

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II  
*The Third Sunday of Advent*  
*Gaudete!*



*The Episcopal Church of The Holy Innocents*  
*in the Borough of Beach Haven, New Jersey*  
*17 December, 2023 ~ 9:30 AM*

*Welcome! In The Episcopal Church all baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Holy Communion. BCP means The Book of Common Prayer (Red Book). You'll find the BCP and Hymnals in the pew rack in front of you. Please join us for Coffee Hour following the service.*

*\* Indicates to stand as you are able*

**Prelude**            *Improvisation on Gaudete*

## THE WORD OF GOD

**Hymn #56** *O Come, O Come Emmanuel (verses 5 and 6)*

VENI VENI EMMANUEL, plainsong 15<sup>th</sup> C

*O come, Thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home. Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. Rejoice! Rejoice!*

*Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

*O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;*

*Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to*

*flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

## THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*Officiant* Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.

*People*    **Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.**

*Officiant* Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved:

*People*    **O Lord God of Hosts**

*Officiant* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

*People*    **Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.**

*The third Advent Candle is now lit.*

*Officiant* Show us your mercy, O Lord:

*Response* **And grant us your salvation.**

**Entrance Hymn #71**    *Hark! The Glad Sound!*

BRISTOL

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *All Amen.*

*Trisagion S-102 (all sing) Holy God* Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924)

**The Collect of the Day:** **BCP, p. 212**

*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. *All: Amen.*

**The First Lesson** **Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11**

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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*All*     **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 126** (*Read in unison*)

**BCP p. 782**

1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, \*  
then were we like those who dream.

2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \*  
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

- 3 Then they said among the nations, \*  
    "The LORD has done great things for them."  
4 The LORD has done great things for us, \*  
    and we are glad indeed.  
5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, \*  
    like the watercourses of the Negev.  
6 Those who sowed with tears \*  
    will reap with songs of joy.  
7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \*  
    will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

## The Epistle

## I 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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*All*     **Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence Hymn #60** *Creator of the Stars of Night*   CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM

## The Holy Gospel

## John 1:6-8,19-28

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

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

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.

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.** (*All are seated*)

**The Sermon**

**The Very Rev. Dr. Caroline Carson+**

**\*The Nicene Creed**

**BCP, p. 358**

**The Prayers of the People: Form V**

**BCP, p. 389**

*(The people may stand or kneel)*

*Celebrant* In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy"

*Leader* For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

***People* Lord, have mercy.**

*Leader* In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for Pray for The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea, For Justin the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, Sally our Bishop, Judith our Deacon, and Caroline our Rector;

for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Leader* For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Leader* For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Leader* For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the Gospel, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Leader* For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Leader* For those in positions of public trust, especially Nancy our Mayor, Philip our Governor, and Joseph our President; that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Leader* For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Leader* For our enemies and those who wish us harm, and for all whom we have injured or offended; for ourselves; for the forgiveness of our sins, and for the grace of the Holy Spirit to amend our lives, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Leader* For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Leader* For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Celebrant* Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

*People* **To you, O Lord our God**

*Celebrant* For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

### **Confession**

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.**

### **Absolution**

**\*The Peace** (*All stand*) *Greet one another with a sign of God's peace*

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**Offertory Anthem** *Sing Unto God a New Song* Douglas Wagner (b.1952)



**\*Presentation of the Gifts** (*All stand*)

*All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee*

**\*The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B**

**BCP, p. 367**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

***Sanctus S-130*** (*all sing*) *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord* Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828)

*(The People may stand or kneel)*

*Celebrant* We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said,

"Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*All* **We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*Celebrant* And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *All: AMEN.*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**BCP, p. 364**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

*Celebrant* *Alleluia.* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. *Alleluia.***

**Fraction Anthem: S-154** (All sing) *Christ Our Passover* David Hurd (b. 1950)  
(All baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Holy Communion.)

**\*Postcommunion Prayer** (*Please stand*) **BCP, p. 365**

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Blessing

## The Parish Notices

**Hymn #438** *Tell Out My Soul* WOODLANDS

**Dismissal** **BCP, p. 366**

**Postlude** *On Our Way Rejoicing* Lani Smith (b. 1934)

*Coffee Hour is held EVERY SUNDAY and we would LOVE IT if you would join us in  
Martin Hall following the service!*

## Serving Today

**Crucifer** ~ John Wall **Lector** ~ Leila Sullivan

**Ushers** ~ Melissa Wall, Sue Hughes **Chalice Bearer** ~ Leila Sullivan

## Parish Prayer List – December 17, 2023

**PLEASE NOTE:** *If you need to add or delete a name, please contact Lisa Halpin, our  
Parish Administrator by Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>.*

Judy Contreras  
Mary Ann Crewdson  
Dennis  
Anthony B.  
Barney H.  
Diane D.  
Kirsten Angelozzi

Lara Sparks Deitz  
Ann White  
Dcn. Judy  
Connie Anderson  
Susan F.  
Dayton  
Bob Hendricks

Joan Connolly  
Jane Enos  
Diane Carter  
Christian Balint  
Cheryl  
Jason  
Christine Hendricks

Andy	Kathy & Walter	Ron & Kenny
Jeannine	Priscilla	Judy & Al
Joan & Linda Kelly	Chris C.	Pierro Family
David D'Ambrosia	Barry Longenbach	Robert
Mike	Tony	Aleen
Jan	Elliott	Anne
Karen & DJ	Dennis Hickey	Rosanne & Bob
Juli & Dave	Laura	Lovas Family
Debbie & Joe Reising	Rebecca	Marilyn Thomas
Tom Blake	Fiona	Graham
Bob	Sue	Hale Bailey
Melanie	Sophia	Joseph
Paris	Tom & Kathy Masilla	Jim Darling
Charles Sullivan	Warren Lamon	Greg Melega
Rachel	Marilyn Flagler	Mary Timmerman
Louise Muth	Debbie Lamon	Teri Keller
Gia	Cora	Hunter Gideon
Sanders Baby	Jean & Keith Aclin	Vic Hughes
Rick & Becky Johnson	Brian O'Sullivan	Suzette Whiting
Kay & Mike DeCicco	Frank M.	Ray M.

**Those serving in the military and other dangerous professions:**

Paul Bailey, Justin A. Dumhart, Joseph Alexander, Danny Melega, Andrew Wall  
Brandan White

**Birthdays:** JoAnne Bray (12/17), Colette Southwick (12/17)

**WEEKLY ONLINE CALENDAR - Dec 18-23**

18 – Mon	Morning Prayer (FB Live)	9:00 AM
	Mtr. Caroline's Advent Drop-In @ Rectory	6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
19 – Tues	Blue Christmas Contemplative Holy Eucharist	5:00 PM
20 – Wed	Choir Caroling & Party	3:00 PM
21 – Thurs	Holy Hike @ Eno's Pond Lacey Twp.	3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
	Compline (FB)	9:00 PM
	Last Day Advent Food Drive!	
22 – Fri	<i>Parish Office closed</i>	
23 – Sat	Altar & Flower Guild Prepare for Christmas	9:30 AM

**Flowers for Christmas** ~All donations must be in the office by **TOMMOROW, MONDAY DECEMBER 18<sup>th</sup>**.

**Winter Solstice Holy Hike – RSVP please!** Hosted by the Environmental Education & Advocacy Committee, from 3:00-5:00 PM on December 21<sup>st</sup> at ENO'S POND in LACEY TOWNSHIP! Dress warmly!

*Blue Christmas Service*

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19 at 5 :00 PM

*A quiet, contemplative service of healing, peace, and prayer with an emphasis on light, music, and silence.*

FOR MORE DETAILS, CHECK OUR WEEKLY E-PISTLE OR OUR FACEBOOK PAGE.

HOLY INNOCENTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
410 S. ATLANTIC AVENUE  
BEACH HAVEN, NJ



**WATCHNIGHT  
SERVICE**

FOLLOWED BY  
CHAMPAGNE TOAST  
5:00 PM

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SUNDAY **31st** DEC 2023

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NEW YEAR'S EVE

# CHRISTMAS FLOWERS



If you would like to memorialize loved ones with a donation toward Christmas Flowers, kindly send your clearly-designated donation to the church office or place it in the Sunday collection plate. Please note "**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**" on the outside of the envelope and "**Flower Guild-Christmas**" in the check memo. Make sure the donor and recipient names are clearly written.

**YOUR NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DONATION AMT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**IN MEMORY OF:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In order to have all Memorials acknowledged in the Christmas bulletins, please return this form to the office no later than  
**Monday, December 18, 2023**



## DECEMBER 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve

@ 9:30 Advent IV Holy Eucharist

@ 5:30 Caroling

@ 6:00 Holy Eucharist with special music

## DECEMBER 25<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Day

@ 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

### Give Online to Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church

#### *It's Easy!*

- Aim your camera
- Snap photo of QR code
- Open & give



**Donate your way.** Give one time, anytime or set up recurring donation.

**Track your giving.** Secure and convenient access to your giving history or change recurring donation in your account. Give faithfully anywhere, anytime.

## THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS

Pearl & Marine Streets, Beach Haven, New Jersey 08008

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Mrs. Lisa Halpin, Parish Administrator ~ [hichurch08008@gmail.com](mailto:hichurch08008@gmail.com)

Mrs. Ellen J. Dondero, Minister of Music & Organist ~ [ejdondero@comcast.net](mailto:ejdondero@comcast.net)

The Rev. Dr. Judith S. Krom, Deacon ~ (732) 330-4949 [jsk13@comcast.net](mailto:jsk13@comcast.net)

The Rev. Dr. Caroline Carson, Rector ~ (504) 390-5331 [theparsoncarson@gmail.com](mailto:theparsoncarson@gmail.com)

**OFFICE HOURS – Monday through Thursday 9 AM to 2 PM**