

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
St. John's Episcopal Church, Ithaca NY
December 15, 2019 Year A
8:00 AM

* indicates please stand



***OPENING SENTENCE** **BCP 323**

***COLLECT FOR PURITY**

***THE GLORIA** **BCP 324**

***THE COLLECT OF THE DAY** **BCP 160**

FIRST LESSON **ISAIAH 35:1-10**

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,
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.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING**JAMES 5:7-10**

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. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL READING*MATTHEW 11:2-11**

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

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the 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. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

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? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.'

"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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE SERMON**THE REV. MEGAN CASTELLAN*****NICENE CREED****BCP 358****PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE****Form III****BCP 387****CONFESSION OF SIN****BCP 330*****THE PEACE****ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME****OFFERTORY SENTENCE*****THE GREAT THANKSGIVING****EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER I****BCP 333**

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All people are invited to the Lord's Table. Traditionally, people are baptized before they receive communion for the first time. If you would like to be baptized, please talk to Mtr. Megan. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*DISMISSAL

GREETER Linn Henry

LITURGICAL MINISTERS Shirley Durfee, Lloyd Hall

Today's altar flowers are given in memory of Rose Calloway by her son, Robert Saulsbury.

*We remember Rose Calloway, mother of Robert Saulsbury,
in whose memory the Eucharistic and Aumbry candles are given this month.*



St. John's extends a warm welcome to visitors!
May you experience the Lord's presence during worship. Please fill out a visitor card and place it in the offering plate and stay for coffee in the parish hall after the service.

Birthdays December 15-21, 2019

Beverly Beer, Susan Shell

ITHACA KITCHEN CUPBOARD SUPPLY NEEDS

January 5, 2020	Non Perishable food items
December 15	Personal Hygiene items

IN PREPARATION FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING ON JANUARY 19, 2020 please take note that qualified voters are defined by NYS law and the canons of the Diocese as follows: persons of full age belonging to the parish, who have been baptized and are in regular attendance at its worship and contributors to its support for at least twelve months prior (i.e., since January 2019).

If you have any question about your membership at St. John's, please contact AnnMarie in the office for clarification. If you are new to St John's since February 2019, and have not yet transferred your membership in writing, please contact the office so that you will be eligible to vote in 2020. If you have not been a regular contributor (i.e. made and fulfilled a pledge or been a regular contributor of record), please contact the Treasurer (Mary Arlin) to rectify this before December 31.

Anyone standing for election as a vestry member must meet these same qualifications. Wardens and delegates must also be confirmed members of The Episcopal Church.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS Please see the green forms at the front and back of the church if you would like to contribute to the Christmas Flowers fund in memory of a loved one.

2020 STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES are on the back table in alphabetical order. If you don't see yours, please contact the office.

GIVING TREE GIFTS Please be sure to bring your wrapped (tag on the OUTSIDE) gifts back by Tuesday!

GREENING OF THE CHURCH Sunday, December 24th Join us after the 10:30 service in the church sanctuary *What To Bring:* Work gloves, wire cutters, screw drivers, scissors, pruning shears and dress for a mess! The Altar Guild supplies the greens, fir trees, bows and candles. There will be warm cider and some sweet treats! Everyone is welcome! You don't have to be an interior designer to help; every pair of hands is welcome. Children are welcome to attend and help with their families since there will be no childcare provided. We'll set up the sanctuary trees and nativity scene, too. It will be more fun if you come!

Come join the fun and be amazed at how beautiful our sanctuary looks when we are done!

ADVENT/ CHRISTMAS SERVICE SCHEDULE

ADVENT IV Sunday, December 22

8:00 A.M. Rite 1 Holy Eucharist, 10:30 A.M. Rite 2 Holy (Choral) Eucharist

CHRISTMAS EVE Monday, December 24

4:00 P. M. Holy Communion with Carols and Organ, Prelude by Balcony Bells

9:30 P. M. Prelude with soprano soloist Nicole Wills - Please Note New Time!

10:00 P. M. Festive Choral Eucharist - Please Note New Time!

CHRISTMAS DAY Tuesday, December 25

10:30 A. M. Holy Eucharist with Carols; Dr. George E. Damp, guest organist



St. John's Church
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Office Hours Monday- Thursday 9 AM- 1 PM, 1:30- 4:30 PM

The Rev. Megan Castellan, Rector

Pamela Talbott, Sr. Warden

AnnMarie Hautaniemi, Parish Administrator

Karen A. Hindenlang, Director of Music/Organist

Sara Van Looy, Jr. Warden

Chuck Merrill, Weekday Sexton

Crawford R. Thoburn, Assisting Conductor

Today	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist, Rite I
	Between Services: 3rd Sunday Parish Breakfast	
	10:30 AM	Lessons and Carols for Advent
Tuesday	12:00 PM	Balcony Bells Rehearsal
	5:30 PM	Mid-week Eucharist
	6:00 PM	Education for Ministry/ Chapman Room
Thursday	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday Dec 22	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist, Rite I
	10:30 AM	Holy (Choral) Eucharist, Rite 2
	After the Service: The Greening of the Church	