

Stop, Rest, Pray

A Time for Advent Meditation

Tuesday, December 12, six p.m.

As you are seated, please disconnect your electronic devices so that you may connect with that which is sacred.

Piano Prelude

Welcome

Gathering Prayers

For Quiet Confidence

O God of peace, who has taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength: By the might of thy Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For Joy in God's Creation

O heavenly Father, who has filled the world with beauty: Open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works; that, rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness; for the sake of him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

In the Evening

O Lord, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in thy mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. *Amen.*

Song

The song will be repeated, allowing it to bring you to God in prayer. Please join in singing at any time.

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart!

Scripture Reading and Reflection: Isaiah 40:6-8

A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever.

A Time of Silence

Song

Stay with me, re - main here with me, watch and
No - ho pū no - ho mai me ia'u ki - a'i a

pray, watch and pray.
pu - le kiai a pule.

Prayers

- God, to your people gathered in this place and to a needy world, give peace and hope,
For your word will stand forever.
- God, to the leaders of the nations, give wisdom and compassion and the grace to seek your will,
For your word will stand forever.
- God, to those who are disillusioned and depressed, to those who have lost their faith and lost their way, give new insight and hope,
For your word will stand forever.
- God, to those we love, give your guidance, protection, and blessing,
For your word will stand forever.
- God, to the sick in body, mind and spirit and to those who minister to them, give your healing and life giving power,
For your word will stand forever.
- God, to those who are dying and those who fear death, give the assurance of your never-failing love,
For your word will stand forever.
- God, to all those who stop, rest, and pray in this season of Advent, give fresh vision and courage,
For your word will stand forever.

The Lord's Prayer

All say together

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 Blessing of Peace

Following this service, you are welcome to stay in quiet silence as long as you wish

The next Advent meditation service will be held at St. John's
on Tuesday, December 19, at six p.m.

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SUNDAY SERVICES: 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST. JOHN'S

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17th

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT - 10:30 a.m.

The young people of the parish will tell the Christmas story in reading, pageant, and song. Angels and shepherds, friendly beasts and kings will gather, a star will shine – and there will be camels wearing sneakers. Come and sing the familiar carols, light a candle, and hear the old old story of God's love for this world.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24th

The fourth Sunday of Advent will be observed at the regular 10:30 a.m. service on December 24.
There will be no 8 a.m. service on this day.

CHRISTMAS EVE HOLY EUCHARIST - 4 p.m.

This festal celebration of Holy Eucharist will include a sermon suitable for younger children and music by our Youth Choir. A musical prelude will begin at 3:45 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE HOLY EUCHARIST - 11 p.m.

The music of Christmas will be played and sung by our Adult Choir and instrumentalists as the people of God gather in this place. A choral prelude will begin at 10:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25th

HOLY EUCHARIST - 10 a.m.

This quiet and reverent worship will include a sermon and carols.