

# Third Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2016

Rite II:10:00am



St. Mark's Episcopal Church

102 N. 9<sup>th</sup> Street | Haines City, FL 33844

# **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**

**102 N. 9<sup>th</sup> Street Haines City, FL 33844**

**Office: 863-422-1416**

## **TO OUR WORSHIPPERS**

We welcome you to St. Mark's Episcopal Church, the oldest standing building in Haines City, Florida. We hope that you enjoy your worship today. This is a peaceful and beautiful place that God has provided for us to come in thanksgiving and share His love with each other. If you are seeking a place to call home away from your dwelling, please come each week and enjoy the blessings from God our Father and the love that exudes from the people who worship here. If you have any question, please contact one of our ushers or call our office number 863-422-1416.

## **OUR VESTRY**

Annette Ifill, Dawn Strachand, Myrtle John-Frazer, Joslyn Williams, Cheryl Payne, Vernon Reid, Courtland Witcher, Eugene Ralph, and James Moore.

## **OUR CLERGY**

The Rt. Rev. Gregory O. Brewer, D.D.	Bishop
The Rev. Christopher E. Brathwaite	Rector
The Rev. Becky Toalster	Assisting Priest
The Rev. Hugh McGlashon, Jr.	Rector Emeritus
The Rev. Canon Angela Ifill	Priest in Residence
The Rev. Dr. William A. Guthrie	Retired
The Rev. Dorothy Hunter-Spencer	Deacon
Mrs. Joslyn M. Williams	Director of Music

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<https://www.facebook.com/hainescityepiscopalchurch>

Thrift Store information:

863-353-1536

Appointments with Fr. Chris:

407-873-3838

**December 11, 2016**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**Year A    Rite II    10:00 a.m.**

**Prayer of St. Francis:**

**Bulletin p. 11**

**Call to Worship:**

The Lord is in his holy temple, the Lord is in his holy temple;  
Let all the earth keep silence, let all the earth keep silence,  
Let all the earth keep silence before him,  
Keep silence, keep silence before him

**Processional Hymn:**     *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*     **Hymnal 1982 #66**

**Lighting of an Advent Candle:**

Today we light the first, second, and third candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. This first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE, and the third candle is JOY.

*The candles are lit*

Isaiah 55:12 – “You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.”

Let us Pray:

Gracious God, you came to us in human flesh and you abide with us in the Holy Spirit. Fill us with Your JOY, and help us shine as a light to the world. Through Jesus Christ, who makes our JOY complete. *Amen.*

**The Word of God**

Celebrant:            Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People:*             *His mercy endures for ever.*

**Collect of Purity:**    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.*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**Collect of the Day:** 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. **Amen.**

**The Lesson:** Isaiah 35:1-10 *(See back page)*

**Canticle 15:** The Song of Mary

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.  
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 Epistle:** James 5:7-10 *(see back page)*

**The Gradual: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel, verses 1 & 2***

**Hymnal 1982 #56**

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

*People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

**The Gospel:** Matthew 11:2-11

*(see back page)*

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

*People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**The Gradual: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel, verses 3 & 4***

**Hymnal 1982 #56**

**Sermon:** The Rev. Chris Brathwaite

**The Creed:** The Nicene Creed

Let us affirm our faith in the Nicene Creed:

*We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.*

*For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made Man.*

*For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
on the third day he rose again 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.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
with the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
he has spoken through the Prophets.*

*We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

## **The Prayers of the People, Form VI**

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;  
*For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.*

For this community, the nation, and the world; especially for our President, Barak Obama and our President elect, Donald Trump.  
*For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.*

For the just and proper use of your creation;  
*For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.*

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
*For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.*

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
*For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.*

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Greg our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;  
*For all who serve God in his Church.*

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation; especially for those on our prayer list and for the First Responders of this city and all cities.  
*(You may add your own petitions either silently or aloud)*

Hear us, Lord;  
*For your mercy is great.*

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*(You may add your own thanksgivings either silently or aloud)*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

***And praise your Name for ever and ever.***

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*(You may add your own petitions either silently or aloud)*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

***Who put their trust in you.***

**Prayer for Our Parish:** *Heavenly Father, send your Holy Spirit to guide and direct your church as we look to the future with true understanding of the revelation of your promises. Give the leadership the right thinking, speaking and actions, that they in turn may encourage the entire congregation to the richness of your bountiful goodness, so that your Name may be glorified in all we do, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**A Prayer for Our Candidate:** *O God, look with favor on John, whom you have called to a special ministry in your church. Guide him from distractions, protect him from all snares of the evil one, and keep him focused on the journey to ordained ministry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**Confession of Sin:**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

***Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

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

**The Peace:**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*And also with you.*

**Welcome, Notices, Announcements, Birthday/Anniversary Blessings**

**The Offertory Hymn: *Thy Kingdom Come***

**Hymnal 1982 #615**

**The Doxology:**

*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. Amen.*

**The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

*And also with you.*

Lift up your hearts.

*We lift them to the Lord.*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*It is right to give them thanks and praise.*

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:

*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.*

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

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 into subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mark and 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. *Amen.*

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

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*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.*

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*Therefore let us keep the feast.*

**Fraction Anthem:**

*Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.*

*Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.*

*Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:*

*Give us your peace, give us your peace.*

**The Invitation:**

**Celebrant:** The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving

**Communion Hymn:** *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*                      Hymnal 1982 #76

**Prayer after Communion:**

*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.*

**The Blessing:**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

**Recessional Hymn:** *Tell Out My Soul*    Hymnal 1982 #437

**Dismissal:**

Deacon:                      Go in peace to love and serve the Lord and each other.

People:                      **Thanks be to God.**

## **WE PRAY FOR STRENGTH AND HEALING FOR THOSE LISTED:**

Bertram & Norma Branford, Gloria Carter, Laverne Carter, Rachel Doyle, Walter & Monica Foster, Helen Iehl, George Jenkins, Larry Laney, Bonnie McClure, Hugh & Lois McGlashon, Mary Elizabeth Merlin, Helen Millington, Sally Phillips, Jeannette Stokes, Perry T., David Williamson, Robbie Williamson, Aldwyn Ifill, Carolyn Turner, Skip McGlashon, Carol Roh, Elaine John, Oscar Phillips, Ted & Betty Bast, The Rev. Kevin Nourie, and Betty Browne.

## **WE PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES:**

Michael L, Danny S, James W; Ashli A, Jean A, Quinton B, Steve C, Merrill D, Craig J, Bryan S, Andre S; Clark S; Adam C, David M, Casandra R, Patrick S; Betsy C, Anna N; James B; and Chad W. and all other military personnel serving our nation at home or abroad.

## **DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER:**

Pray for Iglesia Episcopal San Cristobal, Orlando and St. John the Baptist Church, Orlando.

## **PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS:**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.



## **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.

## **SECOND LESSON – 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.

## **GOSPEL – Matthew 11:2-11**

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."