

DECEMBER 22, 2024

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



A SERVICE OF HOLY EUCHARIST AT 10 AM DISCOVER MORE AT GODSVIEW.ORG

MINISTERS OF THE SERVICE

The ministers of St. Mary's are all the people of St. Mary's.

Presider: The Rev. Michael Burke, Rector

Preacher: The Rev. Israel Portilla-Gomez, Associate Rector

Gospel Reader: The Rev. Lydia Wilson Readers: Charlene Davis and Thad Hunter

Voice of the People: Deb Kennedy Prayers of the People: Sherrie Simmonds St. Mary's Choir, directed by Annie Nilsson

Organist: Rachel Morgan **Cantor:** Braydon Perrupato

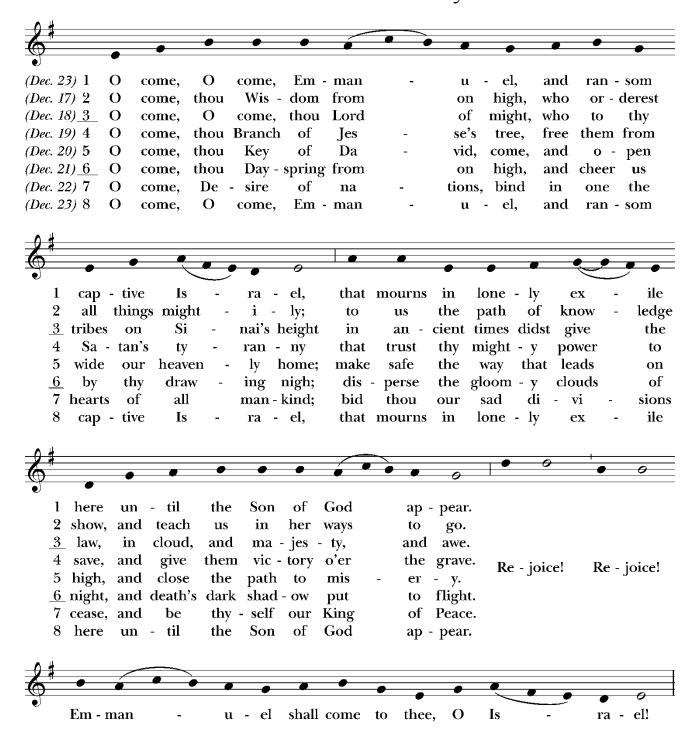
Media Specialists: Seth Eggleston, Timothy Baker and Will Weaver

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE • Rachel Morgan, organ

WELCOME • The Rev. Michael Burke

*OPENING HYMN • O Come, O Come Emmanuel • Hymnal #56, v. 1,2 & 7



The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

*OPENING SENTENCES AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Celebrant We gather on the lands of the Dena'ina people.

People From many places and many peoples we come to this house in prayer.

Celebrant We gather in the presence of God:

People The Creator who is the source of all that is, seen and unseen

Celebrant In hope we walk together with Christ:

People Our Companion who walks with us and with all peoples on the path of

reconciliation.

Celebrant God's Holy Spirit breathes in and through us:

People The Divine Wisdom who transforms us and all life.

Celebrant In this time and place, together, people of God from every language,

culture, and nation:

People We are made new by the holy and life-giving Trinity

*ADVENT CANDLE-LIGHTING

Reader People of God: be glad!

Your God delights in you, giving you joy for sadness and turning the dark to light. Be strong in hope therefore; for your God comes to save.

You are God's children.

People Lord, make us one as we walk with Christ in Joy

today and for ever.

Amen.

The candle lighter lights the second Advent candle.

*GLORIA • Glory to God in the Highest • WLP # 901



SERVICE OF THE WORD

*THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Priest God be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

FIRST READING • Micah 5:2-5a

Reader A Reading from Micah.

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,

who are one of the little clans of Judah,

from you shall come forth for me

one who is to rule in Israel.

whose origin is from of old,

from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time

when she who is in labor has brought forth;

then the rest of his kindred shall return

to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,

in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great

to the ends of the earth;

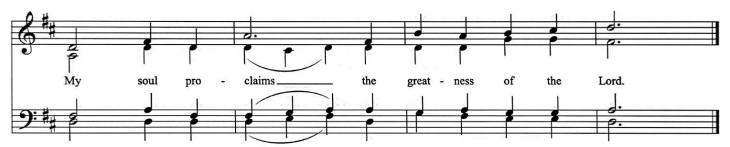
and he shall be the one of peace.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE 15 • Magnificat • Braydon Perrupato, cantor

ANTIPHON



From A HymnTune Psalter, Revised Common Lectionary Edition © 2007 by Carl P. Daw, Jr. and Kevin R. Hackett. Church Publishing Incorporated.

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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.

ANTIPHON (ALL SING)

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.

ANTIPHON (ALL SING)

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.

ANTIPHON (ALL SING)

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy, The promise he has made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever.

ANTIPHON (ALL SING)

SECOND READING • Hebrews 10:5-10

Reader A Reading from Hebrews.

When Christ came into the world, he said,

"Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,

but a body you have prepared for me;

in burnt offerings and sin offerings

you have taken no pleasure.

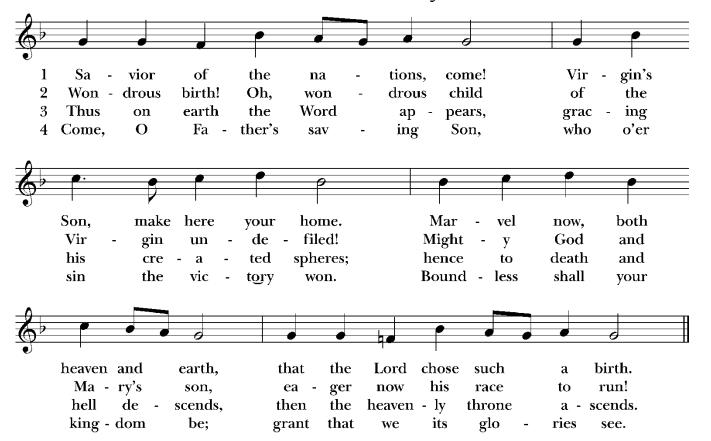
Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL HYMN • Savior of the Nations, Come • Hymnal #54, v. 1,2, and 4



*GOSPEL • Luke 1:39-45(46-55)

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Priest

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

[And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

for the Mighty One has done great things for me,

and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him

from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,

and lifted up the lowly;

he has filled the hungry with good things,

and sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel,

in remembrance of his mercy,

according to the promise he made to our ancestors,

to Abraham and to his descendants forever."]

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Silence

THE SERMON • The Rev. Israel Portilla-Gomez

*NICENE CREED • BCP, p. 358

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

As we come to the time of the prayers of the people, I invite you to stand or kneel as you are able. There will be a brief time to share our own prayers aloud, if you wish you may also leave your prayers in the offering basket when it is passed so that it can be delivered to our prayer team to be prayed over by the congregation throughout the week. For those online your prayers as well will be delivered to the prayer team, even if they are not read aloud.

Pause before continuing.

In hope we pray to God our Creator.

Silence

O God, who sent to us our Savior, whose Body is your Church, grant that all who wait for Christ may be united in your truth, live in your peace, and reveal your love to the world.

Silence.

God, in your mercy;

Hear our prayer.

O God, whose Kingdom holds heaven and earth as one, grant our leaders and all in authority would be convicted to love justice and govern rightly so that all people might live in safety; and where there is oppression, injustice, and inequity, we pray that your light would show forth and that the world might be healed.

Silence.

God, in your mercy;

Hear our prayer.

O God, whose Spirit comes among us to inspire and to restore, grant peace, healing, and hope to the sick, the hungry, the naked, and the imprisoned; the migrant, the refugee, the unemployed, and the unhoused; those who are victims of violence, those who struggle with mental health, and those whose lives are overtaken by turmoil and chaos.

Silence.

God, in your mercy;

Hear our prayer.

O God, who created this lovely world, grant to your people the desire, the knowledge and the determination to be proper stewards of the earth, that all may share in your bounty and your peace.

Silence.

God, in your mercy;

Hear our prayer.

O God, who knows our needs and concerns, and cares for us even as you care for the birds of the air and the flower in the field, we lift up these petitions that weigh on our hearts this week.

Silence, the people may add their own prayers or petitions here.

God, in your mercy;

Hear our prayer.

O God, who brings us the living water and leads us to eternal life, grant to the dying and those who mourn your comfort and your peace.

Silence.

God, in your mercy;

Hear our prayer.

Silence may be kept.

A Priest says

Together, praying,

Minister and People

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.

A Priest says

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

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The people greet each other in the name of the Lord.

Service of Holy communion

OFFERTORY

Offerings toward the work and ministry of St. Mary's may be made by texting **StMarysAK** to **73256**, at **GodsView.org**, or by using this QR code:



OFFERTORY ANTHEM • Still, Still, Still • an Austrian Carol, arr. Luboff

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise God, all creatures here below, Praise God above, ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

*PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

People And of thine own have we given thee.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.

Celebrant:

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Creator,

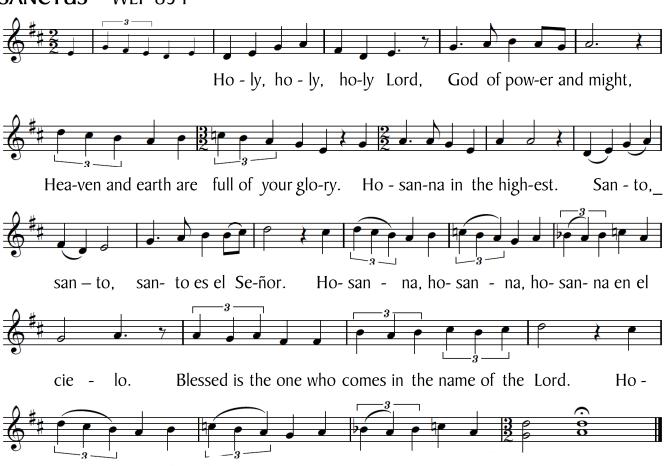
through Jesus Christ your Son.

For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh, he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world to open for us the way of salvation.

Confident that your promise will be fulfilled, we now watch for the day when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.

And so we join our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven to proclaim your glory for ever praising you and *singing*:

SANCTUS • WLP 854



na, ho - san - na en

el

cie - lo.

A priest continues

san

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life.

ho - san

na,

You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness. and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life. On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

A priest says Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith: Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

A priest continues

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine.

By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your children, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. *AMEN*.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Priest As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray, each in the language of their heart.

People and Celebrant

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,

The Lord's Prayer in Deg Xinag

Dinaxito' ngi'ezre' yan' ngizrenh. Yitots'in' yoye dhedo.

Yitots'in ngutl'ogh xiye Tr'ididl'tth'e.

Go dranh nighantl'itthin dinadhong he' on.

Tr'ixet'ixdi xits'in' dinatighelalin. (Yitots'in) trixet'xdi xits'in Dinak'odz xudingilnek

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

now and forever. Amen.

Priest Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

ALL ARE WELCOME AT THE LORD'S TABLE

This is Christ's Banquet. It is made ready for those who love God, and for those who want to love God more.

So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often, and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow, and you who feel you have failed.

Come, because it is Christ who invites you.

COMMUNION HYMN • Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding • Hymnal #59



*THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

After Communion, a priest says
Let us pray.
Priest and People
Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food

in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.

Now send us forth
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

BLESSING

SENDING OUT EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

| Celebrant: (Name), | in the name of this congregation, we send you to share our |
|--------------------|--|
| Eucharist with | May you take the prayers of all of us as you deliver the |
| sacrament of Chris | st's presence. |

All: We who are many are one body, because we all share in the one cup!

Celebrant: Go forth in the name of God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS

Watch over your child, O God, as their days increase; bless and guide them where ever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful, raise them up if they fall; and in their heart may your peace which passes understanding, abide all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANNIVERSARIES

Send, O God, your blessing upon these your servants. Sustain them in their love and commitment to each other, that their home may be a place of peace and hospitality now and always. Amen.

SOBRIETY

Bless, O God, your servant in their work of recovery; defend them in their sobriety; and bless them with strength and wisdom now and always. Amen.

WORK TRANSITION OR RETIREMENT

Gracious God, we thank you for the work and witness of your servant who has enriched this community and brought gladness to friends and family; now bless and preserve them at this time of transition. Guide them in the continued use of your gifts; provide sustenance for temporal and spiritual needs, friends to cheer

the way, and a clear vision of the ministry to which you are now calling them. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

BLESSING SONG

May the blessing of God be upon you, the blessing of the Father and the Son. And may the Spirit of God, the Spirit of Love*, be with you all your days.

*Spirit of Peace [second verse]

*RECESSIONAL HYMN • Lo! He Comes With Clouds Descending • Hymnal #57



DISMISSAL

Priest Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a child,

and shall call his name Emmanuel As we await our coming Savior Let us walk in the Joy of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE • Rachel Morgan, organ

St. Mary's Christmas Services

December 24 at 4:00 pm: Family Christmas Service December 24 at 9:00 pm: Christmas Eve Service December 25 at 10:00 am: Christmas Day Service December 29 at 10:00 am: Lessons and Carols

Visit GodsView.org for more information!

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GROUPS CURRENTLY ACTIVE AT ST. MARY'S

Call (907)563-3341 or visit GodsView.org for more information

Short Informal Service, followed by breakfast – Wed. mornings 7:00 -7:20 am

Men's Small Group Bible Study – Thurs. mornings 7:00 - 8:00 am

Fierce Women's Bible Study – Mondays at 6:00 pm

Afternoon Bible Study (Book of Job) – Fridays at 1:00 pm

Women's Book Group

Christian dream work and reflection groups

Taizé-style worship – Third Thursdays at 7pm in the Chapel (in the A-frame)

Scouts, for info call Brad Sewell, 346-4314

Women's Knitting Circle

Bazaar Team (craft making, jams, jellies, fabric art). Times vary throughout year

Sunday Morning Adult Christian Formation, various times, Waldron Hall

Sr. High Youth Group activities, trips and events, various times

Jr. High Youth Group activities, trips and events, various times

Sunday School, ages 4-19 Sundays 11:30 am-12:30 pm downstairs level

Godly Play (Montessori-based exploration of the stories of Jesus (ages 4 and up),

Sundays, 10 am, downstairs level

Sanctuary Choir, Rehearse Wednesdays 6:15 – 7:15 pm

Praise Singers roots music group. Rehearse Wednesdays 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Christians for Equality (Social Justice) Meets monthly 563-3341 ext. 14 for info

Anchorage Faith and Action – Congregations Together. Community organizing.

St. Mary's Creative Playschool events

Numerous events at The Thomas Center for Senior Leadership

And various retreats, workshop, presentations, outreach teams, & celebrations all year long. Looking for community, fellowship, and service? Come join us!

PARTNERS in SERVICE: In 2023-2024, St. Mary's has partnered with over seventy-five groups and organizations through a combination of joint programing, provision of services, building use, or pastoral care services or funding.

Abused Women's Aid in Crisis (AWAIC)

Alaskans for Better Choices / Volunteers

of America (DUI re-education / victim

impact panels)

Alaska Coalition to End Homelessness

Best Beginnings (early childhood

education)

Standing Together Against Rape

Partners in Homeless Education

United Thank Offering (UTO)

Malawi Children's Village

Children's Lunchbox – Hunger Program

The Episcopal Diocese of AK

Episcopal Native Ministries

Faith Into Tomorrow

Diocesan Investment Committee

Commission on Ministry

South Central Deanery

Episcopal Prison Ministry

Fellowship In Serving Humanity

Helping Hand Bags

P.L.UM.E. Ecumenical Ministry

Nkope School for the Blind

Dancing in the Spirit Ministries

Numerous 12-Step recovery groups:

St. Mary's Creative Playschool

Alaska Native Medical Center

pastoral care department

Brother Francis Shelter

Beans Café

99+ I (Homelessness)

First Christian Church After School

Program

Nasenga Primary School (Malawi)

The Anchorage Gospel Rescue Mission

Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness

Heifer Project International

Nets for Life (Malaria Prevention)

Episcopal Relief and Development

Older Persons Action Group

Christians For Equality

Homeward Bound / Karluk Manor

Hope Community Resources

Anchorage Interfaith Council

Sand Lake parishes- Malawi, Africa

Identity, Inc. – civil rights

The Alaska Christian Conference

Thomas Center for Senior Leadership

Red Cross - Disaster Relief

New Chance Ministries Ukrainian

Refugee Relief

The Lullaby Project at Hiland Mountain

Bread for the World

Open Arms Orphan Nursery (Malawi)

Choosing Our Roots (COR)

Arciniega Productions Youth Program

Covenant House Alaska

Henning, Inc. (Homelessness)

AK Cubs Closet (kids and families)

St. Mary's Rapid Rehousing Fund

The Queen's Guard

Knitters of the North

Community Yoga for Elders

Girdwood Chapel

Hospice of Anchorage

I-Act Little Ripples Program

PILA Global (kids at the border)

AK Correctional Ministries

Assist Ukraine (refugees)

Underground Pride

Water.org (safe water - developing

world)

Magic Yarn Project (kids w/cancer)

Newborns in Need – AK Chapter

Cafecito Bonito

Anchor Gardens

Facing Foster Care

Cub Scouts / Scouting

Tudor Elementary School

The Alaska Conference of the United

Methodist Church

Inside Out Faith



THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

December 22-29, 2024

Scan QR code or visit



https://www.GodsView.org/newsletter-signup/ to sign up for our weekly newsletter

<u>Sunday</u>, <u>December 22 – 4th Sunday of</u> Advent

8 am Service of Holy Eucharist Chapel

9 am Christian Formation Cay's Room & classrooms

10 am Service of Holy Eucharist Sanctuary & online; ID 940 3189 1877

10 am Christmas Pageant Rehearsals Various classrooms

11:20 am Fellowship Hour Waldron Hall

4 pm Evening Prayer Sanctuary

Monday, December 23

No scheduled church events

Tuesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

4:00 pm **Christmas Pageant and Service** Sanctuary

9 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Vigil

Service

with organ choir, Sanctuary & online; ID 940 3189 1877

Wednesday, December 25 – Christmas <u>Day</u>

10 am Christmas Day Service with piano & guitar, Sanctuary

Thursday, December 26

No scheduled church events

Friday, December 27

I pm Book of Job Bible Study Cay's Room

Saturday, December 28

No scheduled church events

Sunday, December 29

8 am Service of Holy Eucharist Chapel

10 am Service of Lessons & Carols with

Eucharist

Sanctuary & online; ID 940 3189 1877

11:20 am Fellowship Hour Waldron Hall

4 pm Evening Prayer Sanctuary

