



*O Adonai (Lord), and leader of the House of Israel, who appeared to Moses
in the fire of the burning bush and gave him the law on Sinai:
Come and redeem us with an outstretched arm.*

FIRST SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

November 26, 2023, 10am

*We are glad that you are here to worship with us today.
Please take the time before the service for silent prayer and meditation.
Let us know more about you by signing the guest book near the front door.
We welcome you to be part of our programs & community life.*



ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
*Building a joyful community of faith in Christ
through worship, learning, praise and service*

Our Ministers Today

Ushers: Ted Kestler, Steve Kowalik, Tom Stracka

Lector: Julie Salthouse

Lay Eucharistic Minister: Susan LeVan

Altar Guild: Kathy Bousquet, Heather Ingram, Liz Gorny

Coffee Hour Host: Suzanne & Roger Kosempel

*The altar flowers today are given to the Glory of God
and in celebration of the birthday today of Elena Celeste.*

Clergy, Vestry & Staff

Rector: The Rev. Victoria Geer McGrath

Wardens: Wendy Clarkson & Janet Gibbs

Vestry: Stewart Cunningham, Matt Dalmedo,
Steve Kowalik, Melissa Pagliaro, Betsy
Wallace, Waring Webb

Clerk: Janet Gibbs

Treasurer: Bob Jackson

Music Director: Alison Siener Brown

Administrator: Susie Harris

THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude *Nun danket alle Gott* Georg Friedrich Kaufmann

Processional Hymn 450, All hail the power of Jesus' name CORONATION

Advent Acclamation

Presider O Emmanuel, the promise and the fulfillment of all promises:

People **Come and bring among us the joy of your kingdom.**

Even so, Lord Jesus, quickly come. Amen.

Presider Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

Trisagion S-102 *see Service Music pew card* Alexander Archangelsky

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

First Reading: A reading from the Book of Ezekiel.

EZEKIEL 34:11-16, 20-24

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

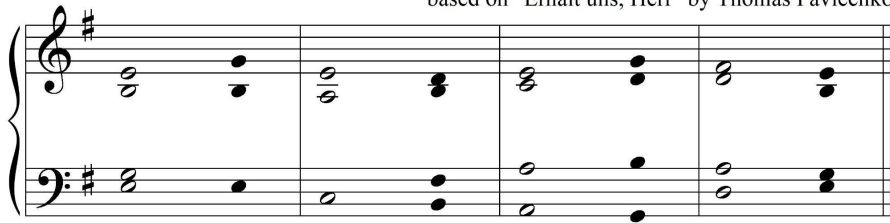
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 95:1-7a

Sung by all. Change notes at the words in bold.

based on "Erhalt uns, Herr" by Thomas Pavlechko



- 1 Come, let us sing to the **LORD**; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our **salvation**.
- 2 Let us come before his presence with **thanksgiving** *
and raise a loud shout to him with **psalms**.
- 3 For the Lord is a great **God**, *
and a great King above all **gods**.
- 4 In his hand are the caverns of the **earth**, *
and the heights of the hills are his **also**.
- 5 The sea is his, for he **made it**, *
and his hands have molded the **dry land**.
- 6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the **knee**, *
and kneel before the Lord our **Maker**.

Sung to the second half of the chant

- 7 For he is our **God**,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his **hand**.

Second Reading:

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians.

EPHESIANS 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is

named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 609, *Where cross the crowded ways of life*

GARDINER

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. MATTHEW 25:31-46

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon The Rev. Victoria Geer McGrath
 The Nicene Creed BCP, p. 358
 The Prayers of the People, Form II BCP, p. 385
Sung response on Service Music pew card
*People **Come, O Lord, and save us.***

The Confession & Absolution BCP, p. 360

The Peace

Welcome, Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Music *With a Voice of Singing* Martin Shaw
All Saints' Choir
 Presentation Hymn 56, vs. 3 *see Service Music pew card* VENI, VENI EMMANUEL
 The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer B BCP, p. 367
 Sursum Corda S-120 *see Service Music pew card*
 Sanctus S-124 *see Service Music pew card* David Hurd
 The Great Amen S-142 *see Service Music pew card* Plainsong
 The Lord's Prayer BCP, p. 364
 The Breaking of the Bread

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem S-154 *see Service Music pew card* Hurd

All baptized Christians are invited to receive the Body and Blood of Christ in Communion which will be offered as both bread and wine. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please tell the priest at the altar rail. If you need to receive Communion in your pew, please let an usher know. If you are not receiving today, please come forward for a blessing.

Communion Hymn, *Come now, you blessed*

MY HEART SINGS OUT 155



1 "Come now, you bless - ed, eat at my ta - ble,"
 2 When did we see you hun - gry or thirs - ty?
 3 "When you gave bread to the earth's hun - gry chil - dren,
 4 Christ, when we see you out on life's road - ways,



said Je - sus Christ to the right - eous a - bove.
 When were you home - less, a strang - er a - lone?
 when you gave shel - ter to war's ref - u - gees.
 look - ing to us in the fac - es of need,



"When I was hun - gry, thirs - ty and home - less,
 When did we see you sick or in pris - on?
 When you re - mem - bered those most for - got - ten,
 then may we know you, wel - come and show you



sick and in pris - on, you showed me your love."
 What have we done that you call us your own?
 you cared for me in the small - est of these."
 love that is faith - ful in word and in deed.

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Post-Communion Prayer

BCP, p. 365

The Advent Blessing

Closing Hymn 73, *The king shall come when morning dawns*

ST. STEPHEN

The Dismissal

The response is **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Ain'a That Good News

John Carter

**Please join us after worship for Coffee Hour in the
Parish House across the street.**

This is a time for some relaxed conversation with one another
over light snacks and a warm beverage.

Parish Calendar

Week of November 26

Monday - Parish Office, 10:30am-6pm

Tuesday - Parish Office, 10:30am-6pm

Wednesday - Bible Study, 10:15am on Zoom

Thursday - Parish Office, 9:30-5:30pm

* Office Angels, 2pm in Rath House

* Bell Choir, 6pm in the Undercroft

* All Saints' Choir, 7:30pm in the Choir Room

Daily - Compline (Bedtime Prayers), 9:30pm on Facebook Live



ALL SAINTS' CHOIR AND
HANDBELL CHOIR PRESENT

ALL IN THE MORNING

Carols for Advent and Christmas

Plan to attend! Saturday, December 2 at 4pm.

This concert is a fundraiser for
our stained-glass altar window restoration project.

*All proceeds from the concert will be generously matched
by an anonymous donor!*

Please invite your friends and neighbors to this wonderful holiday event.

Suggested donation: \$10.

What is the Altar Window Restoration Project? The stained-glass

Resurrection Window behind the altar needs restoration work. It was evaluated in 2018 by a consultant who specializes in historic glass restoration. All of the leaded glass windows in the Church were examined at that time, and all are in need of various amounts of repair, but the altar window was deemed most in need of attention because of its size and artistic and spiritual value.

The window was given in 1919 by a parishioner in memory of his wife who had died shortly after giving birth to their second child.

The estimated cost of the altar window restoration was \$27,000 in 2018. We expect that the current cost will be higher. Fund-raising began in 2018 but the project went on hold in early 2020 due to the pandemic. To date we have raised about \$16,000. That includes donations to the fund that have been made in memory of loved ones. This concert will add to the funds we have already received, and be the start of the return to actively pursuing this restoration.

All Saints' Announcements

Choir Concert Reception, December 2 - following the concert there will be a festive reception in the Parish Hall. Please be sure to join us for the reception as well as the concert. If you can contribute food or drink to the festivities, please speak with Betsy Wallace, bhwallace23@gmail.com. We also need two people to take tickets at the door. If you can help with that, please speak to Mother Vicki.

Advent officially begins next Sunday. The Advent wreath will go up. We'll begin both services with the Great Litany; it's a centuries-old prayer on behalf of the whole world, a good way to begin the new Church year. All of this helps us to move intentionally and reflectively into the Advent season of waiting and hoping for the Coming of Christ.

Advent Calendar Posters & Devotional Books - are available in the Narthex today. The 11x17 posters offer a thought or action for each day, as well as an opportunity to color it in! The devotional books "Preparing the Way" provide a short reflection and meditation for each day of Advent and the Christmas season.

Advent Bake-Off on December 3 - at Coffee Hour we will have a St. Nicholas cookie bake-off! Here's how it works: sign up on the sheet in the Narthex; pick up a copy of the St. Nicholas cookie recipe from the basket, along with the cookie-cutter - it's a traditional German spice cookie; bring a dozen of your cookies to Coffee Hour and we'll all taste-test and vote!

Visit from St. Nicholas on December 10 - We look forward to welcoming St. Nicholas at the end of our 10am worship. Come and find out why St. Nicholas is an Advent saint for children and adults alike!

Greening of the Church on December 17 - We will decorate the Church for Christmas following the 10am service. This is a fun and festive parish event - hanging the garland, putting up the pew candles, decorating the Bell Tower Christmas tree, setting up the Christmas Creche (Nativity scene). A light lunch will be provided in the Narthex and there will be activities for all ages to help with.

TODAY! Confirmation Class will meet from 11:45am to 1pm in the Rath House.

Save the Date: January 7 for our Epiphany Pageant! We'll be telling the whole story of the birth of Christ, including the arrival of the Magi. There will be parts for all ages. Look for more information to come soon.

Stewardship Update: Rooted in Abundance – Thank you to everyone who has made a pledge to support All Saints’ mission and ministry in 2024! Pledges from parishioners make up 65% of our parish budget.

Here is where we are as of 11/21/2023:

Pledges received - 41 (including 4 new households)

Amount pledged - \$106,015

Not yet received - 27 households who pledged in 2023

Last year’s pledged amount for 2023 - \$174,106

This year’s hoped-for amount for amount for 2024 - \$185,000

You can put your pledge card in the offering plate, send it through US mail, or drop it off at the Parish Office. You can also make an e-pledge through the secure giving portal on our website: www.allsaintsmillington.org/giving.

If you did not receive pledge information in the mail, or if you are new to the whole idea of pledging as the way to support All Saints’, please speak to Mother Vicki or to our Stewardship Co-Chairs Stewart Cunningham and Waring Webb. They will be happy to get you pledge information and have a conversation with you. Every gift is important and needed. Thank you for your prayerful gift to God’s mission here at All Saints’!

All Saints’ Episcopal Church

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Parish E-Letter *Saints’ Alive!* Sign up on our website.