ST. JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The First Sunday in Advent, Year B — November 29, 2026

BCP-Book of Common Prayer — WLP -Wonder, Love and Praise

Time for prayer is kept before the service. Prayers of preparation are found on p. 833-835 in the red Book of Common Prayer.

The Holy Eucharist, Rite One
8:00 AM

The Word of God

Entrance Rite — **BCP 323**
The Collect of the Day
The Lessons Isaiah 64.1-9 *(Scripture found in 10:30 section)* — **Bible 683**
Psalm 80.1-7, 16-18 *Qui regis Israel* — **BCP 702**
1 Corinthians 1.3-9 — **Bible 1308**
Mark 13.24-37 — **Bible 1195**
The Sermon
The Nicene Creed — **BCP 327**
Prayers of the People, Form I — **BCP 38_**
Confession of Sin — **BCP 331**
The Peace

The Holy Communion

Offertory *All things come of thee, O Lord/And of thine own have we given thee. (1 Chronicles 29:14)*
The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer II — **BCP 340**
The Breaking of the Bread — **BCP 337**
The Communion
Postcommunion Prayer and Blessing — **BCP 339**
Hymn at the Procession
Hymnal 66 Come Thou Long Expected Jesus — *Stuttgart*
Dismissal

Holy Eucharist, Rite Two
10:30 AM

A quiet time for prayer is kept before the service. Prayers of preparation are found on p. 833-835 in the red Book of Common Prayer.

The Word of God

Voluntary Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland (text hymn 54) — Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

At the Procession
Hymnal 57 Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending — *Helmsley*

Opening Acclamation — **BCP 355**

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

Song of Praise S-100 Trisagion Hurd

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us. (3x)

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

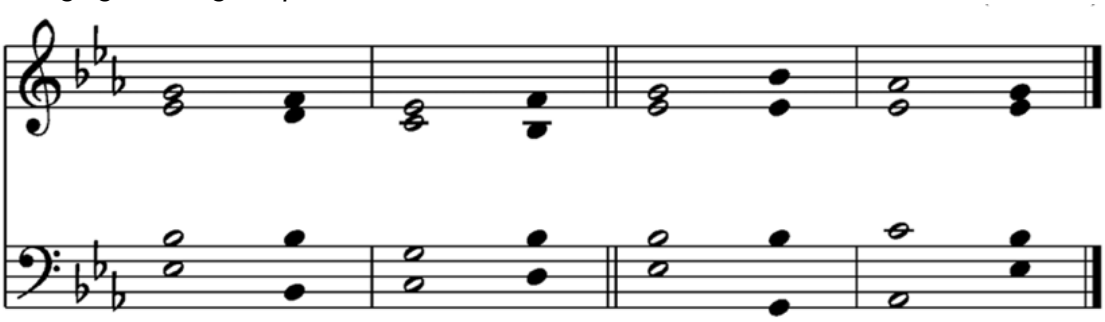
The First Lesson: Isaiah 64.1-9 **Bible 683**

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence--as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil--to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

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

The Gradual: Psalm 95.1-7a *Venite exultemus* **BCP 702**

The choir and congregation sing the psalm in unison.



1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.

3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

4 O Lord God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?

5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1.3-9 **Bible 1308**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
The Word of the Lord / *Thanks be to God*.

At the Sequence

Hymnal 74 Blest Be the King *Valet will ich dir geben*

Procession to Children's Chapel for those under age 7. Children will return at the Peace.

The Gospel: Mark 13.24-37 **Bible 1195**

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Sermon
The Nicene Creed **BCP 358**
Prayers of the People, Form I **BCP 38__**
Confession of Sin and Absolution **BCP 360**
The Peace

The Holy Communion

At the Offertory Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies Candlyn

At the Presentation

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below,
Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. *Old 100th*

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A **BCP 363**

Hymnal S-122 Holy, holy, holy Lord–*Sanctus* Martens

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

The Breaking of the Bread **BCP 364**

Fraction Anthem: S-161 *Agnus Dei* Hurd

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

At the Communion

Hymnal 314 Humbly I Adore Thee *Adoro devote*
Hymnal 66 Come Thou Long Expected Jesus *Stuttgart*
Hymnal 61 Sleepers Wake *Wachet auf*
Hymnal 655 O Jesus I Have Promised *Nyland*

People's response to the sending out of the Eucharistic Visitors

May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this Sacrament of Christ's presence.

Postcommunion Prayer and Blessing **BCP 365**

Hymn at the Procession

Hymnal 362 Holy, Holy, Holy *Nicaea*

Dismissal

Voluntary

Gottes Sohn ist Kommen Johann Sebastian Bach
(text hymn 543) (1685-1750)

Our Worship

Those leading worship this Sunday:
EM 8 AM: Bill Eccles
EM 10:30: Faxie Watt, Janine Lewis
Ushers: Will & Sawyer Tevepaugh, Charlie Sterne, Billy Koehler
Acolytes: Fletcher & Mary Frances Spigner, Marie Spigner, Mary Walker Tevepaugh
Greeters: Rob Wilcox, Lauren McCauley
Children's Chapel: Lynae Beresford
Altar Guild: Mary Wallace Coleman, Katherine Templeton, Margaret Axson, Dave Solley
Altar Flowers: Robin Campbell

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God.

Annual Meeting & Celebration

Notice of Annual Meeting and Elections

Sunday, December 6, 2026

Barr Center Gymnasium after 10:30 worship.
Lunch will be provided.

Nominees for Vestry:
John M. Burns, Jr., Lindsey Hiller, Eric Horst, Susan Smith, Catherine Warth

Nominees for Wardens
Senior Warden: Robert M. Wilcox
Junior Warden: Ashley Jaillette

Nominee for Diocesan Convention Delegate: Lauren McCauley
Nominees for Diocesan Convention Alternates: Thomas Coleman, Paul McCullough, Lockey Plyler, Ann Ruderman

Sanctuary Centennial Celebration

The first service of worship in our current church building was 100 years ago, on December 5, 1926. We'll mark this thankful anniversary on Sunday, December 6. Hymns and Scriptures from the first service will be part of our worship and an exhibit of plans and artifacts from the church, over its century of life will be shared in the Barr Center.

Family Ministries

No Children's or adult Sunday school this weekend. Please join us for Advent wreath making!

No EYC or Pre-YC today.

Cookie Decorating Drop In Party

When: Dec. 18 4- 6 Where: St. John's Gym

Join us for fellowship, frosting, Christmas carols, and fun! Join us at St. John's for a cookie decorating party, where little hands and big hands alike can turn plain sugar and gingerbread cookies into sweet works of art. All cookies, frosting, sprinkles, and decorating supplies will be provided. Take your creations home to share, or bring a few to brighten the day of a neighbor or friend. Light refreshments will be served. Email Lynae at dfm@stjohnscolumbia.org to sign up!

Feast of Lights



The Feast of Lights & 12th Night Party, our beloved St. John's tradition, will be here before you know it. If you are unfamiliar with the Feast of Lights this is St. John's long standing tradition of acting out the Christmas story in the sanctuary followed by a 12th night party in the gym. This year it is on **Wednesday, January 6.** Practice for 3 yr olds to 5th graders will be Sunday, January 3rd at 9:30 AM during the Sunday School hour. Practice for Middle & High Schoolers will be right after the 10:30 AM service. Sign up by Christmas to make sure your child's name makes it in the bulletin!
Sign up here if you would like to claim you or your child's role in this most special tradition:

https://tinyurl.com/FOL2027

Connect: www.facebook.com/StJohnsEpiscopalChurchShandon

Upcoming Events

Kanuga Retreat: January 15-17, 2027
Guest Speaker: Rev. Porter Taylor, *Ritual is the Remedy*
In a world that tells us that we always need to do more and be more - faster, better, stronger, prettier - maybe we don't, maybe we are enough. The Gospel invites us into an encounter with Christ, coming as we are. In the midst of this holiday season, we invite you, as you are, to our Parish Weekend, to re-discover how rituals of the Church help us to intentionally rest within the rhythms of liturgy.
Join us in the beautiful mountains of North Carolina at Kanuga Conference Center for the annual parish retreat.
Register: https://tinyurl.com/Kanuga2027 **Deadline to Register is December 6!**

Giving Tree
The Giving Tree is our chance to give back to those in need and those forgotten. Look for trees & tags outside the church this morning and the Heyward Hall atrium. Please WRAP/TAG and BAG for each person & return to the church **Sunday December 6** for blessing and distribution. Remember to place the prayer tag on your tree to pray through the season! Donations are welcome - please designate GIVING TREE.

Holy Hike for Men : Saturday, December 12 at 9:30 AM
Saluda River Walk
Trinity Cathedral men's ministry invites us on a 3.3 mile round-trip flat trail down to Boyd Island and back with Holy Communion, celebrated by the Rev. Jimmy Hartley. Lunch afterward at War Mouth. Meet at the Saluda Riverwalk, 650 Candi Lane.

Grab a Bell: Saturday, December 12 10 AM - 6 PM
Join the Men of St. John's this December in supporting the Salvation Army. Come out to ring for an hour outside the Lowes Foods on Forest Dr. Sign up: https://tinyurl.com/MOSJBells

Young Adult Holiday Gathering
St. John's Young Adults, generally in their 20s and 30s, will gather at Craft and Draft **December 5** at 2 PM. Text Kate Wolcott for more information at 980-348-7239. We would love to meet you!

Harvest Hope Volunteer Day: December 5 – 9:00 AM–10:30 AM
Mark your calendar and join St. John's members and friends volunteering at Harvest Hope Food Bank at their Shop Road location. Everyone is welcome but volunteers need to be at least 11 years old. Volunteer activities may include sorting and inspecting donated food, packing emergency food boxes, organizing inventory, preparing food assistance items, and supporting other essential warehouse and pantry operations. Be sure to wear comfortable clothes for active movement and closed-toe shoes. *Register with Epistle link!*



Guest Preacher Today: The Rev. Dr. Susan Prinz

Susan received her Master's of Divinity degree from Virginia Theological Seminary in 2010, and has a background in college administration, earning a doctorate in Educational Administration in 1998. She is also a graduate of the Sursum Corda Spiritual Direction Training program and has a private spiritual direction practice in Columbia. Susan is married to Ron Prinz, a professor at the University of South Carolina. She most recently served St. Martin's Church in Forest Acres and remains active in its ministry.

Advent Season

Advent is four weeks of preparation for the coming of Christ. We mark that coming in a Christmas feast that looks back to the Lord's birth in Bethlehem. But the season invites repentance and preparation for all the ways that Christ comes, in our daily lives, in the ministry of the church, and in the fullness of time, at the end of all things. While the world fast-forwards to Christmas, God invites us to slow down and receive the gifts of a peculiar and wonderful season.

Advent Wreath Festival: TODAY at 9 AM
Everyone is invited to St. John's annual Advent Wreath Festival in the gym in place of Sunday school this morning. Come for a warm breakfast and fellowship at 9 AM, followed by creating and decorating your own family advent wreath to take home. A daily advent reading will be provided for children to bring home along with the wreath that is created.

Waiting on the Word:
A Contemplative Service for Advent
Wednesday, December 16 at 6 PM
Scripture, Poetry, and Music, to soothe the spirit and prepare for the coming of the Lord. Our guest musician is classical guitarist Adrian Montero. **date change**

Wednesday, Dec 9:
St. Nicholas Children's Advent Service & Supper, 6 PM
Child-friendly worship and supper, to help young hearts make room for Christ, as we mark the spiritual gifts of St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra.

Christmas Services

December 24: Christmas Eve
2 PM Holy Eucharist, Carols, Sermon
4 PM Family Eucharist, Children's Sermon
6 PM Holy Eucharist, with Chancel Choir, Brass, Sermon, Nursery Available

December 25: Christmas Day
10 AM Holy Eucharist, Carols, Sermon

December 27
10:30 Lessons & Carols Service
No 8 AM services this day

Weekly Offerings

Sunday: Women's Bible Study at 7 PM, in the Parlor. Come as you are! Contact Kathryn Kelley with questions at kathrynkelley34@gmail.com. **on break until February**
Tuesday: Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study at 7 AM. Good breakfast and fellowship accompany the study of the Scriptures in the Dining Room of the Barr Center.
Tuesday and Thursday: Yoga in the Multipurpose Room at 9:30 AM
Wednesday: Rector's Bible Study meets Wednesdays at 10:30 in the parlor. We are studying Isaiah; all are welcome.
Wednesday: Holy Eucharist in the Chapel, 12 Noon.
Friday: Men's Bible Study Fridays at 7:00 AM in the Parlor. No prep required - just come as you are and join our discussion on St. Paul's letters!

More Blessed to Give

Great results so far leave us some distance to the finish line. We've received 169 pledges for $1,081,323. Help us finish the race by making your pledge today. The Finance Committee and Vestry will adopt a budget in the weeks ahead.

"Because we have received so much of God's generosity, we choose to give thanks by giving back our time, talent, and treasure. Our alms basin shows us what that looks like. It was made in 1929 from silver pieces given by parishioners, put together piece by piece, and St. John's today is built the same way, from the time, talent, and treasure of many, big and small. In the end, we are blessed twice over: first in receiving, and again in giving."
-Beresford Family

Pledge Online: stjohnscolumbia.org/make-a-pledge/

Bulletin & Sermon Mailings

We send copies of sermon texts and our Sunday bulletin to a number of members each week. If you or a family member would like to receive those in the mail, please let Megan in our parish office know: msg@stjohnscolumbia.org or 799-4767.

Sunday School & Adult Formation

No Sunday School or Formation this Sunday.

We will return on Dec 6.

Sunday Mornings for Adults

Equipping the Saints is our lecture and discussion class that meets in Room 215.

The Wired Word meets in the Library on the first floor of Heyward Hall. Email Sandy Leach to be subscribed to the emails.

Faith at Home meets in the Parlor on the main level of Heyward Hall. We begin this Sunday by walking the Advent season together using Kate Bowler's daily Advent study, *The Weary World Rejoices*.

The Monthly Sunday Early Adult Class meets monthly, usually on the first Sunday of the month, at 9 AM in the Dining Room of the Barr Center. Davis Bourne leads the class and provides a delicious breakfast. Next meeting will be Sunday, December 13.

Sunday Mornings for Children

For children 5th grade and under, parents please plan to walk your child to class and pick your child up from the door at 10:15.

Little Lambs: 3 and 4 year olds, meet in Room 129.
Shining Stars: K-2 class meeting in room 226.
Seeking Shepherd: 3rd-5th graders and it has moved to room 227.
Middle School: 6th-8th graders meet in room 221.
High Schoolers meet in room 222.

Children's Chapel: Before the Gospel at the 10:30 worship service, children ages 7 and under are invited to join an adult at the back of the church to walk to the Children's Chapel and enjoy a child-focused worship time.

Nursery is offered at St. John's for children ages 3 and younger.

St. John's Clergy & Staff

Daniel P. Richards, Bishop of Upper South Carolina
Nicholas M. Beasley, Rector
Alex Barron, Priest Associate
Amanda Hines Wrona, Director of Music
English Morris, Organist
Lynae Beresford, Director of Family Ministries
Henry Scouten, Youth Minister
Laura Fowles, Parish Administrator
Rhonda Gardner, Financial Administrator
Megan Griffin, Administrative Assistant

Prayer List

Expecting Parents: Ben & Mary Claire Martinsen; Susie & Chandler Cowan; Anthony & Mary DeFranco; Jonathan & Callie Matthews.

New Parents: Reese Allan Smith, born Nov 8 to Maggie Mallette & Zack Smith

For Military Service Personnel: Matthew Simmons, Salters Kneece, Ryan Sheard, Jay Drake, William Moran, Byron Davison

St. John's Church Members: Mackie All, Pat Arnold, Bill Barksdale, Jr., Grace Boland, Boyd Brazell, Dean Cecil, Tim Close, Randy Epting, Janice Fort, Burton Fowles, Jr., Beaver Hardy, Miriam Hedgepath, Ginny Hungerford, Leigh Jones, Jim Knight, Shirley Knight, Larry Long, Liz Long, Joyce Mann, Bruce Marshall, Linda Mittenzwei, Stacy McCloghry, Lance Paulman, George Reid, Katie & Jeremy Schoor, Annette Shuler, Roger Stroup, Nora Taylor, Mollie Sullivan, Georgianna Wheeler

Friends and Family of Church Members: Joanna Beresford, Ann Bowman, Jim Camp, Kay Canipe, Anna Courie, Amy Crook, Ginnie Daguise, Brantley Daniel, Judy Dent, Melinda "Rosa" Franks, Douglas Frels, Lettie Fuller, Kevin Glaze, William Pearce Gibbons, Rev. Doug Grey, Kristi Helmly, Terry Helsley, Frances Jaillette, Sharon James-Hilyer, Pat Keane, Kevin Keeney, John Kessler, Pat Lewis, Carl Lockhart, Mentz Family, Charlie Pate, Teddy Pate, Carol Preslar, Roberta Prioleau, Colleen Pruitt, Ranson Family, Earl Ridout & family, Beaumont Riley, Kim Schneider, Pearl Sims, Courtney Smith, Linda Sparks, Eleanor Taylor, Jerry Trotter, Brooks Wheeler

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