

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 17, 2023

9:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist Rite 1

This service is livestreamed to the parish FB page

Prelude *O come, O come, Emmanuel*

Opening Acclamation	323 (red book)
Canticle 15 Song of Mary	91 (red book)
Collect of the Day	160 (red book)
I Reading— Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11	
Psalm 126	782 (red book)
Epistle— 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	
Gospel— John 1: 6-8, 19-28	
Homily	Father Joe Hannah
Nicene Creed	326 (red book)
Prayers of the People	bulletin insert
Confession of Sin	330 (red book)
The Peace	332 (red book)
Announcements	
The Great Thanksgiving	340 (red book)
Sanctus	
The Lord's Prayer	336 (red book)
Communion	
All baptized persons, regardless of denomination, and including children, are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you wish a blessing instead please cross your arms across your chest.	
Post-Communion Prayer	339 (red book)
Blessing	
Dismissal	340 (red book)

Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-10

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.
They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.
For I the LORD love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.
I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,

so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

Psalm 126

782 (red book)

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

John 1: 6-8, 19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who

are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’” as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, “Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?” John answered them, “I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.” This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.



WELCOME TO GRACE

We welcome all newcomers and visitors and we ask that you complete a card from pews or welcome table or sign our newcomer book (located in the front of the building). We are glad that you are here with us today.

ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES are available from the ushers.