

St. Matthias Episcopal Church

Sunday, December 3, 2023

The First Sunday of Advent

The Right Reverend Dr. Justin S. Holcomb, Bishop

The Reverend James M. Dorn III, Rector

352.460.9580 · rector@stmatthiasfl.com

7:45 am Service • Holy Eucharist Rite I

The Service is found in the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) which is the red book in the pew rack.

The Word of God

Greetings and Announcements

Advent Prayer

All-powerful God, increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming and call us to his side in the kingdom of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, forever and ever. Amen.

The Opening Acclamation

BCP, Page 323

The Collect for Purity

BCP, Page 323

Lord Have Mercy Upon Us

BCP, Page 324

Glory Be to God on High

BCP, Page 324

The Collect of the Day

Insert

The First Lesson

Insert

The Psalm *(said in unison)*

Insert

The Epistle

Insert

The Gospel

Insert

The Sermon

Mother Jane A. Clark

A Moment of Silence

The Nicene Creed

BCP, Page 326

The Prayers of the People

BCP, Page 328

Confession of Sin

BCP, Page 329

The Peace

BCP, Page 332

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Sentence

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. (*Ephesians 5:2*)

The Offertory

The Offertory Prayer *(said by all)*

Heavenly Father, thank you for all the good things you continue to provide for us. Don't let us take your gifts for granted or abuse them. Instead, help us always to rely on you in faith. Use us and what you have given us for your good purposes. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer I

BCP, Page 333

The Sanctus

BCP, Page 334

The Lord's Prayer

BCP, Page 336

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP, Page 337

Prayer of Humble Access

BCP, Page 337

Administration of Communion

The Post-Communion Prayer

BCP, Page 339

Prayer for Eucharistic Visitors *(said by all)*

We send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.

Birthday & Anniversary Blessings

BCP, Page 830 & 431

Blessing

BCP, Page 339

Dismissal

The Collect

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Old Testament

Isaiah 64:1-9

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

**Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us.
Restore us, O God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
O Lord God of hosts,
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?
You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
You have made us the derision of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
Restore us, O God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand,
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

The Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Corinth.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader **The Word of the Lord.**

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

Mark 13:24-37

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

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

[Jesus said,] “In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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