DECEMBER 29, 2024 FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS



A Service of Holy Eucharist at 10 am LESSONS AND CAROLS



St. Mary's is a community of delight and service, rooted in the love of God made known in the world around us and in the way of Jesus. This place is open to all -- no matter what questions you have, or where you find yourself on your spiritual journey. Our prayer is that we may be for you a place of healing, delight, meaningful community, and flourishing life.

Delighting in This World
Here. Now. As It Is. As You Are. As We Are.

Working toward God's Dream

For Everyone. For Everything. All the Time.

Especially to those whose experience with religion has not been life-giving, please know that there is hope and life and laughter beyond the pain of the past. The healing power of God's grace and love gives birth to a world of promise and hope--a world worth delighting in. Here. Now. As it is. As you are. As we are.

Blessings and peace to you.

GROUPS CURRENTLY ACTIVE AT ST. MARY'S

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

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

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

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

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 11:30am-12:30pm 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 – 7:15pm

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

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!

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

Welcome!

We are glad that you are here today.

We hope that you feel right at home.

Whether you are new to St. Mary's or an old timer:

Relax; you are among friends.

Lift your heart and voice to the God who loves you.

However you found us, and by whatever means you are here, we are delighted to share this Way with you. If you'd like more information about St. Mary's, or would like a call from our clergy, please let us know - either in person, or by visiting www.GodsView.org/Connect/.



MINISTERS OF THE SERVICE

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

Officiant: The Rev. Michael Burke, Rector

Readers: Rich Dyson and Deb Kennedy

Voice of the People: Charlene Davis

The St. Mary's Choir, directed by Annie Nilsson

Organist: Rachel Morgan

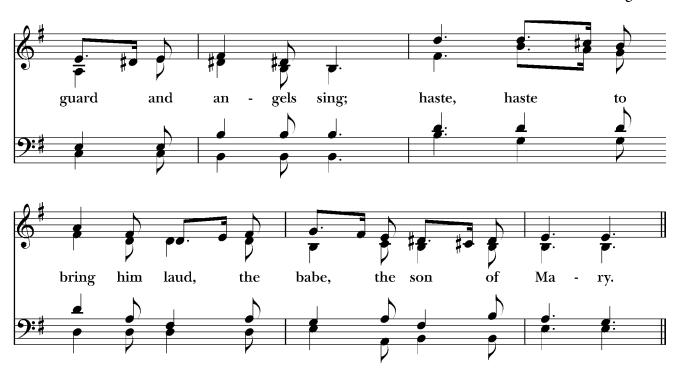
Media Specialists: Seth Eggleston, Timothy Baker, and Will Weaver

GATHERING MUSIC • God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen, v. 1-3 • Hymnal #105



GATHERING MUSIC • What Child is This? (Greensleeves) • Hymnal #115







GATHERING MUSIC • Go Tell it on the Mountain • Hymnal #99



GATHERING IN THE NAME OF GOD

WELCOME • The Rev. Michael Burke

OPENING HYMN • *Angels We Have Heard on High, v. 1-3* • Hymnal #96

-music on next page-





*OPENING SENTENCES

Celebrant We meet in the name of God:

People Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Celebrant The God of glory be with you

People The God of glory bless you.

Celebrant From mist and darkness, from restful waters

People God gathers us.

Celebrant From health and sickness, from-plenty and poverty

People *God gathers us.*

Celebrant From highroads and byways, from fields and cities

People God gathers us.

Celebrant To a feast, a banquet, to life eternal People God invites us to the Way of Love.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

*THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Priest God be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

FIRST READING • Isaiah 11:1-2, 4, 6, 9

Reader A Reading from Isaiah.

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,

and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,

the spirit of wisdom and understanding,

the spirit of counsel and might,

the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

With righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

The wolf shall live with the lamb,

the leopard shall lie down with the kid,

the calf and the lion and the fatling together,

and a little child shall lead them.

They will not hurt or destroy

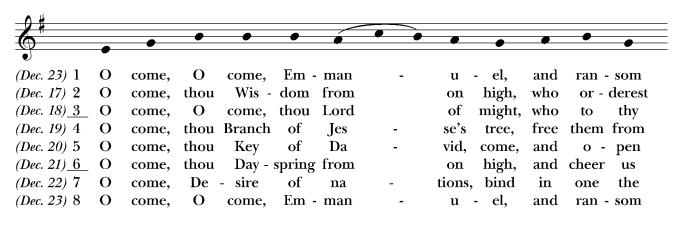
on all my holy mountain;

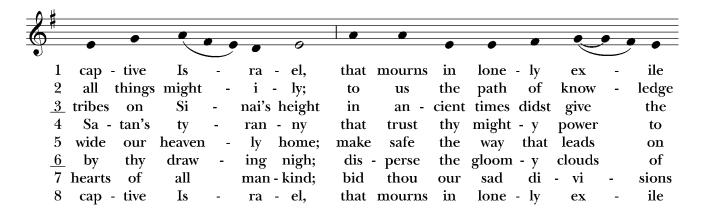
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

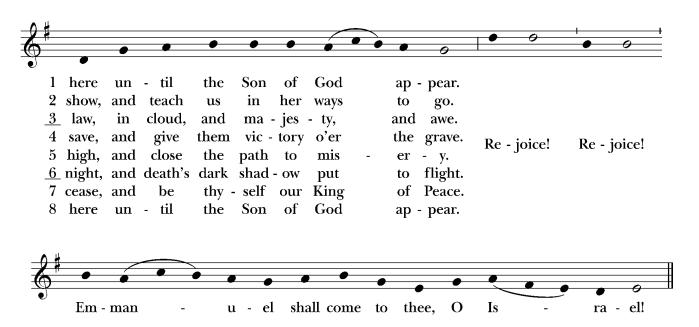
Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

CAROL • O Come, O Come Emmanuel, v. 1, 2, 7 • Hymnal # 56







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

SECOND READING • Luke 1:26-33

Reader A reading from Luke.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.'

Reader The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God.

CAROL • The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came (Gabriel's Message), v. 1-3 • H #265



THIRD READING • Luke 2:1-7

Reader A reading from Luke.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Reader The Word of the Lord People Thanks be to God.

CAROL • O Little Town of Bethlehem, v. 1-3 • Hymnal #79

-music on next page-



FOURTH READING • Luke 2:8-20

Reader A reading from Luke.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Reader The Word of the Lord People Thanks be to God.

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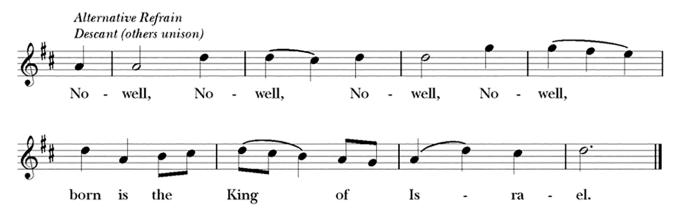
CAROL • The First Noel, v. 1-4 • Hymnal #109





6 Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord; that hath made heaven and earth of nought, and with his blood our life hath bought.

Refrain



FIFTH READING • John 1:1-14, 16

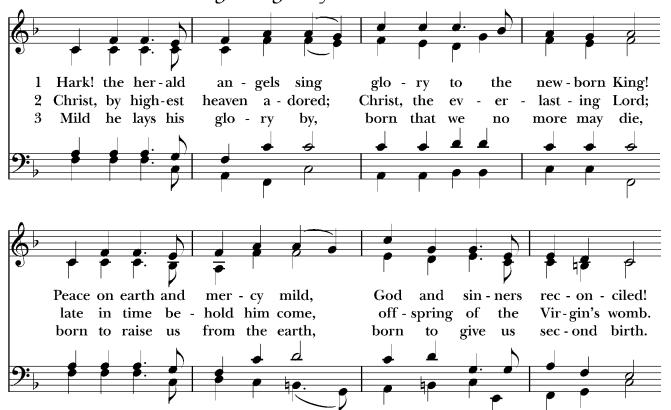
Reader A reading from John.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. 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. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

Reader The Word of the Lord People Thanks be to God.

CAROL • Hark, the Herald Angels Sing! • Hymnal #87





THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of God be always with you.

People And also with you.

The People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

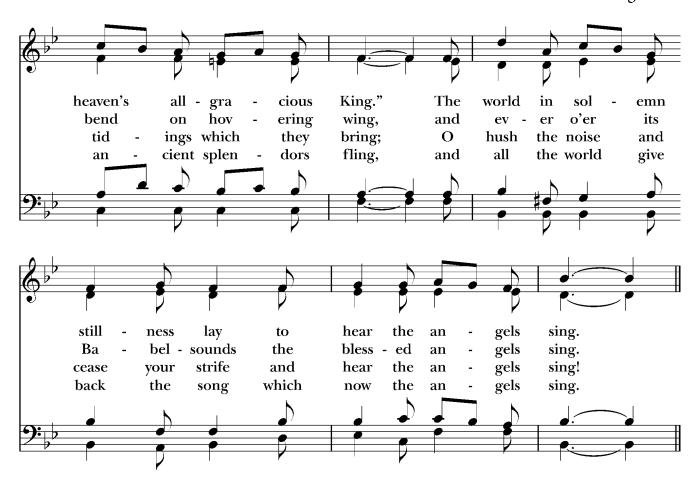
OFFERTORY

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



OFFERTORY HYMN • It Came Upon a Midnight Clear, v. 1, 2, 4 • Hymnal #109





*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise God, all creatures here below, Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts, 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 is here.

People God's Spirit is with us.

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 God thanks and praise.

A Celebrant continues

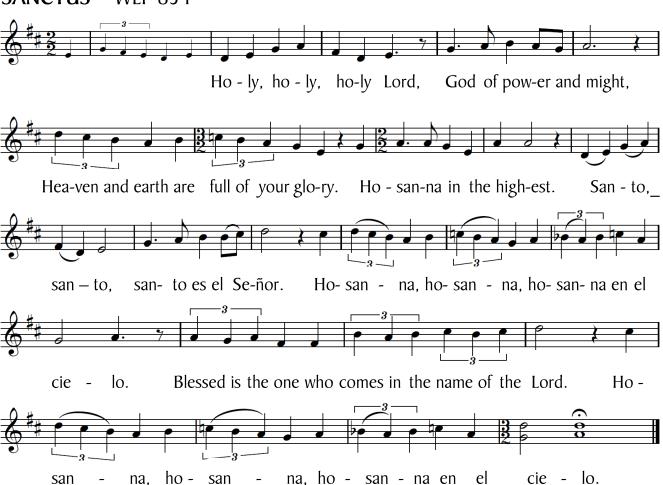
Indeed it is right to give you thanks and praise, O God: out of chaos and darkness you have created light and an abundance of life.

From the depths of winter, the new life of spring and the warmth of summer, you bring forth a harvest of bounty. Your world is indeed good.

Through your Son, who lived and worked, wept and laughed among us, you were one with us in human flesh. You sent your Spirit to bring new life to tired bones and souls, causing living water to spring from dry, thirsty places and putting a new song on our lips.

So, together with all your saints and angels, with prophets and martyrs, the living and the departed, we sing to you a hymn of unending praise...

*SANCTUS • WLP 854



Glory and honor to you, God of life, for the gift of Jesus our Lord. Christ is the first fruit of your creation, with you before time, bringing all to completion through his death on a cross. By your power you raised him: evil can never overcome your love. You set us free to be your body, serving you in the world.

On the night before he died, knowing that his time had come, while at supper with his disciples, Jesus took bread, gave you thanks, and broke it, saying:

'Take, eat. This is my Body, broken for you.'

After supper he took the cup, gave you thanks, and gave it to them, saying:

'Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this to remember me.'

We do now what Christ taught us: we remember his death and resurrection and look forward to that day when all will be complete in him. We offer ourselves and all that we are: our gifts and talents, our strengths and weaknesses, to the glory and honour of your name.

Celebrant Christ is the bread of life:

People when we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,

until you come in glory.

A Celebrant continues Merciful God, send now, in kindness, your Holy Spirit to settle upon this bread and wine and bless them with the fullness of Jesus.

People And let that same Spirit rest on us, too, converting us from the patterns of this world, until we become more like Jesus, whose food we now share.

AMEN.

Priest As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

Responses from the People in bold and italic

God's love reaches out to us

Our Father in heaven

This place is sacred ground.

Hallowed be your name

May our lives reflect God's glory:

Your kingdom come

May our thoughts reflect God's thoughts

Your will be done

We long for deep peace:

On earth as it is in heaven.

Love blesses life, knowing earth will provide.

Give us this day our daily bread

Where love falls short:

Forgive our sin

Let justice prevail.

As we forgive those who sin against us

Prevent the chaos that leads to wrong-doing:

Lead us not into temptation

For grace is strong where freedom is found.

And deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

A Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Then is said

The living bread is broken for the life of the world.

Lord, unite us in this sign.

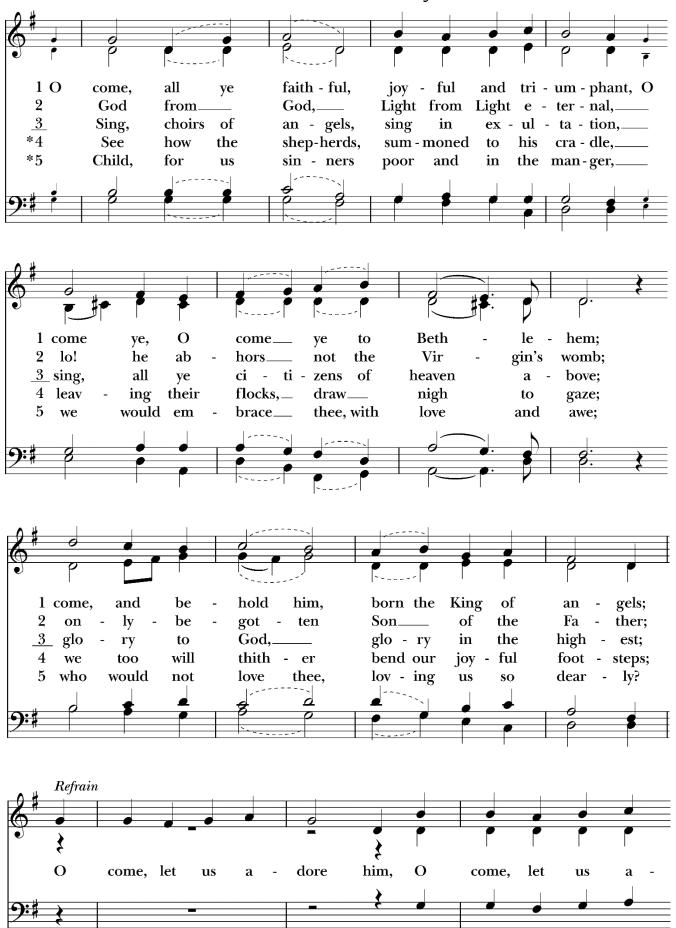
Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following invitation

This is the table, not of the church, but of the Lord. 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; Come, it is the invitation of the Lord. It is God's will we should meet God here together, as one body.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

-Communion Hymn on next page-

COMMUNION HYMN • O Come, All Ye Faithful • Hymnal #83



THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray Celebrant and People

In gratitude, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, all who are gathered here, seen and unseen, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the Living Bread and cannot remain the same.

Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us.

So, Lord, may we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of earth and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. We have broken your bread and received your life. By the power of your Spirit keep us always in your way of love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant continues with the following versicles, the people responding

Christ's food in our souls

Our food shared like Christ's;

Christ's life in our hands

Our lives shaped by the Spirit;

Christ's love in our hearts

Our love warmed by God;

Christ's peace on our path

Our path following God's way of Love.

-Music for the Peace on next page-

MUSIC FOR THE PEACE • Silent Night, v. 1 and 3 • Hymnal #111



BLESSING

A priest blesses the people, saying

May Christ our infant saviour give you the joy of the Bethlehem shepherds,

the awe of the worshipping sages,

and the humility and love of the holy family.

May the blessing of God our Creator, Redeemer, and Give of life be with you always. *Amen.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements and Coming Events

Fellowship Hour - Advent Treats: Christmas Cookies

following the service in Waldron Hall

Holiday Closures

The church office will be closed on December 25 and January I

First Sunday Breakfast

9 am Sunday, January 5 Waldron Hall **Christmas Services**

Christmas Eve

4 pm Family Service and Pageant9 pm Candlelight Service

Christmas Day

10 am service with music

Sunday, December 29

10 am Service of Lessons and Carols

Check your newsletter for more information on coming events!

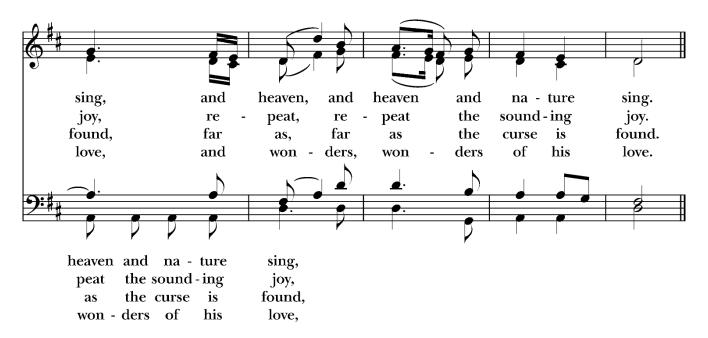


Image from Summer 2024 from the Yukon Island Youth Retreat. Photo by Gretchen.

-Recessional Hymn on next page-

RECESSIONAL HYMN • Joy to the World! v. 1, 2, 4 • Hymnal #100





DISMISSAL

A minister says

Tend the earth, care for God's good creation, and bring forth the fruits of righteousness.

The Eucharist is ended, our service now begins.

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God. Amen.



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GOT BAPTISM?

For people of all ages, Holy Baptism is a foundational part of becoming a follower of Jesus and a member of the community. If you would like more information, or to have a conversation about this important step in faith, please email Rev. Michael at Michael@GodsView.org.



We are preparing now for baptisms of both children and adults after New Year's, so you are "right on time." We'll have sessions for preparation beginning in January, and baptisms and renewal of baptisms will take place on Baptism of our Lord Sunday, January 12, at the 10am Service of Holy Eucharist.

Poinsettia Dedications

LeAnne Allgaier

In thanksgiving for the people of St. Mary's

Al and Sally Alvarez

In thanksgiving for the people of St. Mary's

Jeri and Bill Anderson

In thanksgiving for Karol Libbey and St. Mary's In memory of Bob Libbey

Michael, Nancy, Jesse, and Cassidy Burke In thanksgiving for the people of St. Mary's

Charlene Davis

In thanksgiving for Elliott & Charlotte Crowell, my parents

Anne Donaghy

In memory of Tay and Lowell Thomas

Amy Lindsey

In thanksgiving for my beautiful family

Jann and Bob Sherrill

In memory of Doris and Herb Sherrill, Caroleena Sherrill, Jim Schilling, and Diana Schilling

Barbara Stek

In memory of my parents

Donald (Mark) Williams

In memory of Billie and Quin Williams

Emily Low

In memory of Margaret Weisenfluh

Karol Libbey

In memory of Bob Libbey

Jack and Sherrie Simmonds

In memory of Sherrie and Jack Simmond's parents,

Bill and Beverly Sandberg, Les Simmonds, and Verna Vel.

Dave and Jill Rush

In memory of Jill's parents Nick and Helen Ebacher

In memory of Dave's parents Betty Rush and David Rush Sr.

Gus and Alice Smith

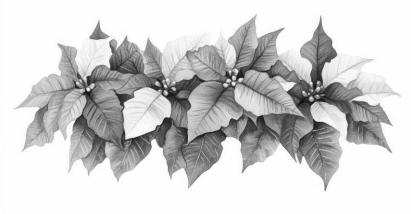
In memory of Dr. Elaine Graham

Gretchen Guess

In memory of Carolyn Guess

Lois Rockcastle

In memory of Glenn and Carolyn Rockcastle, Howard Nichols, Marilynn Robinson Anderson, Ross Robinson, and Marilyn and Dr. Andrew Noble



THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

December 29, 2024-January 5, 2025

Visit https://www.godsview.org/newsletter-signup/ to sign up for our newsletter

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

Monday, December 30

No scheduled church events

<u>Tuesday, December 31 – New</u> Year's Eve

No scheduled church events

<u>Wednesday, January 1 – New</u> <u>Year's Day</u>

7 am Service of Holy Eucharist Sanctuary & online; ID 584 949 088

Thursday, January 2

7 am **Men's Group** Waldron Hall

Friday, January 3

I pm Book of Job Bible Study Cay's Room

Saturday, January 4

No scheduled church events

Sunday, January 5- Eve of the Epiphany

8 am Service of Holy Eucharist Chapel

9 am **First Sunday Breakfast** Waldron Hall

10 am Service of Holy

Eucharist

Sanctuary & online; ID 940 3189 1877

11:20 am Fellowship Hour Waldron Hall

4 pm **Evening Prayer** Sanctuary