

*A Festival of Lessons and Carols
For Advent*

*December 18, 2022
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.*



*The Episcopal Church of St. Mary the Virgin
2325 Union Street
San Francisco, California*

Advent Lessons & Carols

The Anglican tradition for the repertoire of Lessons and Carols anticipates and celebrates the birth of Jesus through a series of scripture readings interspersed with carols, anthems and hymns of the appropriate liturgical season of Advent, Christmas or Epiphany. These services tell the story of God's loving purpose through the ages and anticipate our own redemption that was brought to fruition by God made human through the birth and life of Christ Jesus.

Why Advent Lessons and Carols? Advent is a time of anticipation of Christ's birth and enriched with the thought that there is more to come. Only in the days of Advent can the miracle of Christmas be understood. Likewise, only in the context of the Incarnation does the full and active Christian life make sense.

This morning, through scripture and music, we wait with joyful anticipation for the celebration of Christmas in just a few days. On Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, we will hear the beloved story of the Messiah's birth and raise our voices in praise, thanksgiving and music.

Thank you for joining us and folding your prayers in with ours today. We hope you will come back soon!

PRELUDE

Two Noëls: "Une vierge pucelle" and "Puer nobis nascitur"

Nicolas Lebègue (1631-1702)

Thank you for listening in silence.

The people stand, as able.

HYMN AT THE PROCESSION O come, O come Emmanuel



Choir 1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
All 2. O come, thou Wis - dom from - on high, who or - derest all thing
All 3. O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from Sa - tan's
Choir 4. O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us by thy
All 5. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the hearts of



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un -
might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge show, and
ty - ran - ny; that trust thy might - y power to save, and
draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, and
all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and



til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us in her ways to go.
give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
be thy - self our King of Peace.



man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Text: Latin, ca. 9th cent.

Music: Veni, veni, Emmanuel, plainsong, Mode 1

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Officiant Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who has come to the people and set them free. *Amen.*

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

God of light and our salvation, in your name we light these candles. Fill us with your joy and help us shine as a light to the world. *Amen.*

BIDDING PRAYER

Officiant Beloved in Christ: In the season of Advent, let it be our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go to Bethlehem and see the Babe lying in a manger.

Therefore, let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the time of our rebellion against God to the glorious Redemption brought to us by this Holy Child.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and justice over all the earth; for the unity and mission of the Church for which Christ died, and especially for his Church in our country and within this city.

And because God particularly loves the poor and the helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick in body and in mind and those that mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children as well as those who do not know or love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but are in another realm and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we forevermore are one.

Gathering these prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself has taught us:

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 them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
But deliver us from evil. Amen.

Officiant May Almighty God bless us with grace: Christ give us the joys of everlasting life: and, into the fellowship of the citizens above, may the King of Angels bring us all. *Amen.*

The people are seated.

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:1-22

Readers: 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Rebekah Hays Estera, *Deacon Postulant*

Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden.

A Reading 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."

To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet

your desire shall be for your husband,
and he shall rule over you."
And to the man he said, "Because you
have listened to the voice of your wife,
and have eaten of the tree about which
I commanded you, 'You shall not eat
of it,' cursed is the ground because of
you; in toil you shall eat of it all the
days of your life; thorns and thistles it
shall bring forth for you; and you shall
eat the plants of the field. By the sweat
of your face you shall eat bread until
you return to the ground, for out of it

you were taken; you are dust, and to
dust you shall return." The man
named his wife Eve, because she was
the mother of all living. And the Lord
God made garments of skins for the
man and for his wife, and clothed
them. Then the Lord God said, "See,
the man has become like one of us,
knowing good and evil; and now, he
might reach out his hand and take also
from the tree of life, and eat, and live
forever."

Here ends the lesson.

Silence is kept.

ANTHEM

Adam lay Ybounden
Sung by St. Mary's Parish Choir

John Ireland
1879-1962

Adam lay ybounden,
Bounden in a bond;
Four thousand winter
Thought he not too long.
And all was for an apple,
An apple that he took,
As clerkes finden written
In their book.
Ne had the apple taken been,
The apple taken been,
Ne had never Our Lady
A-been a heavené queen.
Blessed be the time
That apple taken was.
Therefore we moun singen
Deo gratias!

-15th century; unknown

The people stand, as able.

CAROL

Creator of the Stars of Night

1. Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
 2. In sor - row that the an - cient curse
 3. When this old world drew on toward night,
 4. At your in great Name, O Je - sus, now
 5. Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,

your peo - ple's ev - er - las - ting light,
 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,
 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,
 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
 re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;

O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,
 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free
 not as a mon - arch, but the child
 all things on earth with one ac - cord,
 de - fend us while we dwell be - low

we pray you hear us when we call.
 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.
 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.
 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.
 from all as - saults of our dread foe.

Text: Latin, 9th cent.

Music: Conditor alme siderum, plainsong, Mode 4

The people are seated.

SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11

Readers: 9:00 a.m. Nancy Clothier, Junior Warden

11:00 a.m. Gloria Galindo, Senior Warden

God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption.

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet 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 forever. 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.

Here ends the lesson.

Silence is kept.

ANTHEM

Rorate Caeli

Gregorian Chant, arr. Craig J. Westendorf

Sung by St. Mary's Parish Choir

Drop down dew, you heavens from above, and let the clouds rain down the just.

O be merciful O Lord, remember no more the sins of your people.

Your holy city is deserted.

Zion has become a wilderness.

Jerusalem is deserted: the house of your holiness and your glory
where our ancestors praised you.

Lord look on the affliction of your people, and send the one whom you will send.

Send the Lamb, the ruler of the earth, from the rock in the desert, to the mountain of
the daughter of Zion, that he may take away the yoke of our captivity.

O be comforted, you my people; your salvation will quickly come to you.

For I am the Lord your God, the holy one of Israel, your redeemer.

The people stand, as able.

CAROL

Come, thou long-expected Jesus



1. Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2. Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
3. Born they peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
4. By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;



from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: from *Psalmodia Sacra*, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870)

The people are seated.

THIRD LESSON

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Reader: 9:00 a.m. Luke Cebrian, member of St. Mary's Children's Choir

11:00 a.m. Nathaniel Cebrian, member of St. Mary's Youth Choir

A new covenant is promised which will be written in our hearts.

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt-- a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the

house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Here ends the lesson.

Silence is kept.

ANTHEM

Prepare the Way of the Lord

Michael Bedford

Sung by St. Mary's Children's & Youth Choirs

Prepare the way of the Lord!

Prepare the way of the Lord!

Hosanna, hosanna! Blessed is he who comes!

Prepare the way of the Lord!

Make straight a path for the Lord!

Make straight a path for the Lord!

Hosanna, hosanna! Blessed is he who comes!

Make straight a path for the Lord!

O come, o come, Emmanuel, and save your people Israel;

O come, o come, Emmanuel, and save your people Israel;

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

-Isaiah 40:3, Latin Chant

The people remain seated.

CAROL

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming

A collection will be taken during the singing of the carol.

harmony 1. Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath sprung!
harmony 2. I - sai - ah 'twas fore - told it, The Rose I have in mind,
unson 3. O Flower, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet - ness fills the air,

Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As men of old have sung. It came, a flow' - ret
With Ma - ry we be - hold it, The Vir - gin Mo - ther kind. To show God's love a -
Dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor The dark - ness ev - ery - where; True man, yet ver - y

bright, A - mid the cold of win - ter, When half - spent was the night.
right, She bore to us a Sa - vior, When half - spent was the night.
God, From sin and death now save us, And share our ev - ery load.

Text: tr. Theodore Baker (1851-1934)
Music: Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

FOURTH LESSON

Baruch 4: 36-5:9

Readers: 9:00 a.m. Debbie Veatch, Member, Bishop of CA Search & Transition Committee

11:00 a.m. Gretchen Lintner, Member, Diocese of CA Standing Committee

The Scribe Baruch urges the people to look East because salvation is at hand.

A Reading from the Book of Baruch.

Look toward 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 forever 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 splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward

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.

Here ends the lesson.

Silence is kept.

ANTHEM

Matin Responsory

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594)

arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Sung by St. Mary's Parish Choir

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:

Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?

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:

Tell us, art thou he that should come?

Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come

To reign over thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

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:

Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?

The people stand, as able.

CAROL

People Look East



1. Peo - ple, look East, the time is near Of the crown-ing of the
2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, One more seed is plant-ed
3. Bird, though ye long have ceased to build, Guard the nest that must be
4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim One more light the bow shall
5. An - gels, an - nounce to man and beast Him who com - eth from the



year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble, Trim the hearth and set the
there: Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish, That in the course the flower may
filled. E - ven the hour when wings are fro - zen He for fledg - ing-time has
brim, Shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er, Bright as sun and moon to -
East. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum - ming With the word, the Lord is



ta - ble. Peo - ple, look East, and sing to - day: Love the Guest is on the way.
flour - ish. Peo - ple, look East, and sing to - day: Love the Rose is on the way.
chos - en. Peo - ple, look East, and sing to - day: Love the Bird is on the way.
geth - er. Peo - ple, look East, and sing to - day: Love the Star is on the way.
com - ing. Peo - ple, look East, and sing to - day: Love the Lord is on the way.

Music: Besancon carol
Text: Elanor Farjeon

The people are seated.

FIFTH LESSON

Isaiah 35: 1-10

Reader: 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. The Rev. David Erickson, Rector

The prophet proclaims that God will come and save us.

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

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, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,

Here ends the lesson.

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. A 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. 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.

Silence is kept.

ANTHEM

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day
Sung by St. Mary's Youth Choir

English Carol
arr. David Iliff

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day;
I would my true love did so chance
To see the legend of my play,
To call my true love to my dance;

Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love,
This have I done for my true love

Then was I born of a virgin pure,
Of her I took fleshly substance
Thus was I knit to man's nature
To call my true love to my dance.

In a manger laid, and wrapped I was
So very poor, this was my chance
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass
To call my true love to my dance.

Then afterwards baptized I was;
The Holy Ghost on me did glance,
My Father's voice heard from above,
To call my true love to my dance.

The people stand as able.

CAROL

The Angel Gabriel



All 1. The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came, his
All 2. "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be, all
Choir 3. Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head, "To
All 4. Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born in
wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame; "All
gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee, thy
me be as it pleas - eth God," she said, "my
Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn, and
hail to thee, thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry, most
Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told, most
soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name." Most
Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say: "Most
high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - - - ri - a!
high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - - - ri - a!
high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - - - ri - a!
high ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - - - ri - a!

Text: Basque carol; para. Baring-Gould (1834-1924)

Music: Basque carol

The people are seated.

SIXTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

Reader: The Rev. Kira Austin-Young, Associate Rector

*The Angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary
that she will bear the Son of the Most High.*

A Reading from the Gospel according to 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, favored 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 favor 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 forever, 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.

Here ends the lesson.

Silence is kept.

ANTHEM

Mary's Magnificat
Sung by St. Mary's Parish Choir

Andrew Carter (b.1939)

Softly the light is stealing, sweetly a maiden sings
ever wakeful, ever wistful
watching faithfully, thankfully, tenderly her king of kings
My soul doth magnify, doth magnify the Lord
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour
Mary sang to Jesus, softly the Lady sings,
I will love you, I will serve you, make my lullaby
glorify, magnify the King of Kings
Lullaby, lullaby, lullaby

GREETING

The Rev. David L. Erickson, Rector

The people stand, as able.

COLLECT AND BLESSING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God our shield and armor of light, whom we adore with all the angelic host: defend us from evil; watch over any who are in danger and give your angels charge over them; and grant that we may always rejoice in your heavenly protection and serve you bravely in the world; through Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

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 forever. *Amen.*

DISMISSAL

Officiant Go in peace to bring forth fruits of righteousness.

People Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Of Eternal Love Begotten



1. Of e - ter - nal Love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
 2. At his Word the worlds were fram - ed. He com - mand - ed,
 3. O that birth for ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,
 4. This is he whom sees in old time chant - ed of with
 5. O ye heights of heaven, a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
 6. Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther; and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 it was done: heaven and earth and depths of o - cean
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
 prais - es sing; all do - min - ions, bow be - fore him,
 Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing,



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that
 in their three - fold or - der one; all that grows be -
 bare the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the
 prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the
 and ex - tol our God and king; let no tongue on
 and un - wear - ied prais - es be, hon - or, glo - ry,



are and have been, and that fu - ture
 neath the shin - - - ing of the moon and
 world's re - deem - - - er, first re - vealed his
 long - ex - pect - - - ed; let cre - a - tion
 earth be si - - - lent, ev - ery voice in
 and do - min - - - ion and e - ter - nal



years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 burn - ing sun, ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 sac - red face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 praise its Lord, ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 vic - tor - y, ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius; tr. John Mason Neale
 Music: Melody plainsong, Mode 8

POSTLUDE

Noël Sur Les Grands Jeux

Louis-Claude D'Aquin (1694-1772)

Christmas Season Liturgical Offerings

Blue Christmas, Tuesday Dec. 20

7:00 p.m. Blue Christmas Service

Christmas Eve, Saturday Dec. 24

2:00 p.m. Christmas Petting Zoo in the Courtyard

3:00 p.m. Family Nativity Pageant

5:00 p.m. Festival Eucharist for Christmas Eve

9:00 p.m. **(New Time)**

Festival Choral Eucharist

Christmas Day, Sunday Dec. 25

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Carols

First Sunday after Christmas, Sunday Jan. 1

10:00 a.m. Congregational Christmas Lessons & Carols

Feast of the Epiphany, Sunday Jan. 8

8:00 a.m. Spoken Word Holy Eucharist

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Baptism & Procession of the Magi

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist & Procession of the Magi

The Ministry of Altar Guild provides the preparation for all church services.

Announcements at St. Mary the Virgin

Welcome Visitors And Guests

December 18, 2022

Thank you for wrapping your prayer with ours today. We welcome all that seek the Holy. St. Mary's prays, celebrates, and serves our community and our neighbors as we strive to live as the body of Christ in the world. Check out the announcements at the back of the service bulletin for more ways to connect with us or email office@smvsf.org and we will stay in touch with you. We look forward to traveling this journey of faith with you! Following public health recommendations from the diocesan and civic authorities, masks and social distancing are optional for worship. We invite you to use your own discretion about whether or not you choose to wear a mask indoors.

St. Mary's Blue Christmas Service Tuesday, December 20

As we approach the Winter Solstice, which marks the shortest day and longest night of the year in the Northern Hemisphere, St. Mary's Blue Christmas service on Tuesday, December 20 recognizes that this season is not "the most wonderful time of the year" for many and can be a struggle. Through liturgy, music and silent prayer, the Dec. 20, 7:00 p.m. non-Eucharist service conducted inside the church, is a time for us to meet the sad and "blue" feelings we may encounter around Christmas time, provides a comforting place to recognize our pain and sorrow, receive God's deep and abiding peace and remind us that even the longest night does not last forever.

Christmas Eve Pageant Call for Cast and Volunteers

A Star is Born! And you and your family can be part of the supporting cast!
Saturday, December 24, Rehearsal at 12:30 p.m./Pageant 3 p.m., preceded by a petting zoo from 2-3 PM.

Our joyful celebration of the coming of Jesus into the world returns with St. Mary's annual Christmas Eve Pageant, complete with a parade of animals and a multi-generational cast. Adults, don't be shy: we DO mean multi-generational!

If you have family visiting you for the holidays, there are an abundance of supporting roles, complete with costume, for ages 5 and above. Participation is not limited to members of St. Mary's! And if your plans for the day are uncertain, there is an opportunity for children to be part of a flash mob of costumed angels and shepherds who will be joining the cast right before the pageant begins! Just show up around 2:30 p.m. that day to receive a costume and simple instructions.

Speaking and non-speaking roles are available, and we are also seeking volunteers to help with costuming, set-up, and clean-up, so we can put the church back together quickly for the 5 p.m. Christmas Eve Eucharist service.

If you would like to be in the cast or volunteer, please email Kira Austin-Young at kira@smvsf.org by Monday, December 20th.

Build treasured memories for your grandchildren, nieces, nephews and your immediate family by participating in the first joyous celebration of the Christmas story.

Nominations for New Vestry Members

Do you feel called to serve God at a leadership level? Consider putting your talents to use on St. Mary's Vestry. The Vestry functions as the board of directors of St. Mary the Virgin, is responsible for the overall discernment of God's vision for St. Mary's, and exercises corporate and budgetary authority. The Vestry oversees the wide range of ministries, programs, and events at St. Mary's. Every year the Vestry thanks four graduating members for their service and nominates four new candidates for the slate. Each term is three years. Ask a former/current Vestry member about their experience, and consider nominating yourself or others. Follow the url on our Highlights email or website to nominate someone. you have any questions, please email the vestry at vestry@smvsf.org.

Office Closed

December 26th through January 3rd

Almost all St. Mary's staff will be taking a rest between Christmas and New Year's Day and will not be responding to email or voicemail. However, the finance team will be available on a reduced schedule for

year-end gifts or questions, at finance@smvsf.org. In case of a pastoral emergency, please call 415-921-3665, and press 4 on your keypad; a clergy person will respond to your call.

Wishing you a safe, refreshing and blessed Christmas season!

Support St. Mary's Migration Ministry with Your Used Computer

Edward, a Colombian asylum seeker who St. Mary's-Sherith Israel Nueva Esperanza Accompaniment Team (NEAT) is accompanying, desperately needs a computer. Read more about Edward's story on the SMV ministry page at the smvsf.org website. If you can donate a relatively current, cleaned-out computer, please contact Marcony Grijalva: grijalvabolvitogersonmarcony@gmail.com, 415-377-7452.

Advent Outreach Giving Opportunities: St. Mary's Justice Ministry and Nambale Magnet School

This Advent season, all those who desire to make a direct difference in the world through your financial partnership are invited to support either the St. Mary's Justice Ministry and/or the Nambale Magnet School. Funds for the St. Mary's Justice Ministry will be used to strengthen our work in migration ministry, unhoused ministry, and other areas the Holy Spirit leads us to. Donations to the Nambale Magnet school will be fully given to support the school and their needs as a part of the Youth Mission Trip that will once again be visiting the school in the summer

of 2023. To learn more about the Nambale Magnet school please go to thenambalemagnetschool.sc.ke/
To learn more about St. Mary's Justice Ministry please visit smvsf.org/justice-ministries/
Please make checks out to "St. Mary's Church" and designate your intention in the memo line.

Advent Giving Tree and Project (Re)start!
A real life Giving Tree is now in place in its usual place on the bottom floor of Fowler Hall, right across from the elevator. On it are 'ornaments' with gift ideas for Project (Re)Start. If you haven't already done so, please take one or two and then remember to bring the unwrapped items back to the big yellow bins, right by the tree, sometime before Christmas.

If you have any questions, please contact Rebekah Hays-Estera - our deacon postulant at 661.964.8120 or rh.estera@gmail.com, Susan Barber, Nancy Clark, or Deacon Tim Smith.

Youth Mission Trip to Kenya
For the 2023 Youth Mission Trip we will return to the Nambale Magnet School in Kenya! All 8th-12th graders are encouraged to apply for the trip, which will be from June 19-July 4. Space is limited, so completing the application (due January 17) is essential. Contact Mike Stafford at mike@smvsf.org with questions.

Welcome Home!

St. Mary's 2023 Annual Appeal

St. Mary's mission and ministry is possible because of the grace of God and people who give of themselves and their financial resources so that we may continue to receive the love of God and bear Christ into the world. It's not too late to make a pledge, as we need your help to reach our goal!

To learn more about making a pledge, or to make a pledge online please visit our pledge page at <https://www.smvsf.org/2023-pledge/>

Should you have questions about pledging, or St. Mary's in general, please contact Rev. David at david@smvsf.org.

Total Pledge Units:	142
Total Pledged:	\$651,550
Pledge Goal:	\$800,000

Scam Alert:

Emails Impersonating Rev. David

Recently, people affiliated with St. Mary's have received emails from various email addresses impersonating The Rev. David Erickson. Please note, the only email address David would use to contact you is david@smvsf.org. Rev. David will never ask you for money, gift cards, or favors, and we ask that you kindly ignore and delete any email that comes through asking for such. If you ever feel suspicious about an email or wonder if it's truly from Rev. David you can always reach out to the parish administrator, Ashley Ryan at ashley@smvsf.org.

Are the Holidays a Difficult Time for You?

Stephen Ministers are Here for You

Are you finding yourself sad, in pain, depressed, or alone during the holidays? Are you mourning a loved one who is not here to share the joy of holidays with you? There are many reasons that we might find Advent the most painful time of the year. St. Mary's lay Stephen Ministers are here now and all year to walk with you and make sure that you are not alone. Stephen Ministers provide highly trained Christ-centered pastoral support to people in times of crisis. Contact a priest or deacon if you or someone you know might benefit from a Stephen Minister.

Advent Resources

Advent, the church's season for preparation for the birth of Christ and Christ's Second Coming, begins Sunday, November 27th. To enter into this season, St. Mary's is providing several opportunities to deepen your devotion and prepare your hearts during this busy but meaningful time. We will be using the daily devotional book *Holy is His Name* by Elis Hiu-Mei Lui as a congregation and copies are available on the table in the narthex for the taking.

There are also coloring poster Advent calendars available that are particularly good for families with young kids.

Youth Group Gift Exchange

Our last Youth Group of 2022 will be the much-anticipated Christmadvant White Elephant Gift Exchange in the Great Room from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Bring a wrapped gift to open and to steal; gifts should be under

\$20, and regifting is always encouraged. Dinner and holiday treats will be provided, and friends are always welcome. Youth Group alums in college are welcome too!! Contact Mike Stafford (mike@smvsf.org) if you have any questions!

Notes from the Finance Office

1. Regarding End of Year Checks

As the end of the year approaches, the finance office at St. Mary's would like to let everyone know that all checks dated December 2022 and received by January 6, 2023 will be posted as 2022 donations. All checks dated 2023 will be posted as 2023 donations. Online credit card donations made before midnight on December 31, 2022 will be posted as 2022 donations.

2. Please Use the Memo Line

Please use the memo line on all checks to St. Mary's to indicate if your donation is for 2022 Pledge, 2023 Pledge, Christmas offering, Altar flowers, or Friends of Music.

All donations are welcome!

No Sunday School Through the New Year

Sunday School will be taking a break starting this Sunday, and will be returning Sunday, January 8. Happy Holidays!

**St. Mary Magdalene Scholarship
2023-2024**

The St. Mary Magdalene Scholarship Fund was created by a generous bequest of a long-time parishioner of St. Mary the Virgin. This gift funds undergraduate college scholarships for young women in our parish attending college during the 2023-2024 academic year.

More information and 2 application forms are available on the St. Mary's website under the Formation tab. One form is for new applicants and there is a different form for previous applicants who received scholarships last year. Applications are due by March 1, 2023. Please contact Ruth Tatum at ruth.tatum@gmail.com with questions.

Masks Optional for All

Following The CDC guidelines, masks are currently optional for all people on St. Mary's campus. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask. Should local transmission levels change, our policy of masks recommendations will change as well. For more information about the CDC guidelines, to view San Francisco's transmission level please visit cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county

Thank you for Joining Us at St. Mary the Virgin



To visit our website you may visit smvsf.org,
or you can open your camera app on your phone
and hover over the QR code shown below.



LITURGICAL STAFF



The Rev. David Erickson
Rector

The Rev. Kira Austin-Young
Associate Rector

Natalie Hala
Verger & Liturgist

Eric Choate
Director of Music

Fred Scott
Organist & Choirmaster
pro tempore

Marla Perkins
Music Associate
The Rev. Nancy Bryan
Deacon
The Rev. Tim Smith
Deacon



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