

# ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



## *Worship Bulletin for the Season of Advent December 20, 2020*

Virtual Service 9:30 a.m. on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/stgeorgestc/>

*Welcome to St. George's! We are blessed by your attendance at our worship today.*

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You can find our Current and Past Bulletins for Virtual Services on our website at:  
<https://www.stgeorgestc.org/sunday-worship-services-online/>

# The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

## The Word of God

### Prelude Hymn

“Come, thou long-expected Jesus”

Hymn 66

## The Word of God

### Opening Acclamation

**BCP 355**

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and  
forever. Amen.**

**Advent ring lighting ceremony** — lighting of the Advent wreath with its candles representing Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love

### *Celebrant*

Last Sunday we lit the candle of joy. We light it and the candles of hope and peace again as we remember that Christ will come again and bring us everlasting peace and joy.

*(a person lights the candles of hope, peace, and joy)*

The fourth candle of Advent is the Candle of Love. Its light is meant to remind us of the love that God has for us.

Jesus shows us God's perfect love. He is God's love in human form. The bible says that "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life."

Love is patient, love is kind and envies no one. Love is never boastful or conceited, rude or selfish. Love is not quick to take offence, it keeps no records of wrongs, it does not gloat over other people's troubles, but rejoices in the right, the good, and the true. There is nothing that love cannot face, there is no limit to its faith, to its hope, to its endurance. Love never ends.

We light this candle today to remind us of how God's perfect love is found in Jesus

*(Light the Fourth Candle)*

Let us pray. Loving God, we thank you for your gift of love - show to us perfectly in Jesus Christ our Lord. Help us prepare our hearts to receive Him. Bless our worship. Help us to hear and do your word. We ask it in the name of the one born in Bethlehem. Amen

**Kyrie Eleison**

**BCP 356**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.  
**People Christ, have mercy.**  
Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

## The Collect of the Day

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 First Lesson

Reader   A Reading (Lesson) from **2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16**

When the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle.

Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

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

## The Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

Celebrant     The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
                  according to Luke.

*People*        *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

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.

Celebrant     The Holy Gospel of the Lord.

*People*        *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**The Homily**

The Rev. Robin Reeves-Kautz

We invite your prayers of Thanksgiving and Supplication as modeled in the Lord's Prayer.

Thank you God that you are \_\_\_\_\_  
*praise God for His character—sovereign, gracious, creator, redeemer, sustainer)*

Thank you for blessing us with \_\_\_\_\_  
*(a loving family, friends, nice weather)*

We pray Thy Will Be Done on Earth as it is in Heaven,

Thank you for your provision of \_\_\_\_\_  
*(healing, provision, peace, . . .)*  
for \_\_\_\_\_  
*(those with covid, . . .)*

Forgive us for \_\_\_\_\_  
*(our complacency, not putting you first, not having faith over fear, not trusting you)*

We forgive others for \_\_\_\_\_.  
*(holding a different view than ours, not caring for the most vulnerable in our society, inciting violence, spreading fear with false news, betraying us)*  
as we have been forgiven.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil of \_\_\_\_\_.  
*(hatred, fear, apathy, luke-warm faith, doing life on our own and not relying on you)*

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

## Confession of Sin

BCP 359

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

**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.***

*The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.*

## The Absolution

BCP 360

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.*

## Offertory



## **The Peace**

**BCP 360**

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

## **The Blessing**

*The Priest, gives the blessing.*

## **Recessional Hymn**

“Rejoice! Rejoice, believers!”

Hymn 68

## **The Dismissal**

Celebrant     Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
*People*       **Thanks be to God. *Alleluia. Alleluia.***