

Sacred Stillness

ADVENT I

November 30, 2025 | 9:00 a.m. Livestream

GATHERING

PRELUDES

Thanksgiving

B. BODDIE

I Wonder as I Wander

R. BARNWELL

Communion

A. GUILMANT

RINGING OF THE BELLS

Order of St. John

WELCOME

Pastor Jon Haug

GATHERING HYMN

FREU DICH SEHR

ELW HYMN 256

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

As music begins, the congregation turns and faces the Processional Cross.



- 1 "Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.
- 2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
- 3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load.
call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God's ho - ly reign.



To God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them!
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.
For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for-ev - er.
Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor.
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

ADVENT WREATH CANDLE LIGHTING

Let us pray. Faithful God, out of war's chaos, you bring the order of peace.

Renew us in hope, that we may work toward Christ's advent of peace among all nations. Amen.

GREETING

The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.


And also with you.

KYRIE


S. JOHNSON

Refrain sung first by cantor - thereafter, all.

Refrain




Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, e - le - - i - son ____




Chr - i - ste e - lei - son, e - le - - i - son ____

Verse 1 Cantor




For the peace in the world, for the health of the church and for the




un - i - ty of all. All (Refrain)

Let us pray _ to the Lord.

Verse 2 Cantor



For peace in our hearts, _ for peace in our homes, and for peace a-round the



world: All (Refrain)

Let us pray _ to the Lord.

Music continues on next page...

Verse 3 Cantor

For your spi - rit to guide us, that you cen - ter our lives in the

All (Refrain)

wat - er and the world: Let us pray _ to the Lord.

Verse 4 **ALL** **3** (Refrain)

Help, save and de - fend us gra - cious God! _

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.

By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

PSALM 122

I Rejoiced

T. THOMSON

Refrain sung twice. 1st time by cantor, thereafter all. Verses sung by cantor.

Refrain

I re - joiced when I heard them say:

let us go to the house of the Lord.

Verses I rejoiced when they said to me: "Let us go to the house of the Lord today."
And now we stand within your gates; my heart is glad and I will sing with joy! **Refrain**

Strongly built is Jerusalem, strongly built with unity and love.
And it is there that the tribes go up, go up to the mountain of our God. **Refrain**

For the love of friends and fam'ly, may the peace f God be with you always.
For the love of God's house, I will pray for you, will pray for your good! **Refrain**

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshipping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!"

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL PROLOGUE

Holy one, soften our hearts and slow our racing minds to truly hear your living Word.

Before the reading: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 24:36-44

Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands.

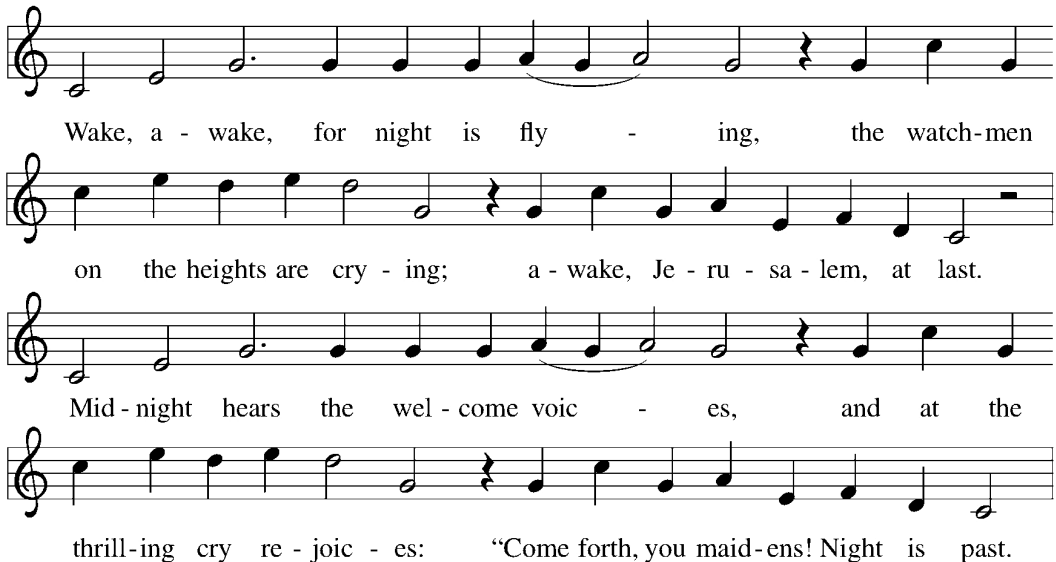
After the reading: The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

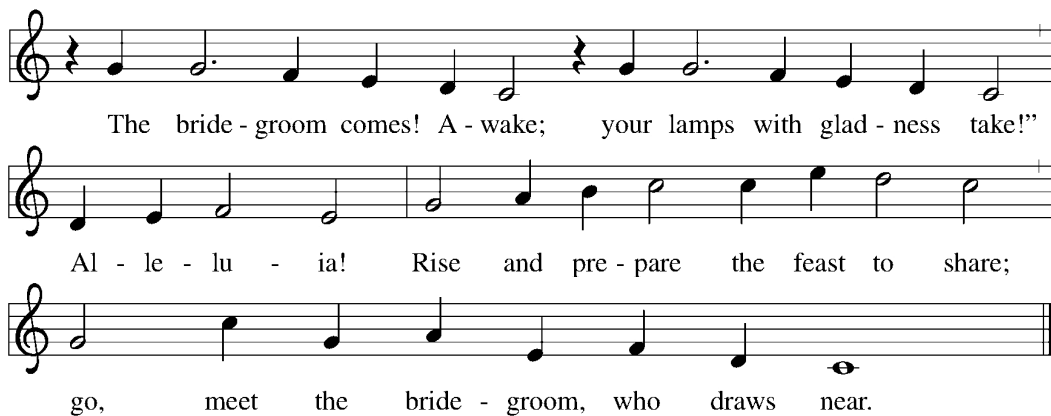
Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

WACHETAUF
ELW HYMN 436



Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men
on the heights are cry - ing; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.
Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es, and at the
thrill-ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid-ens! Night is past.

Music continues on next page...



FIRST GLANCE

Gift of the Christ Child partners

SERMON

Pastor Paul Baglyos

SERMON RESPONSE

Let the words of my mouth
**and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord,
our rock and our redeemer. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Assisting Minister Chris Dawson

After each petition: God of grace,
hear our prayer.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

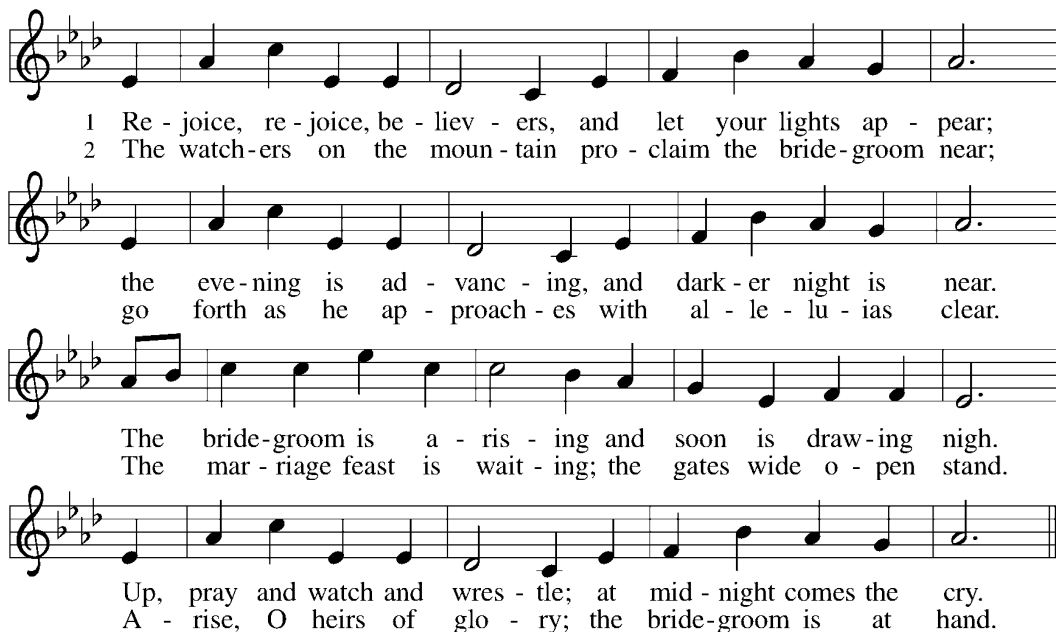
OFFERTORY

As we come together living out our faith in unity we trust in our God's loving care to provide for all we need. Let us respond generously to God's abiding love with our tithes and offerings. You are invited to visit our giving page link at <https://www.stjohnslc.org/giving> and leave an online offering.

*OFFERTORY MUSIC

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers
Congregation stands to sing when cued.

C. E. PEERY
ELW HYMN 244



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Nourishing God,
you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Fa - ther in hea - ven hal-low-ed be thy name. Thy king-dom
come, Thy will be done, on earth, As it is in hea - ven. _
Give us this day our dai-ly bread _ And for-give us our tres - pass - ses _
As we for-give Those who tres-pass a - gainst us. _
And lead us not In-to temp - ta - tion _ And de-liv-er us from
ev - vil. _ For thine is the king - dom and the pow - er And the glo - ry for -
ev - er, and ev - er, and ev - er. A - men

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,

grant us peace, grant us peace.

SELF-DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All are welcome here at God's table. We believe Christ is truly present in the bread and wine through the faith of those who gather. Jesus invites you to this meal that imparts God's free gift of grace.

You are invited to partake of the meal with the bread and juice/wine you prepared saying:

"The body of Christ given for me/us." And "The blood of Christ shed for me/us."

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

ELW HYMN 241



- 1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel - come you a - right?
- 2 I lay in fet - ters, groan - ing; you came to set me free.
- 3 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me.
- 4 Re - joice, then, you sad - heart - ed, who sit in deep - est gloom,



Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light!
 I stood, my shame be - moan - ing; you came to hon - or me.
 Your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro - cured my lib - er - ty.
 who mourn your joys de - part - ed and trem - ble at your doom.



Oh, kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, your lamp with - in my breast
 A glo - rious crown you give me, a trea - sure safe on high
 Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace
 All hail the Lord's ap - pear - ing! O glo - rious Sun, now come,



to do in spir - it low - ly all that may please you best.
 that will not fail or leave me as earth - ly rich - es fly.
 in love, all love ex - cel - ling, our lost and fall - en race.
 send forth your beams so cheer - ing and guide us safe - ly home.

MUSIC FOR COMMUNION

Come, Emmanuel

T. THOMSON

Verses



1. Come, O God, with - in our hearts, with - in our souls.
2. Come, O Love, re - new our lives and guide our minds.
3. Come, O Light, and lead us on the road with you.

1. Come, O God, with heal - ing pow'r re - new us.
2. Come, O Love, in pow'r re - vive your peo - ple.
3. Come, O Light, dis - pel our deep - est dark - ness.

Refrain



Come, O come, Em - man - u - el. O - pen our hearts, re -
new us. Come, O come, Em - man - u - el.
Come in love and make us whole once more.

POST-COMMUNION MEDITATION

Les Petits Pas #1/ O Come, O Come Emmanuel

B. ANDRÉS

SACRAMENTAL BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and
keep you in God's grace.

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. God our host,

**at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share
the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

SENDING

BENEDICTION

SENDING FORTH HYMN

Hark, the Glad Sound!

CHESTERFIELD
ELW HYMN 239



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord,
and live God's love in the world.

POSTLUDE

Chorale Prelude on Nun komm der Heiden Heiland

J. PACHBELBEL

Please help us secure the parking in a timely manner and avoid any "lock-ups" by having your vehicles out of either the parking garage or church parking lot by 2:00 p.m. (Special events will have parking times listed)

To make a one-time donation or to start a recurring donation,
or for updates and events in and around St. John's, scan the
QR Code or visit www.stjohnslc.org to subscribe to our
weekly e-newsletter.



GIFT OF THE CHRIST CHILD SPECIAL OFFERING



This advent season, we will collect our annual Gift of the Christ Child Special Offering! Amongst the numerous mission partners we encourage you to support are two we're highlighting this season - Saint John's Program for Real Change and the Central Downtown Food Basket.

Saint John's Program was born on the front steps of this church back in the 1980s, when members of this congregation saw unhoused women and children in need and decided to take action. Around the same time, the Central Downtown Food Basket came to life through a partnership of local churches — including St. John's! Head to the St. John's website to learn more about these organizations and how you can support them this Advent season.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presider	Pastor Jon Haug
Preacher	Pastor Paul Baglyos
Assisting Minister	Chris Dawson
First Glance	Gift of the Christ Child partners
Lector	Bella Manley
Organ	Dan Nguyen
Piano/Organ	Steven Johnson
Harp	Dr. Jacquelyn Venter
Cantors in Rotation	Joel Barkel, Linda Bush, Heather Mercer, Kathryn Mercer, Eliseo Paniagua
Altar Guild	Jennifer Ehrhardt, Anne Smith
Eucharistic Servers	Tom Sebo & Cheryl Young
Greeters	Mark Carlson, Julie Anna Manley
Ushers	Terry & Barbara Battenberg, Frank & Gail Graff-Blaha

ST. JOHN'S STAFF

Director of Missional Strategy	Rev. Paul Baglyos, Bridge Pastor
Director of Youth and Family	Rev. Jon Haug, Associate Pastor
Director of Worship & Music	Steven Johnson
Director of Communications and Community Engagement	Catherine Slabaugh
Director of Administration	Katherine Thorp
Associate Director of Volunteer Management	Joel Barkel
Associate Director of Worship & Music	Eliseo Paniagua
Property Staff	Matt Balara, Doug Droze, Julius Turner
Parish Nurse	Suzi Taylor
Organist	Dan Nguyen
Audio Technician	John Bologni
Video Technicians	Tim Reese, Esperanza Foft
Nursery Attendants	Amy Afoa, Helen Disho

ST. JOHN'S MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- What Is Blue Christmas? Adult Education Class
Sunday, December 7th | 10:15 a.m. | Oehler Hall

All are invited to an Adult Education Class centered around Blue Christmas - a Sunday in part focused on grief and loss, with parts that are contemplative for those who are carrying pain or loss during this season of celebration. This class will be led by Parish Nurse Suzi Taylor.

- Hot Cocoa Social
Sunday, December 14th | 10:15 a.m. | Oehler Hall

Gather in Oehler Hall on the 3rd Sunday of Advent for a Hot Cocoa Social! You're invited to wear your favorite Christmas attire as we enjoy cookies and cocoa.

- Santa Lucia Service & Festival
Sunday, December 14th | 4 p.m. | St. John's Lutheran Church

The annual and beloved Santa Lucia Worship Service and Festival is just around the corner! Following a breath-taking service featuring this year's High School Santa Lucia and her court, all are invited to walk to The Gathering Place for the Festival - complete with dancing, Scandinavian cookies, and joy-filled festivities!

- Christmas Caroling
Sunday, December 21st | 1 p.m. | Eskaton Land Park

Help bring Christmas joy to our neighbors at the Eskaton Land Park Retirement Community with Christmas Caroling! All musical abilities welcome, no prior singing experience needed. Come dressed in your festive attire and join the merriment!

TODAY AT ST. JOHN'S

- Advent Festival | 10:15 a.m. | The Gathering Place

Advent is here and to welcome in the season, we're hosting our annual Advent Festival! Come make your seasonal Yule Log, shop the Christmas market, and make seasonal crafts.

- Grapeful Jelly for Sale | Sundays in November-December | 10:15 a.m. | Courtyard

Grapeful Jelly is for sale! Sales will happen Sundays at 10:15 a.m. in the Courtyard from tomorrow through December 21st, \$5 a jar. Proceeds from jelly sales will directly benefit the St. John's Snack Stop! Not a jelly person? This year, there's an opportunity to purchase jelly for an individual in need. Purchase a jar of jelly and we'll pass it along to our partners at the Central Downtown Food Basket who give food to people in need throughout Sacramento.