



SAINT MARK'S  
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 14, 2025

8:00 AM



#### LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT & WELCOME

*Saint Mark's Cathedral acknowledges that we gather on the traditional land of the first people of Seattle, the Duwamish People, who are still here, and we honor with gratitude the land itself and the life of all the Coast Salish tribes.*

#### QUESTIONS?

*Please ask one of the liturgical ministers. Restrooms are available in the narthex; all-gender restrooms are available in the northwest stairwell of the nave and on level 5 of Cathedral House, accessible by the elevator or southwest stairwell.*

#### NEW TO SAINT MARK'S?

*Welcome to Saint Mark's Cathedral. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here! We invite you to complete a newcomer form, visit [saintmarks.org/newcomers](http://saintmarks.org/newcomers) or connect with one of the clergy.*

#### ABOUT THE LITURGY

*Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. We encounter God within worship and are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the hallmarks of the Episcopal Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy literally is "the work of the people," and refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted.*

#### ABOUT THE ROSE CANDLE

*The third Sunday of Advent is known as Gaudete Sunday, or Rose Sunday. It marks roughly the halfway point of Advent, and "Gaudete" is Latin for "rejoice" intended as a boost to press on toward Christmas. In some churches, rose color vestments are worn to mark the occasion. Our tradition here is for the third candle lighted on the Advent Wreath to be rose (pink) rather than purple (violet) or Sarum blue.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### PRELUDE

*Conditor alme siderum  
(Tune of Hymn 60, "Creator of the stars of night")*

Sam Batt Owens

#### LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

*All stand, as able.*

#### HYMN 76

*On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry (verses 1 & 2) ♦ The Hymnal 1982*

Winchester New

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

*Presider* My soul proclaims the greatness of God;  
*Assembly* **And my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

**OPENING ACCLAMATION**

*The Book of Common Prayer* (1979), p. 355

*Presider* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*Assembly* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

**COLLECT FOR PURITY**

*Presider* **A**Lmighty 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.  
*All* **Amen.**

**TRISAGION**

*The Book of Common Prayer* (1979), p. 356

*Presider* Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,  
*Assembly* **Have mercy upon us.**  
*Presider* Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,  
*Assembly* **Have mercy upon us.**  
*Presider* Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,  
*Assembly* **Have mercy upon us.**

**COLLECT OF THE DAY** *Third Sunday of Advent*

*The Book of Common Prayer* (1979), p. 212

*Presider* The Lord be with you.  
*Assembly* **And also with you.**  
*Presider* Let us pray.

**S**TIR 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.

*All* **Amen.**

*Please be seated for the readings.*

**READING**

*Isaiah 35:1-10*

**T**HE 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.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

*Assembly* **Thanks be to God.**

*Please join the lector in reading the Canticle aloud, starting after the first asterisk.*

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. ♦

**READING***James 5:7-10*

**B**E 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.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*Assembly* **Thanks be to God.**

*All stand, as able.*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL** *Matthew 11:2-11*

*Presider* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*Assembly* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**W**HEN 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."

*Presider* The Gospel of the Lord.

*Assembly* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**HOMILY**

The Reverend Richard Jaech  
*Bishop Emeritus, Southwestern Washington Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

*All stand, as able.*

**THE NICENE CREED**

*The Book of Common Prayer (1979), 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.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*After each petition:*

*Intercessor* We look to you in hope;

*Assembly* come among us, O Christ.

*The Presider concludes the prayers with a collect. All respond: Amen.*

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

*Presider* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.  
*You are invited to stand or kneel for the confession.*

*Presider* Most merciful God,  
**All 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.**

*The Presider pronounces God's forgiveness of our sins. All respond: Amen.*

## THE PEACE

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*Assembly* **And also with you.**

*All greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

# THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

## OFFERTORY

*An offering of money is received. All worshipping in person are invited to place their offering in the plates as they are passed through through the rows.*

*For electronic giving options, visit [saintmarks.org/give](https://saintmarks.org/give), or use the Venmo mobile app (@SaintMarksCathedralSeattle, or scan the code at right), or visit this link on your mobile device: <https://venmo.com/saintmarkscathedralseattle>. If Venmo asks you for a four-digit code, enter **2076**.*



**CHANT** *Deus, tu convertens*

Words: from Psalm 85:1-2;  
Music: traditional Offertory chant proper to the Third Sunday of Advent

*Benedixisti, Domine, terram tuam,  
avertisti captivitatem Jacob;  
Remisisti iniquitatem plebis tuae.*

O Lord, you have blessed your land,  
you have put an end to Jacob's captivity;  
you have forgiven the guilt of your people.

*All stand, as able.*

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** *Eucharistic Prayer B*

*The Book of Common Prayer (1979), p. 367*

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*Assembly* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*Assembly* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*Assembly* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*Presider* 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:

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*Presider* 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,

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

*Presider* 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 in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary, 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.

**All AMEN.**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**All 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 for ever. Amen.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*Presider* Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

*Assembly* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*Presider* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*All seeking God are welcome at Christ's Table.*

*If you need communion brought to your seat, please let any of the liturgical ministers know.*

*Rice wafers for those who do not eat wheat are available; simply ask for one at the time of communion.*

- ◆ *You are welcome to stand or kneel to receive communion.*
- ◆ *Hold out your hand to receive the bread and then eat. Guide the chalice of wine to your mouth and then drink.*
- ◆ *Intinction (dipping the bread in the wine) is not available at this time.*
- ◆ *To receive a blessing instead of the bread or wine, simply cross your arms over your chest.*

*All stand, as able.*

## POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

*The Book of Common Prayer (1979), p. 365*

*Presider* Eternal God,

*All* **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.**

**BLESSING**     *The Presider asks God's blessing on the Assembly. All respond: Amen.*

**HYMN 68**     *Rejoice! rejoice, believers (verses 1 & 3) ♦ The Hymnal 1982*     *Llangloffan*

**DISMISSAL**     *The Presider dismisses the Assembly. All respond: Thanks be to God.*

**VOLUNTARY**     *Postlude on Winchester New*     Christopher Tambling  
(Tune of Hymn 76, "On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry")

## MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

**PRESIDER**

The Rev. Canon Richard C. Weyls

**PREACHER**

The Rev. Richard Jaech

**CHALICE BEARER**

Mary Dickinson

**LECTOR & INTERCESSOR**

John Weintraub

**ORGANIST & CANTOR**

John Stuntebeck

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