## st mary's catholic charch greenville, south carolina



third suppay of abvent 15 december 2024



#### **Entrance Antiphon**

#### Philippians 4.4-5

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.



Text: Venez, divin Messie: Abbé Simon-Joseph Pellegrin, 1663-1745; Tr. by S. Mary of St. Philip, 1877
Tune: VENEZ, DIVIN MESSIE, 7 8 7 6 with refrain; French Noël, 16th C.; Harm, by Healey Willan, 1880-1968, © 1958, Ralph Jusko Publications, Inc.



#### Penitential Act

#### Confiteor

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

All strike their breast, saying:

through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;

therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Priest May almighty God have mercy on us,

forgive us our sins,

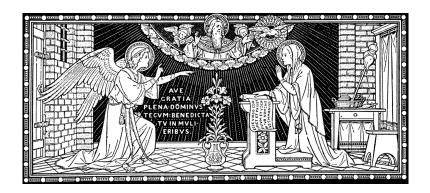
and bring us to everlasting life.

#### People Amen.

#### **Kyrie**

Mass for Five Voices, William Byrd (Choir only)

#### Collect



#### First Reading

Shout for joy, O daughter Zion! Sing joyfully, O Israel! Be glad and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has removed the judgment against you, he has turned away your enemies; the King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst, you have no further misfortune to fear. On that day, it shall be said to Jerusalem: Fear not, O Zion, be not discouraged! The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior; he will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you in his love, he will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals.

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



#### Responsorial Psalm

Isaiah 12.2-3, 4, 5-6



God indeed is my savior; I am confident and unafraid. My strength and my courage is the LORD, and he has been my savior. With joy you will draw water at the fountain of salvation.

Give thanks to the LORD, acclaim his name; among the nations make known his deeds, proclaim how exalted is his name.

Sing praise to the LORD for his glorious achievement; let this be known throughout all the earth. Shout with exultation, O city of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel!

# Brothers and sisters: Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

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



#### Gospel Acclamation



The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. *Response*.

Deacon: The Lord be with you. **People: And with your spirit.** 

Deacon: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Luke 3.10-18

The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?" He said to them in reply, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized and they said to him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He answered them, "Stop collecting more than what is prescribed." Soldiers also asked him, "And what is it that we should do?" He told them, "Do not practice extortion, do not falsely accuse anyone, and be satisfied with your wages."

Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord. People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

#### Homily

#### Profession of Faith (spoken slowly and reverently)

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

Bow profoundly during these two lines

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

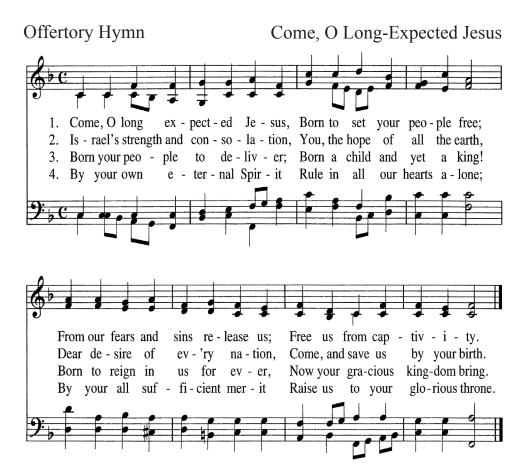
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

# The Bidding Prayers The Collection

The offering is for the support of the parish, and for the Church in Africa.

Please Click Here to Make a Donation to Saint Mary's Church.

O Lord, you have favored your land; you have restored the well-being of Jacob. You have forgiven the iniquity of your people.



Text: Hag. 2:7; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.
Tune: STUTTGART, 8 7 8 7; Christian F. Witt, 1660-1716; Harm. by Kenneth D. Smith, b.1928, © National Christian Education Council



#### Offertory Anthem

#### O Come. O Come Emmanuel

Arlen Clarke

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. O come, O come, Desire of nations; bind in one the hearts of humankind; O bid our sad divisions cease, and be for us our King of Peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.



*Priest* Pray, brethren,

that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the Almighty Father.

**People** May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands

for the praise and glory of his name,

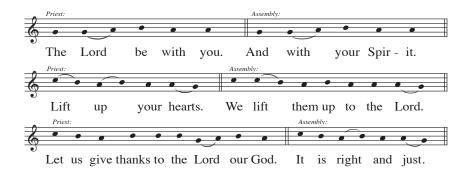
for our good

and the good of all his holy Church.

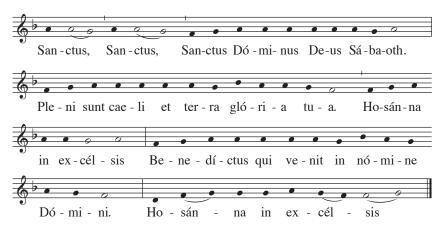
Prayer Over the Offerings

### Eucharistic Prayer

#### Preface Dialogue

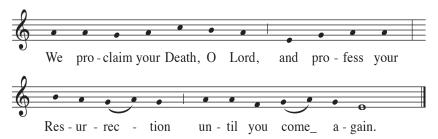


#### Sanctus



Music: Vatican Edition XVIII; acc. by Richard Proulx

#### Mystérium Fídei (The Mystery of Faith)



#### Communion Rite

*Priest* At the Savior's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

People 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.

*Priest* Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,

graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

People For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

Priest Lord Jesus Christ.

who said to your Apostles:

Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,

look not on our sins,

but on the faith of your Church,

and graciously grant her peace and unity

in accordance with your will.

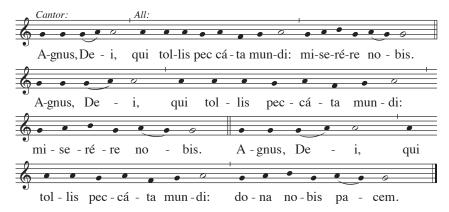
Who live and reign for ever and ever.

People Amen.

*Priest* The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People And with your spirit.

#### Agnus Dei



Music: Vatican Edition XVIII; acc. by Richard Proulx



Priest Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

People Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.



#### AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Lord Jesus, I love you above all things.
How I long to receive you with my brothers
and sisters at the table you have prepared.
But since I cannot at this moment receive you in
the holy sacrament of your Body and Blood,
I ask you to feed me with the manna of your Holy Spirit
and nourish me with your holy presence.
I unite myself completely to you;
never permit me to be separated from your love.
Amen.

#### Communion Motets

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Praetorius; Hugo Distler

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming From tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming As men of old have sung. It came, a flower bright, Amid the cold of winter When half-gone was the night. Isaiah 'twas foretold it, The Rose I have in mind: With Mary we behold it, The virgin mother kind. To show God's love aright She bore to men a Savior When half-gone was the night.

O Savior Sweet Bach

O Savior sweet, O Savior kind, thy Father's will has all thy mind. From Heaven Thou hast vouchsafed to come, with men as Man to make thy home. O Savior sweet. O Savior kind. O Savior sweet, O Savior kind, the way to please Thee we would find. What e'er we have, it comes of Thee, O let us ever near Thee be. O Savior sweet, O Savior kind. O Savior sweet, O Savior kind, Who came to earth the lost to find; who dies to save us on the tree, our hearts are filled with love to Thee. O Savior sweet, O Savior kind.

Chorale: Thee with tender care I'll cherish. Live to thee, die to thee; Thus I shall not perish. But with thee abide forever. Joyfully, peacefully where life endeth never.



#### Communion Hymn

#### Comfort, Comfort Ye My People



Words: Johann G. Olearius (1611-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: Psalm 42, melody and bass Claude Goudimel (1514-1572); harm. Hymnal 1982

87. 87. 77. 88





Priest The Lord be with you.People And with your spirit.

*Priest* May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People Amen.

Deacon Go in peace.

People Thanks be to God.

# PLEASE JOIN US TODAY AT 5.00 PM FOR SOLEMN VESPERS OF THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Page one: Saint Mary's Catholic Church, Greenville, SC.

Page five: Titian. Saint John the Baptist. (1540).

Page nine: Sano di Pietro. The Adoration of the Magi. (c. 1470).

Page thirteen: Pier Francesco Mola. Saint John the Baptist in the

Wilderness. (c. 1640).

Page fourteen: Page fourteen: Giotto. Lower Church, Assisi. (1310).

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# holioay liturgical scheoule

#### CHRISTMAS EVE

#### TUESDAY 24 DECEMBER 2024

5.00 pm Mass in the Clinkscales Center for families with children
5.00 pm Sung Mass in the church
7.00 pm Sung Mass in the church

8.40 pm Choir Program in the church (Streamed on Facebook)

9.00 pm Solemn Mass During the Night (Streamed on Facebook)
(The Mass During the Night takes the place of the Mass at Midnight.)

#### ❖ CHRISTMAS DAY ❖

#### Wednesday 25 December 2024

11.00 am Mass in the church
1.00 pm Spanish Mass in the church

No Holy Hour or Confessions on 25 December 2024 and 1 January 2025

No Mass on Thursday 26 December 2024

#### **❖** Solemnity of the Mother of God ❖

#### TUESDAY 31 DECEMBER 2024

5.00 am Sung Mass

#### WEDNESDAY 1 JANUARY 2025

9.00 am Sung Mass 11.00 am Solemn Mass 1.00 pm Spanish Mass

# from the office of readings for the third suppay of advent

John is the voice, but the Lord is *the Word who was in the beginning*. John is the voice that lasts for a time; from the beginning Christ is the Word who lives for ever.

Take away the word, the meaning, and what is the voice? Where there is no understanding, there is only a meaningless sound. The voice without the word strikes the ear but does not build up the heart.

However, let us observe what happens when we first seek to build up our hearts. When I think about what I am going to say, the word or message is already in my heart. When I want to speak to you, I look for a way to share with your heart what is already in mine.

In my search for a way to let this message reach you, so that the word already in my heart may find place also in yours, I use my voice to speak to you. The sound of my voice brings the meaning of the word to you and then passes away. The word which the sound has brought to you is now in your heart, and yet it is still also in mine.

When the word has been conveyed to you, does not the sound seem to say: *The word ought to grow, and I should diminish?* The sound of the voice has made itself heard in the service of the word, and has gone away, as though it were saying: *My joy is complete*. Let us hold on to the word; we must not lose the word conceived inwardly in our hearts.

Do you need proof that the voice passes away but the divine Word remains? Where is John's baptism today? It served its purpose, and it went away. Now it is Christ's baptism that we celebrate. It is in Christ that we all believe; we hope for salvation in him. This is the message the voice cried out.

Because it is hard to distinguish word from voice, even John himself was thought to be the Christ. The voice was thought to be the word. But the voice acknowledged what it was, anxious not to give offense to the word. *I am not the Christ*, he said, *nor Elijah, nor the prophet*. And the question came: *Who are you, then?* He replied: *I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way for the Lord.* 

The voice of one crying in the wilderness is the voice of one breaking the silence. Prepare the way for the Lord, he says, as though he were saying: "I speak out in order to lead him into your hearts, but he does not choose to come where I lead him unless you prepare the way for him."

*To prepare the way* means to pray well; it means thinking humbly of oneself. We should take our lesson from John the Baptist. He is thought to be the Christ; he declares he is not what they think. He does not take advantage of their mistake to further his own glory.

If he had said, "I am the Christ," you can imagine how readily he would have been believed, since they believed he was the Christ even before he spoke. But he did not say it; he acknowledged what he was. He pointed out clearly who he was; he humbled himself.

He saw where his salvation lay. He understood that he was a lamp, and his fear was that it might be blown out by the wind of pride.

- From a sermon by Saint Augustine, bishop (b. 354; d. 430 AD)

#### from the pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

Saint Mary's Church will be 175 years old in 2027, and we will celebrate that anniversary with a Mass and grand party on Saturday 6 November 2027. Please put that date in your calendars now!

Because of the destruction of records during the Great Fire of Charleston in 1861 we don't know the exact date on which our parish was founded, but I have chosen November 6th for our celebration because that date will be the 123rd anniversary of the dedication of the first half of our church. The original church stretched from the rear wall of the chancel to the side doors which are now in the middle of the building, and the second half was added fifty years later. Then in 2002 we renovated the entire church during our 150th anniversary year.

During the history of our little corner of the vineyard (long in the history of this nation and short in the history of the Church), Saint Mary's has become a refuge of goodness and peace in the midst of the world, and we are blessed beyond all telling to be the current stewards of such a home for the worship of God, the teaching of divine wisdom, the service of those in need, and the fellowship of disciples who seek companions on the Way of the Lord Jesus. And as stewards of these gifts, it is our sacred duty to preserve and enhance what we have received and then to pass along this green and pleasant parish to future generations.

If you have ever felt your pew seat moving beneath you or struggled to trust a kneeler to do its duty, then you know why we must replace all of the pews and kneelers in the church. And the same is true of the wood wainscoting which runs the length of the building and conceals the HVAC equipment from sight. We must also patch and paint the plaster, and it is well past time to prepare our thirty-four year old organ for its next generation of service.

In addition to those tasks, we at long last need to provide indoor rest rooms and accessible confessionals, along with a nursery that can also serve as a bride's room, and that is why we will build an annex to the church in the green space along the sidewalk of Washington Street. It will connect to the church in the spot now occupied by the confessional on the west side of the building, and that connection will allow access to the rest rooms without going outside or climbing stairs.

I don't know if we can accomplish all of these tasks before our 175th anniversary party on 6 November 2027, but we're going to try! A great deal depends on your generosity to our building fund, and so I appeal to you for support as we approach the end of the year. Everything we do here is made possible by your sacrificial gifts, and I am deeply grateful for your commitment to the mission of this parish church dedicated to the Mother of God under the title of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Father Newman