

ST. JAMES PARISH CHURCH

Holetown, St. James, Barbados

TO BE A BEACON RADIATING GOD'S LOVE AMONG ALL PEOPLE

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2024



***Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.***



Sunday, December 22, 2024

7:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Sermon

9:15 a.m. Sung Holy Eucharist and Sermon

All services: The Advent Wreath Lighting Ceremony

Rector: The Rev. Canon Beverley Sealy-Knight

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

THE OPENING

ADVENT WREATH CEREMONY

COLLECT FOR PURITY

THE KYRIES

THE COLLECT

LITURGY OF THE WORD

1ST READING: MICAH 5: 2-5A

7:15 A.M. MARCIA GRAHAM

9:15 A.M. SHAWNDELLE POLLARD

CANTICLE 15: THE SONG OF MARY

2ND READING HEBREWS 10:5-10

7:15 A.M. FELICIA CORBIN

9:15 A.M. RANDALL POLLARD

THE GOSPEL LUKE 1:39-45

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

INTERCESSION

7:15 A.M. EDWARDINE CLARKE

9:15 A.M. SANDRA LEACOCK

ACT OF PENITENCE

THE ABSOLUTION

GREETING OF PEACE

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS

SURSUM CORDA

PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

AGNUS DEI

THE ADMINISTRATION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER LIST

3	ALLISTAIR ABRAHAM
4	LORNA ALLEYNE
5	HENRY BANNISTER
5	MARION BICKLEY
5	PETER BOURNE
5	SALLY BOURNE
	ANTOINETTE BUTCHER
	NOREEN COWARD
6	SHIRLEY FIELDS
	JEREMY FORBES
8	ENA GOODING
	JUDITH GRAZETTE
9	SHEILA HATCH
	CHARLIE HEATH
11	YVONNE INNISS
	RAYN JOHNSON
12	MILDRED PAYNE
	MURA PAYNE
	IOTHA RILEY
	FRANCIS ROCK
	THELMA ROCK
13	VIOLA ROCK
14	JENNY ROUSE
14	MONA ROUSE
	RALPH SHEPHERD
16	MICHAEL SMITH
17	DAISY STUART
17	SHARON TROTMAN
	FRANCISCA WILKIE

21 *The St. James' Church
Family would like to
18 extend a blessed
21 welcome to all today.
A special welcome is
22 given to our visitors.
23 May this service be an
24 inspiration to all.
25*

ORGAN PRELUDE

ORGANIST: DR. PHILIP FORDE, FRCO

THE ADVENT WREATH CEREMONY

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

WEEK 4: LOVE

CELEBRANT: Today we will light the fourth candle in our Advent wreath.

LEADER: Before we do that, we remember God's blessings, symbolized by the candles of Hope, Peace and Joy.

(Light the first three candles again.)

LEADER: The fourth candle helps us to remember that God is love.

(Light the fourth candle.)

LEADER: The Bible tells us that the greatest blessing is love. It is because God loved the world so much that Jesus came to share God's love. Mary sings her song in praise of God's love and goodness. Because God loves us, we must love and care for others. This candle reminds us to share our love with others through words and actions.

ALL: Loving God, thank you for expressing your love through the life of Jesus, through our lives, and the lives of those around us. Help us to remember that your love will never end. Amen

OPENING SENTENCE: ADVENT

Jesus says, "Surely I am coming soon!" Amen. Come,
Lord Jesus!

Revelation 22. 20

INTROIT HYMN: 39

1. Creator of the starry height,
thy people's everlasting Light,
Jesu, Redeemer of us all,
hear thou thy servants when they call.
2. Thou, sorrowing at the helpless cry
of all creation doomed to die,
didst come to save our fallen race
by healing gifts of heavenly grace.
3. When earth was near its evening hour,
thou didst, in love's redeeming power,
like bridegroom from his chamber, come
forth from a Virgin-mother's womb.
4. At thy great name, exalted now,
all knees in lowly homage bow;
all things in heaven and earth adore,
and own thee King forevermore.
5. To thee, O Holy One, we pray,
our Judge in that tremendous day,
ward off, while yet we dwell below,
the weapons of our crafty foe.
6. To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,

praise, honour, might, and glory be
from age to age eternally.

PRESIDENT:

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Alleluia!
Alleluia!

ALL:

And blessed be His Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

The following may be said by the President and people:

ALL:

Blessed Lord and Father, we have assembled in your name and in fellowship with one another. Enable us by your grace to offer the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; to proclaim and respond to your holy word. Teach us to pray for your world and your Church. Grant that we, confessing our sins, may worthily offer to you our souls and bodies as a living sacrifice and eat and drink of your spiritual food in this Holy Sacrament.
Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

ALL:

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.

THE KYRIES

Lord, have mercy.	Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.	Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.	Lord, have mercy.

THE COLLECT: THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON - MICAH 5:2-5A

Micah has told of the humiliation and difficulties Israel must experience in the near future, but he has written that later God will give them victory over their enemies. A shepherd-king will be born of David's line, and put an end to their oppression.

A Reading from the Word of God, found in the book of the prophet Micah, Chapter 5, beginning at the second verse.

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.

The Word of the Lord

The people: Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE 15

The Song of Mary: The Magnificat

*Mary offers a song of praise to God who has looked
with favor on her and who has lifted up the lowly and
brought down the powerful.*

Luke 1:46-55

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 shall be forever. **Amen.**

THE SECOND LESSON: HEBREWS 10:5-10

Under Jewish law, each year the high priest entered

the Holy of Holies on the Day of Atonement to offer sacrifices for the forgiveness of certain sins, but Christ's sacrifice, his total self-offering, once and for all on the Cross, renders continuation of these sacrifices unnecessary.

A reading from the Word of God, written in the Epistle to the Hebrews, Chapter 10, beginning at the fifth verse.

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.

The Word of the Lord

The people: Thanks be to God.

HYMN FOR THE GRADUAL: 752

1. Virgin-born! we bow before Thee!
blessed was the Maid who bore Thee,
Mary, maid and Mother mild,
Blessed was she in her Child
2. Blessed was the breast that fed Thee,
blessed was the hand that led Thee;
blessed was the parent's eye,
That watched Thy slumbering infancy.
3. Blessed she by all creation
Who brought forth the world's salvation;
And blessed they – for ever blest,
Who love Thee most and serve Thee best.
4. Virgin-born, we bow before Thee!
blessed was the womb that bore Thee
Mary, Maid and mother mild,
blessed was she in her Child.

THE GOSPEL - LUKE 1:39-45

As an angel foretold, Elizabeth is now six months pregnant with John the Baptist, and her relative Mary carries Jesus, foretold to be the Son of God, in her womb. God will make Jesus a king of David's line; he will rule Israel for ever.

Gospeler: *The Lord be with you*

All: *And also with you*

Gospeler: *A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.*

All: *Glory to Christ Our Saviour.*

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."

This is the Gospel of Christ

The people: *Praise to Christ our Lord.*

(NRSV)

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is seen or 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,
one in 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 was born of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered, died and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in fulfilment of 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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshipped
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 INTERCESSION

7:15 A.M. EDWARDINE CLARKE: FORM A

9:15 A.M. SANDRA LEACOCK: FORM B:

LEADER: Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

ALL: That we all may be one.

LEADER: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

ALL: That your Name may be glorified by all people.

LEADER: We pray for all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons;

ALL: That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

LEADER: We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

ALL: That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

LEADER: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

ALL: That our works may find favour in your sight.

LEADER: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

ALL: That they may be delivered from their distress.

LEADER: Give to the departed eternal rest;

ALL: Let light perpetual shine upon them.

LEADER: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

ALL: May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

LEADER: Let us pray for our needs and those of others.

ALL: Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords to your will; and the good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE ACT OF PENITENCE

PRESIDENT:

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(1 John 1: 8 - 9)

PRESIDENT:

Let us therefore confess our sins.

ALL: Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and one another, in thought, word and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are sorry and repent of all our sins. For your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your Name. *Amen.*

THE ABSOLUTION**PRESIDENT:**

Almighty God, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE**PRESIDENT:**

We are the Body of Christ. By the one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body, and have all been made to drink of the one Spirit.

ALL:

Let us then pursue the things that make for peace and build up the common life.

PRESIDENT: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

ALL: And also with you.

LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH

Let there be peace on earth,
And let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth
The peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Father
Brothers all are we.
Let me walk with my brother
In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me
Let this be the moment now.
With every step I take
Let this be my solemn vow.
To take each moment
And live each moment
With peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth,
And let it begin with me.

**ANTHEM BY THE CHOIR:
THE ANGEL GABRIEL**

HYMN FOR THE OFFERTORY: 48

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel;
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

2. O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave.

Refrain

3. O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.

Refrain

4. O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.

Refrain

5. O come, O come, thou Lord of Might,
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty, and awe.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS

PRESIDENT: AND PEOPLE:

Father, we offer you these gifts which you have given us: this bread, this wine, this money. With them we offer ourselves, our lives, and our work, to become through your Holy Spirit a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice. As this bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ, so may we and all your people become channels of your love; through the same Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

PRESIDENT: The Lord be with you

ALL: And also with you

PRESIDENT: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.

PRESIDENT: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

PRESIDENT:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Father almighty, everlasting God:

ADVENT

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in Him of eternal 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

ALL:

**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!**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER - FORM C:

PRESIDENT:

We give thanks to you, Lord our God,
for the goodness and love you have made
known to us in creation;
in calling 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 Saviour 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.

For, on the night that He was betrayed
 He took bread,
 and when He had given thanks to you,
 He broke it and gave it to His disciples
 and said: "Take this, and eat it:
 This is my Body which is given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me."

And after supper
 he took the cup of wine:
 and when he had given thanks,¹
 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."

PRESIDENT:

Therefore, Father, according to His command:

ALL:

We remember His death;
We proclaim His resurrection;
We await His coming in glory.

PRESIDENT:

And we offer our sacrifice of praise
 and thanksgiving to you, 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, made acceptable in Him,
may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time,
reconcile all things in Christ,
and make them new,
and bring us to that city of light
where you dwell with all 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 whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours,
Almighty Father, now and ever.

All: *Amen.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESIDENT:

As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

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 now and forever. *Amen.*

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

PRESIDENT:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

ALL:

Though we are many we are one body, because we all
 share in one bread.

THE AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
 have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
 have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
 grant us peace.

THE INVITATION

PRESIDENT:

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

ALL: Our souls will feast and be satisfied, and we will sing glad songs of praise to Him.

COMMUNION HYMN: 602

1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
Our full homage to demand.
2. King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture –
in the body and the blood –
he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heavenly food.
3. Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of Light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.
4. At his feet the six-winged seraph;
cherubim with sleepless eye
veil their faces to the Presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, Lord most high.

HYMN FOR THE BLESSING: 658

Jesus loves me! This I know,
 for the bible tells me so;
 little ones to him belong;
 they are weak but he is strong.

Refrain:

*Yes, Jesus loves me!
 Yes, Jesus loves me!
 Yes, Jesus loves me!
 The bible tells me so.*

Jesus loves me! He who died,
 heaven's gate to open wide;
 he will wash away my sin,
 let his little child come in.

Refrain

Jesus take this heart of mine,
 make it pure and wholly thine;
 on the cross you died for me,
 I will try to live for thee.

Refrain

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Eternal God and Heavenly Father,
 we thank you for feeding us
 with the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
 Send us now into the world in peace,
 and grant us strength and courage

to love and serve you and all persons in you,
with gladness and singleness of heart,
through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

THE BLESSING

ADVENT

The Son of Righteousness shine upon you, gladden your hearts, and scatter the darkness from before you; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

HYMN FOR THE RECESSIONAL: 750

1. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.
2. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has
done;
his mercy sure, from age to age to same;
his holy Name, the Lord, the Mighty One.
3. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.
4. Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!

Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!

THE DISMISSAL

PRESIDENT: Go in peace and serve the Lord

ALL: In the name of Christ. Amen

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Please feel free to depart during the postlude, mindful of those who remain to listen.

OUR BIRTHDAY LIST

Our records indicate that the following members are celebrating their birthdays this week. Special greetings are extended to them.

Bannister, Henry (Mr.)

December 23

Hope, Donna (Miss)

December 22



Cumberbatch, Sheila (Miss)

December 26

ST. JAMES PARISH CHURCH



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