# ST. JAMES THE FISHERMAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF EAST CAROLINA

MORNING PRAYER

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**DECEMBER 6, 2020** 

# **UNDERLINED TEXT IS UNSPOKEN**

Italicized text is unspoken.

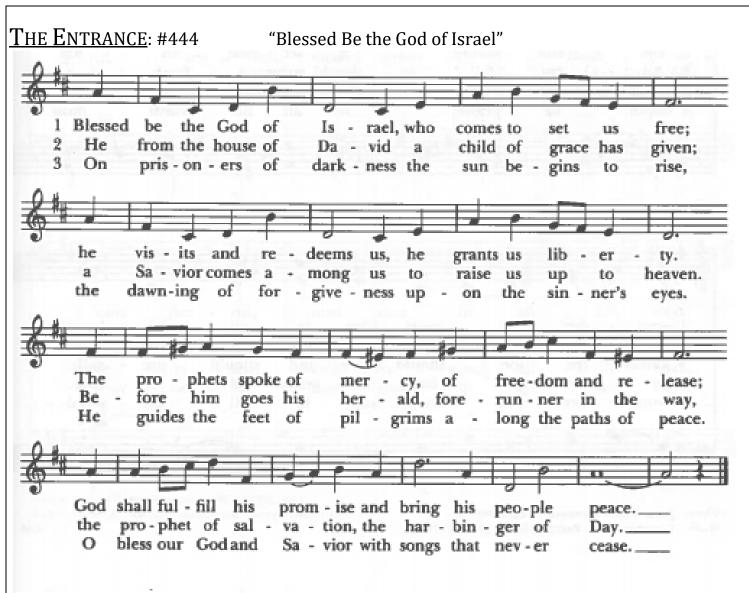
Standard text is spoken by the officiant alone.

Bold text is spoken by the people (with or without the officiant).

PRELUDE:

"Advent Meditation"

16th Century Plainsong



Words: Michael A. Perry (b. 1942), alt.; para. of The Song of Zechariah

Music: Thornbury, Basil Harwood (1859-1949)

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#### THE OPENING

#### Opening Sentence

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.. (Isaiah 40:5)

#### Confession

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.** 

Versicle and Response

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

Our King and Savior now draws near:

Come let us adore him.

#### Venite

Come let us sing to the Lord; \*
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with
thanksgiving \*
and raise a loud shout to him with
psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, \* and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \* and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, \* and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \* Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, And to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, And will be forever. Amen.

#### Antiphon

Our King and Savior now draws near: **Come let us adore him.** 

#### THE PSALM

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Benedixisti, Domine

Denemi	tibely Domine
1	You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, *
	you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
2	You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
	and blotted out all their sins.
8	I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *
	for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
	and to those who turn their hearts to him.
9	Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him,
	that his glory may dwell in our land.
10	Mercy and truth have met together; *
	righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
11	Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
	and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
12	The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *
	and our land will yield its increase.
13	Righteousness shall go before him, *

and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

#### Gloria Patri

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

# THE LESSONS

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON (Isaiah 40:1-11)

Sheila Jordan

A reading from 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 for ever. 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.

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

Canticle 11 The Third Song of Isaiah Surge, illuminare Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19 Arise, shine, for your light has come,\* and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you. For behold, darkness covers the land;\* deep gloom enshrouds the peoples. But over you the Lord will rise,\* and his glory will appear upon you. Nations will stream to your light,\* and kings to the brightness of your dawning. Your gates will always be open;\* by day or night they will never be shut. They will call you, The City of the Lord,\* The Zion of the Holy One of Israel. Violence will no more be heard in your land,\* ruin or destruction within your borders. You will call your walls, Salvation,\* and all your portals, Praise. The sun will no more be your light by day;\* by night you will not need the brightness of the moon. The Lord will be your everlasting light,\* and your God will be your glory. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

# NEW TESTAMENT LESSON (2 Peter 3:8-15a)

Marsha Clark

A reading from the second epistle of Peter.

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and

hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

The Word of the Lord.

Canticle 16 The Song of Zechariah

Thanks be to God.

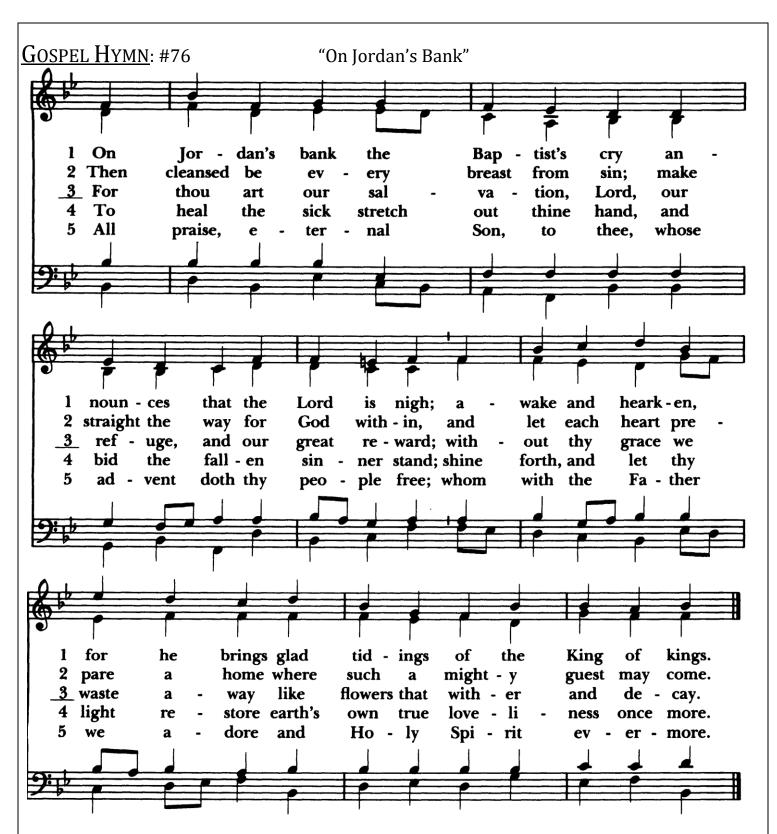
shadow of death, \*

Benedictus Dominus Deus Luke 1:68-79 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \* he has come to his people and set them free. He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \* born of the house of his servant David. Through his holy prophets he promised of old, that he would save us from our enemies, \* from the hands of all who hate us. He promised to show mercy to our fathers \* and to remember his holy covenant. This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \* to set us free from the hands of our enemies, Free to worship him without fear, \* holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life. You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \* for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, To give his people knowledge of salvation \* by the forgiveness of their sins. In the tender compassion of our God \* the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \* as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the

and to guide our feet into the way of peace.



Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944),

after John Chandler (1806-1876); alt.

Music: Winchester New, melody from Musicalishes Hand-Buch, 1690;

harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.

LM

# THE GOSPEL (MARK 1:1-8)

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'"

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Farrell Graves, PhD

# THE APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate. was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints. the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

# THE PRAYERS

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

# Suffrages

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

And grant us your salvation.

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

Let your people sing with joy.

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

For only in you can we live in safety.

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Let your way be known upon earth;

Your saving health among all nations.

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

#### THE COLLECTS

Collect of the Day: Second Sunday in Advent

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

#### For Mission

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.** 

World Cycle of Prayer

We pray for the people of São Tomé and Príncipe.

Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the United Church in the Solomon Islands..

A Collect for Sundays

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.** 

Prayers and Intercessions

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

We pray to the LORD, to the God who is our shelter and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble. **Lord, you are our refuge and strength.** 

We pray for our communities:

for the elderly, confined to their homes and separated from family and support; for children, removed from school; for those who have lost their source of income; for those who are affected by hurricanes and climate-related events; for those who fear for their home; for those who have no home; for those offering extraordinary, everyday kindness.

Silent prayer

The LORD of hosts is with us.

The God of Jacob is our refuge.

Lord, you are in the midst of us:

help us in our time of trouble.

We pray for the young and those in education:

for those anxious about examinations, a place at university, or employment; for those worried about loved ones and friends; for those concerned about their own health.

Silent prayer

The LORD of hosts is with us.

The God of Jacob is our refuge.

Lord, you are our refuge and strength:

let us not be afraid, even though the world is changed.

We pray for key workers:

for all medical staff and hospital workers, who go to work knowing the risks they face; for medical researchers, seeking ways to prevent and to cure; for pharmacy workers, dispensing medicine, and social workers, protecting the vulnerable; for care workers, providing contact and support to those who have no other help; for teachers, worrying about their charges; for farmers, delivery and shop workers, keeping the nation provisioned; for cleaners, fighting the spread of infection.

Silent prayer

The LORD of hosts is with us.

The God of Jacob is our refuge.

Lord, be with us in our time of need:

help us to do what has been asked of us, and give us grace to help others do what has been asked of them.

We pray for the police:

for those public servants on whom we call to protect, to serve, and to defend justice and our constitutional rights. May they be shielded from all danger and guided in the exercise of their civic duties by profound respect for the humanity of all.

Silent prayer

The LORD of hosts is with us.

The God of Jacob is our refuge.

We pray for the world:

for the leaders of the nations and their governments; for areas most besieged by the pandemic; for broken places where healthcare and resources are scarce, and the pandemic brings further suffering.

Silent prayer

The LORD of hosts is with us.

The God of Jacob is our refuge.

Lord, may the nations hear your voice: and know that you are God, supreme among the nations, supreme over all the world.

We pray for those who are sick:

for those afflicted with coronavirus; for those with other illnesses and conditions which leave them vulnerable; for those with poor mental health; for all who suffer, and for those on our prayer needs lists, especially Robert Jones, Carolyn Foley, Conrad Hendricksen, Kathryn Bradley, Kim Palutis, Dick Vetare, Don Roberts, Dottie Roberts, John Scheide, Kathy Frye, Shane and River Mahler, and Missy Holden.

Silent prayer

The LORD of hosts is with us.

The God of Jacob is our refuge.

Lord, we trust in you, because your love is constant:

bring us comfort and healing, for you are always willing to save.

We pray for the Church:

for our fellow members in the body of Christ throughout the world; for the Episcopal Church; for Michael, our presiding bishop, for Rob, our bishop, for Fr. Farrell, Deacon Jean, and Deacon Mike, and for all who minister to the sick and the dying.

Silent prayer

The LORD of hosts is with us.

The God of Jacob is our refuge.

Lord, you are in the midst of us:

keep us fearless in proclaiming your Word and works, and make us to be lights in the darkness.

We pray for those who have died:

for those taken suddenly; for those taken unexpectedly; for the families they leave behind; for their friends; for those who have died alone; and for those who have no one to remember them.

Silent prayer

The LORD of hosts is with us.

The God of Jacob is our refuge.

We pray for our nation:

God of our Salvation, you have ordained that we should serve you in serving one another:

Look upon this nation, burdened at this time with many cares and anxieties, with infection, sickness, and untimely death.

Grant us grace to work together, with honest and faithful hearts, each caring for the good of all; that, striving first for your kingdom and its righteousness, we may have added to us all things that we need for our daily sustenance and the common good.

Silent prayer

The LORD of hosts is with us.

The God of Jacob is our refuge.

Lord, may those who have waited for you and hoped in your word know your steadfast love face to face.

We offer up our hopes and fears, our joys and sorrows to God, our refuge and strength.

Lord, listen to our prayers, and hear the voice of our supplications, as we, who trust in your word, eagerly await your help:

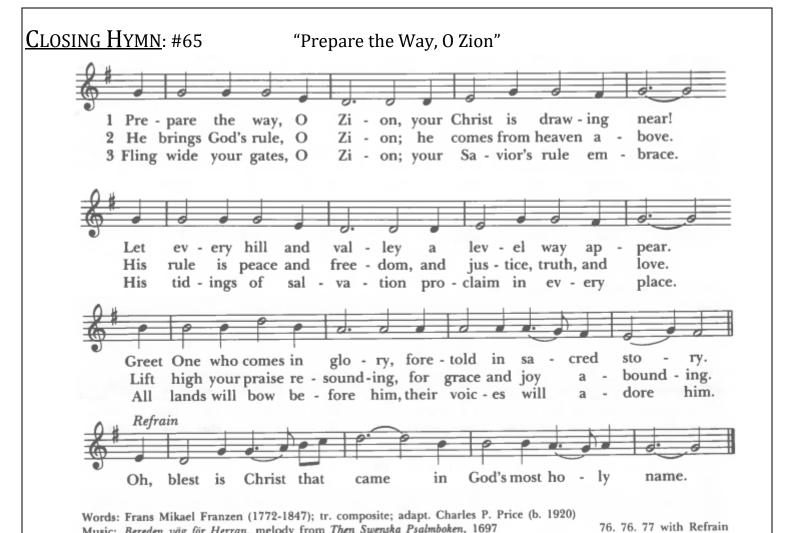
for you are the God of our salvation.
This we ask through your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.** 

Prayer when one cannot celebrate the Eucharist

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and the life to come. Amen.

# A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.** 



# THE ENDING

**Benediction** 

Let us bless the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.** (2 Corinthians 13:14)

Music: Bereden väg för Herran, melody from Then Swenska Psalmboken, 1697

"Lift up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" Postlude: Williams

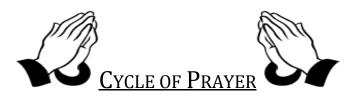
#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**TO CONTACT FR. FARRELL:** For pastoral concerns and prayer, please call or text Fr. Farrell at 917-287-0880 or email at fdgraves@icoud.com. He is not in the office on Mondays and Tuesdays, but will respond to emergencies on any day. Deacons Jean and Michael are also available for pastoral care and prayer.

**ECW:** The ECW meeting for December will be held on Zoom only at 9 AM on December 9. Please let Barbara Freeman know by sending her an email at gary-barb-freeman@att.net. She will send out the Zoom link and agenda prior to the meeting.

**DOK CALENDAR COLLECTION:** The Daughters of the King are collecting 2021 wall calendars for the residents of Autumn Care in Shallotte. The Activity Director at Autumn Care reports that the residents are extremely appreciative to have their own calendars. You may place them above the mailboxes near the ladies rest room. Thank you for participating in this annual event.

**ULTIMATE CLOTHS:** For those needing an extra gift or stocking stuffer, ultimate cloths are the perfect thing. \$6 for 1, \$10 for 2 and \$25 for 5. To place order, call Marsha Clark 910 287-5591. Funds raised support outreach.



#### Please pray for the following:

**IN OUR WORLD:** The Falkland Islands

**IN OUR DIOCESE:** Church of the Advent in Williamston, Vestry Elections,

and Annual Parish Meetings

IN OUR COMPANION DIOCESE: De La Gracia in Boca Chica

**IN OUR COMMUNITY:** New Beginnings Community Church, Waccamaw

Elementary School, and Habitat for Humanity

IN OUR PARISH: Julia & Norman Christenbury, Ed & Marsha Clark, and

Webster & Betsy Collett

#### **For Healing:**

Acute Needs: Robert Jones, Carolyn Foley, Conrad Hendricksen, Kathryn Bradley, Kim

Palutis, Dick Vetare, Don Roberts, Dottie Roberts, John Scheide, Brian Weber, Shane and River Mahler, Luis Espinoza-Torres, and Missy Holden.

#### **Ongoing Needs:**

Kyla Agrimonti Sterling Gray Fran White Donna Hinds Jean Gillette Jerry Block Frank Dieter Ann Alexander Joseph Campbell Richard Wood Margaret Pazdan **Janet Thompson Iack Brennan** Sally Manifold Vicki Kav Susan Weber David Rohr Martie Tittle Iannie Anello

Members of our Armed Forces & First Responders and their families

# We offer Prayers of Thanksgiving for the Birthdays and Anniversaries of the following:

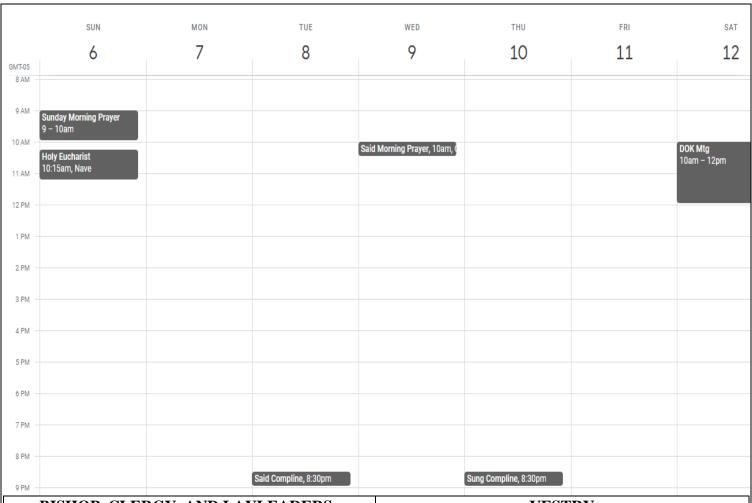
December 6: Stephanie Lynott, Russ Mavis, Suzy Bryant

**December 9:** Al Haley, JoAnn Kenkins **December 10:** Bill Chase, Phil Robson

**December 11:** Ilene Palmer

Those on the Acute list will be prayed for by name during our services. All requested prayers are included in the daily Intercessory Prayers of the Rector and DOK for 1 month. Those not renewed by phone/card to the church office or through a DOK member will be removed. We ask the parish at large to uphold the names on both lists in their daily prayers.

Our Daughters of the King also maintain the prayer alcove with vigil candles for your use in meditation.



#### **BISHOP, CLERGY, AND LAYLEADERS**

THE RT. REV. ROBERT SKIRVING – BISHOP THE REV. FARRELL GRAVES, PHD – RECTOR THE REV. JEAN G. MILLER – DEACON THE REV. MICHAEL LIGON – DEACON MARG SMICKLAS– DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MR. PAUL BERTELSEN – VERGER

#### **VESTRY**

RON STEPHENS – SENIOR WARDEN (2021) TOM FERNANDEZ – JR. WARDEN (2020) BILL CHASE – PROGRAMS LIAISON (2021) NANCY DOUGHERTY – WORSHIP LIAISON (2020)

BOB LYNOTT – STEWARDSHIP LIAISON (2020) GARY FREEMAN – OUTREACH LIAISON (2021) HEATHER HOLBROOK – COMMUNICATIONS LIAISON (2022)

EARL MILLER – ENDOWMENT LIAISON (2022) ANNE NEELY – COMMUNICATIONS LIAISON (2022)

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