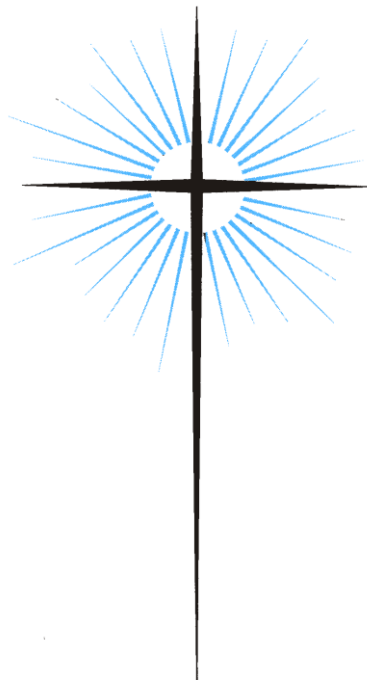


**The Visitation of  
The Rt. Rev. Porter Taylor, Assistant Bishop  
for  
The Holy Eucharist II with Confirmation  
And forms for Reception and Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows**



**St. John's Episcopal Church  
Arlington, Virginia  
Advent II December 5, 2021 10 am**

**CONFIRMATION:  
WITH FORMS FOR RECEPTION AND FOR  
THE REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL VOWS**

**PRELUDE:** O come, O come, Emmanuel

Flor Peeters

**GREETING** The Rev. Dr. Laurence K. Packard, Supply Priest

**The Status of our Health Safety Measures**

Bill Pritchard, Service Monitor

*(Please stand)*

**ENTRANCE HYMN:** "On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry"

**Hymnal #76**

*Bishop* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be his Kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Bishop* There is one Body and one Spirit;

*People* **There is one hope in God's call to us;**

*Bishop* One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

*People* **One God and Father of all.**

**THE COLLECT FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

*Bishop* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Bishop* Let us pray.

*Bishop* Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*People* **Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

**THE LESSONS**

**The First Lesson: Malachi 3:1-4**

*Reader* A reading from the Book of Malachi.

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine

them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

### **The Epistle: Philippians 1:3-11**

*Reader* A reading from Philippians.

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

**GOSPEL HYMN: "Comfort, comfort ye my people"**

**Hymnal #67**

### **The Holy Gospel: Luke 3: 1-6**

*Assisting Priest* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. John the Baptist went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall be made straight,  
and the rough ways made smooth;  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

*Assisting Priest* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*(Please be seated)*

**PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES**

*Bishop* The Candidates will now be presented.

*Assisting Priest* I present these persons to be received into this Communion.

*Bishop* Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

*Candidates* **I do.**

*Bishop* Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

*Candidates* **I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.**

*Bishop* Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

*People* **We will.**

*Bishop* Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

**THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT** (*The people stand*)

*Bishop* Do you believe in God the Father?

*People* **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

*Bishop* Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*People* **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

*Bishop* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*People* **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

*Bishop* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Bishop* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Bishop* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Bishop* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Bishop* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

## PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

*Bishop* Let us now pray for these persons who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

*Reader* Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Reader* Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Reader* Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Reader* Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Reader* Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Reader* Send them into the world in witness to your love.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Reader* Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Bishop* Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you made with them at their Baptism. Send them forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*People* **Amen.**

## THE RECEPTION

*The Candidates stand before the Bishop, and he receives them into this Communion.*

Edward, we recognize you as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and we receive you into the fellowship of this Communion. God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you. **Amen.**

Kathleen, we recognize you as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and we receive you into the fellowship of this Communion. God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you. **Amen.**

*Bishop* Almighty and everliving God, let your fatherly hand ever be over these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that they may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

*Bishop* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*(Please be seated)*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Following our health protocols, we will not receive an offering. A basket is placed at the entrance for your use. Please remember that the loose plate offering will go for the Bishop's discretionary fund.*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### THE OFFERTORY SENTENCES

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "Prepare ye the way"**

Isaiah 40:4,9/James E. Moore, Jr.

**DOXOLOGY** *(The people stand)*

*Hymnal #380, vs. 3*

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

*The people remain standing. The Bishop faces them and says*

*Bishop* The Lord be with you.

*People* *And also with you.*

*Bishop* Lift up your hearts.

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

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

*People* *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Bishop proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world. 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:

### SANCTUS

*Hymnal #S129*

**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.**

*The people stand or kneel. Then the Bishop continues*

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,

*Bishop and People*

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

*The Bishop continues*

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 St. John 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. **AMEN.**

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Bishop breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*After Communion, the Bishop says*

Let us pray.

*Bishop and people*

**Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, Father, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

## THE BLESSING

*People Amen.*

**CLOSING HYMN: "O Zion haste, thy mission high fulfilling"**

*Hymnal #539*

## THE DISMISSAL

*Assisting Priest* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE:** Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

J. S. Bach

We regret that our protocol for health precludes the traditional reception to congratulate Ed & Kathi Martin and to greet the Bishop.

Thank you for leaving with mask on and respecting the distance of others.



## PARTICIPANTS

THE RT. REV. PORTER TAYLOR, ASSISTANT BISHOP  
THE REV. DR. LAURENCE K. PACKARD, SUPPLY PRIEST  
LYNN ROBINSON, MINISTER OF MUSIC  
JUDITH MARCINKO, ORGANIST  
PETER OLIVERE, SOUND AND LIVE-STREAM COORDINATOR  
CAROL DUNLAP, READER  
DEL HUNT, PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE  
FAYE PRITCHARD, ALTAR GUILD  
DAVE DUNLAP, USHER  
BILL PRITCHARD, SERVICE MONITOR

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Welcome Bishop Taylor!** We are delighted to have Bishop Taylor making the visitation of the Diocese today. Congratulations—Ed & Kathi Martin! All of us wish a heartfelt welcome to the Martins who have officially affiliated with the Episcopal Church today.

**Pastoral Care during the Interim Period.** The Rev. Dr. Laurence K. (“Larry”) Packard is available for pastoral care—abiding by the Diocesan health and safety guidelines. He may be reached at: [minister@stjohnsarlingtonva.org](mailto:minister@stjohnsarlingtonva.org) or 703-425-8315 or 703-606-3109 (cell, no voice mail).

**Our Senior Warden, Cassandra (Sandy) Winger,** is the individual charged with leadership until St. John’s appoints a new rector. She can be contacted at [rwarden@stjohnsarlingtonva.org](mailto:rwarden@stjohnsarlingtonva.org) or on her cell phone at 703-498-6990.

**Christmas Eve and Christmas 1 Services.** We will have one **Christmas Eve service** at the usual 5 pm time. No service on Christmas Day. Service on Sunday, **December 26** is at 10 am.

**St. John’s position on racism** can be found on the home page of our website, [www.stjohnsarlingtonva.org](http://www.stjohnsarlingtonva.org).

**Prayers and Cards.** If you have any requests for Sunday prayers, intercessory prayers or a card for someone who is sick, please contact Barbara Oliverere at [prayers@stjohnsarlingtonva.org](mailto:prayers@stjohnsarlingtonva.org).

**For Your Advent Reading List.** *Celebrating Abundance: Devotions for Advent* by Walter Brueggemann. We handed out copies of this book last week, and if you did not receive yours—please speak with Sandy or Larry.

*Advent and Christmas Wisdom from Henri J.M. Nouwen: Daily Scripture, Prayers, Reflections*  
(A well-known Roman Catholic priest who is read in ecumenical circles; known for his depth of spirituality.)

*The Inklings Christmastide: Readings for Advent with G.K. Chesterton, George MacDonald, C.S. Lewis, Larry Norman, and the Inklings*

(These are the classic writers of a generation...and it is a rich company to keep.)

*Watch for the Light: Readings for Advent and Christmas*

(I return to this book every Advent--simply the best anthology from selected authors!)

## **PROTOCOL FOR WORSHIP DURING THE PANDEMIC:**

- Please enter the church masked and sit socially-distanced in the pews.
- Remain masked and sing softly.
- We will remain seated during the peace. No offering will be taken; a basket for contributions will be at the entrance. Remember that the loose plate offering will be sent to the Bishop for his discretionary fund.
- The Celebrant will remain masked during the Eucharistic Prayer and distribution.
- At the distribution, the usher will come forward and let people come to the rail (masked) in numbers to preserve social distance. The floor in front of the altar is marked with blue tape for people to stand, unless there is a family group.
- Stand or kneel at the altar rail. The Celebrant will sanitize his/her hands and drop the bread into your hands. Partake of the bread, replace your mask and return by the right side-aisle (facing altar) to your pew.
- Please notify Cassandra Winger if you contract Covid during the 2-week period following our worship.