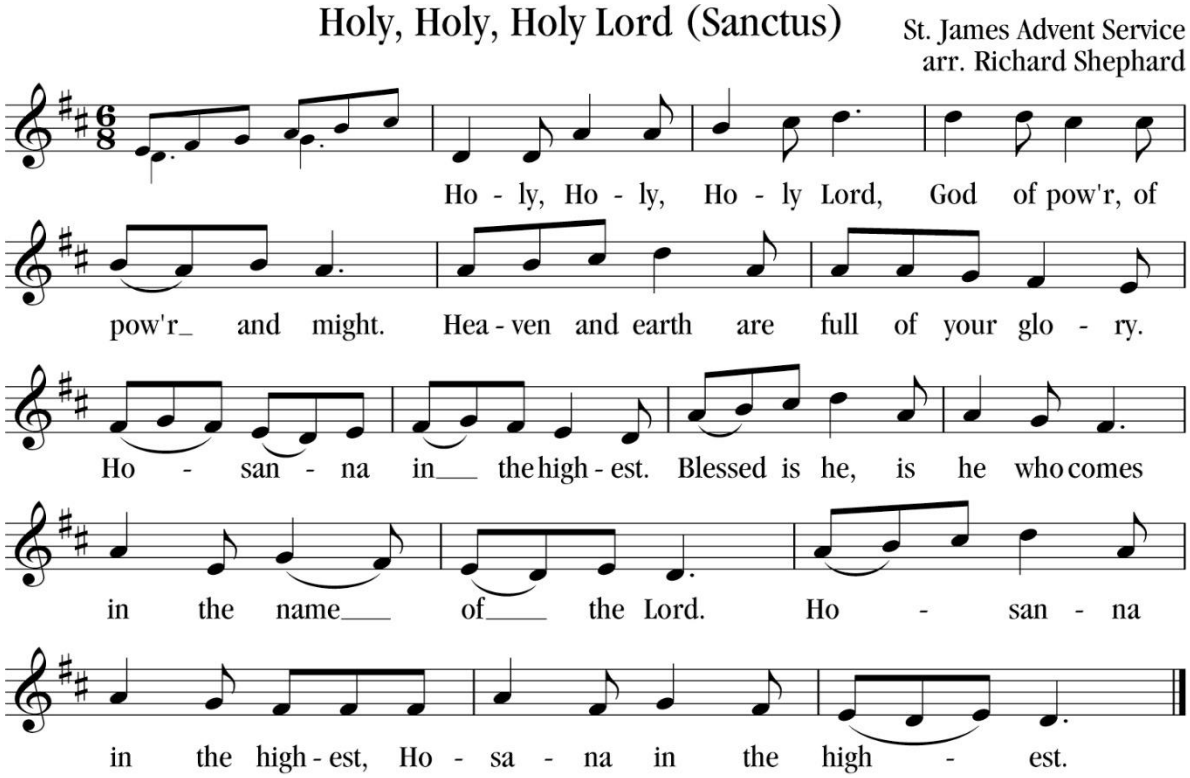
Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS



Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

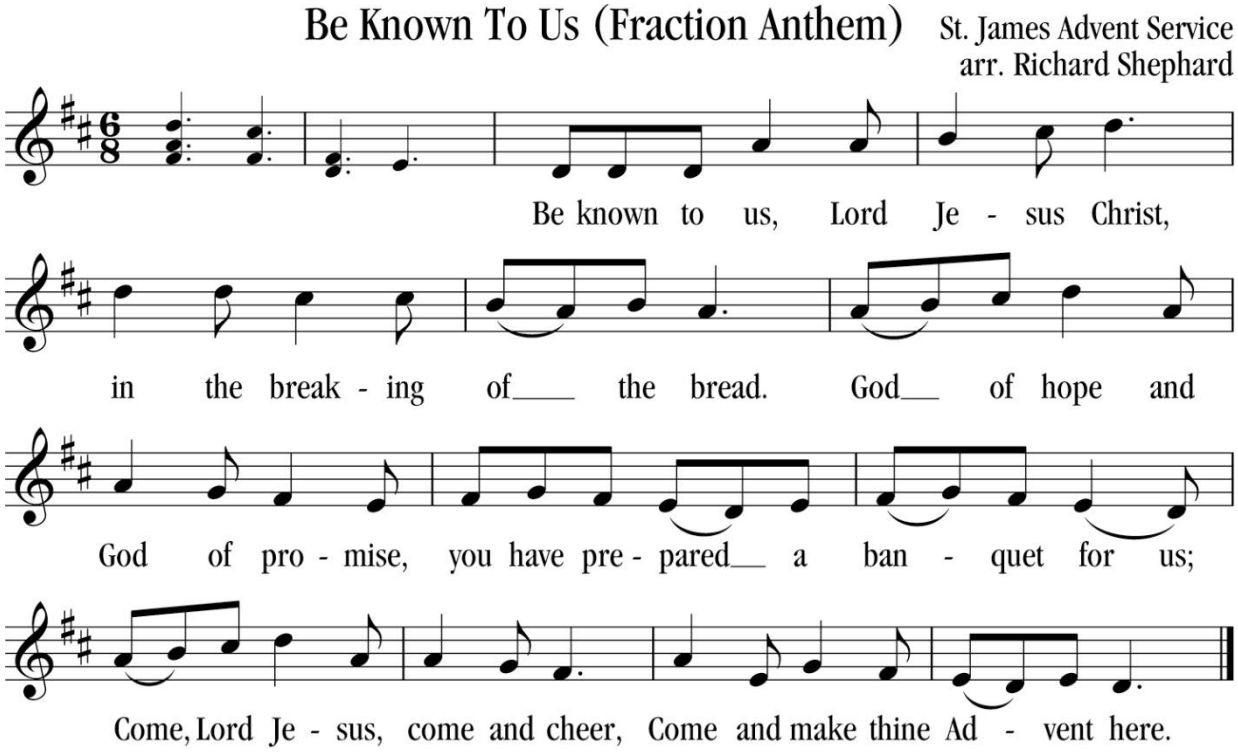
All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

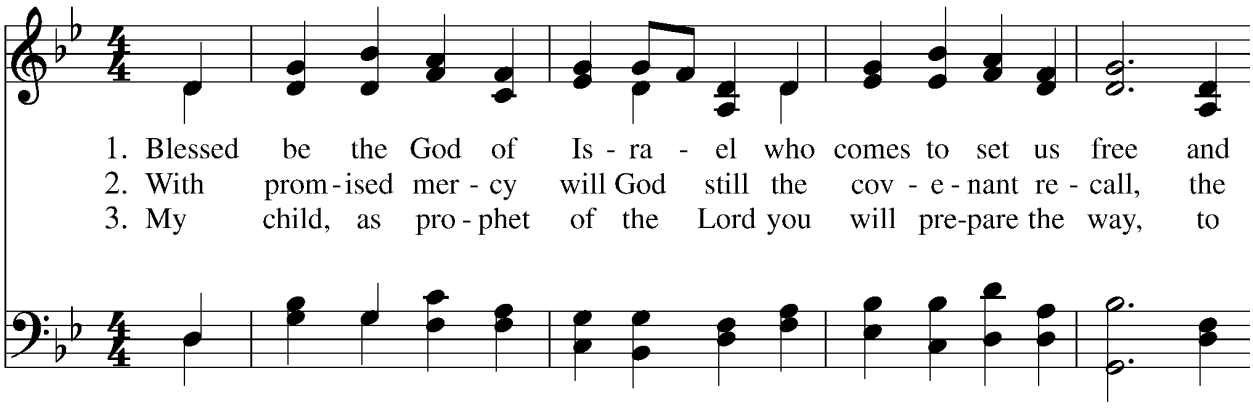
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread



Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

COMMUNION HYMN: ***"The Song of Zechariah" (Canticle 16) (Gay) (Shepherd's Pipes) (WLP 889)***



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray together

Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

BLESSING
The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION HYMN: ***"Hark! The Glad Sound! The Savior Comes" (Richmond) (H 72)***

Words: Philip Doddridge (1702-1751)
Music: *Richmond*, melody Thomas Haweis (1734-1820); adapt. Samuel Webbe (1740-1816); harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern, Revised*, 1950; desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971) CM

DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Hymn Improvisation on Richmond* by Alan Viner

Participants in Today's Liturgy:

Deacon-in-Charge:	The Rev. Dr. Robin Woodberry
Supply Priest:	The Rev. Christopher Hofer
Director of Music:	Edward T. Grimes
Lector:	M.L. Schultze
Eucharistic Minister:	Douglas Colmery
Crucifer:	Demetrius Carrothers
Greeters:	Beth Paynter
Camera/Audio:	David Lewis, David Rotthoff
Altar Guild:	Shirley Brown, Linda Kendrick
Counters:	M.L. Schultze, Carol Sutek

Announcements:

Wednesday Small Group Study
Please come join Deacon Robin and others for this great opportunity to explore God's word on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the Church Library.

Thursday Choir Rehearsal
Choir rehearsal is held on Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. Consider "making a joyful noise unto the Lord" and join our great choir!! All are welcome!

Social Justice Book Club
We will begin a new book, "Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass." We meet every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. The next gathering is on December 13th. You can join us either here in the Guild Hall or via Zoom.

Saturday, December 24th, Festive Christmas Eve Service, 7:00p
Please come and join us for a wonderful time in celebration of the birth of our Lord. Each one reach one by inviting family and friends!

Upcoming Commemorations

[Lucy of Syracuse, Martyr, 304]
Tuesday, December 13, 2022

[John of the Cross, Mystic and Monastic Reformer, 1591]
Wednesday, December 14, 2022

John Horden: Bishop and Missionary in Canada, 1893
Thursday, December 15, 2022

Robert McDonald: Priest, 1913
Thursday, December 15, 2022

Ralph Adams Cram, 1942, and Richard Upjohn, 1878, Architects, and John LaFarge, Artist, 1910
Friday, December 16, 2022

William Lloyd Garrison, 1879, and Maria Stewart, 1879, Prophetic Witnesses
Saturday, December 17, 2022

12/11/22: In the Diocese of Ohio, we pray for the South-Central Mission Area

St. Paul's Church, Mount Vernon
The Rev. Rachel V. Harrison, Priest-in-Charge

St. Mark's Church, Shelby
The Rev. Joseph L. Ashby, Rector
The Rev. Daniel Longsworth Orr, Associate Rector

St. James' Church, Wooster
The Rev. Evan Fischer, Rector

December 2022 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec 11 **ADVENT 3** **10:30 am Service**	**Dec 12** **6 pm** **Communications** **Zoom**	**Dec 13** **7 pm** **Social Justice** **Book Group**	**Dec 14** **10 am** **Small Group** **Library** **6 pm Finance** **Zoom**	**Dec 15** **7 pm** **Choir Rehearsal** **7 pm** **Mo Major** **Ordination** **St. James** **Boardman**	**Dec 16**	**Dec 17** **11am HOT** **Lunch** **7 pm AA** **(Library)** **7:30 pm** **NA** **(Cmty Rm)**
Dec 18 **ADVENT 4** **10:30 am Service**	**Dec 19** **6 pm** **Vestry Mtg**	**Dec 20**	**Dec 21** **10 am** **Small Group** **Library**	**Dec 22** **7 pm** **Choir Rehearsal**	**Dec 23**	**Dec 24** **7 pm AA** **(Library)** **7:00 pm** **Christmas Eve** **Service** **7:30 pm** **NA** **(Cmty Rm)**
Dec 25 **CHRISTMAS DAY!** **8:00 am Morning** **Prayer**	**Dec 26** 	**Dec 27** **7 pm** **Social Justice** **Book Group**	**Dec 28** **10 am** **Small Group** **Library**	**Dec 29** **7 pm** **Choir Rehearsal**	**Dec 30**	**Dec 31** **7 pm AA** **(Library)** **7:30 pm** **NA** **(Cmty Rm)**

Upcoming Holiday Worship Service Schedule

Saturday, December 24th, Festive Christmas Eve Service, 7:00p

Sunday, December 25th, Christmas Day Morning Prayer ONLY, 8:00a

Sunday, January 8th, Epiphany Lessons & Carols Service @ St. Tim's Massillon, 5:00p

Monday, January 16th, MLK Day Events:
12:00p, Worship Service @ St. Paul's
2-4p, Community Service Projects
5:30p Courageous Conversation Kickoff @ St. Paul's

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Bishop
The Right Reverend Mark Hollingsworth, Jr.

Deacon-in-Charge
The Reverend Dr. Robin Woodberry

Officiating Clergy
The Reverend Christopher Hofer

Staff
Edward T. Grimes, Director of Music

Peggy Neidig, Office Manager

Paul Schmucker, Sexton

Music Begins Sunday Services at 10:25am are also live streamed on Facebook.

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Sermon Notes

To place your order for Christmas poinsettias, please complete this form and return it to Peggy in the Parish Office. Make checks for the entire order payable to St. Paul's. Thank you for making our Sanctuary special this Christmastide!

Name: _____ Total Enclosed: $_____

In loving memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

To the glory of God for: _____

Type	Quantity (Needed)		Price	Donate *	Purchase **
6.5" Poinsettia	Red_____(12)	White_____(28)	$10.00 ea.	_____	_____
8.5" Poinsettia	Red_____(8)		$18.00 ea.	_____	_____
14" Poinsettia		White____ (2)	$40.00 ea.	_____	_____
25' roll Pine roping	_____ (3)		$18.00 ea.	_____	

*Poinsettias **donated** will be distributed to shut-ins when the chancel area is cleared and are tax-deductible.
Poinsettias **purchased will be labeled with the buyer's name for pick-up following the Jan. 8 service (non- deductible).

Deadline to order poinsettias: Monday, December 12