

#### DECEMBER 10, 2023 10:30 AM ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II The Rev. Leslie J. Hague is the officiant and the Rev. Dr. Robyn M. Neville, PhD, is the celebrant today. Wachet auf, ruft uns die stimme J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

PRELUDE

Michael Gouge - Horn

#### LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*Officiant* On this second Sunday of Advent, Let us pray. God of power and mercy open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.** 

# PROCESSIONAL HYMN 61Sleepers wake!Wachet aufA BIDDING PRAYER

*Officiant* Dear People of God: In the season of Advent, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this city.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

[prayers of the people petitions for All Saints prayer list, birthdays and anniversaries, and for those who have died]

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore. **Amen.** 

#### COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

*Officiant* Let us pray.

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.** 

#### FIRST LESSON

**GENESIS 3:1-22** Adam & Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden. Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die." ' But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?' He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.'

Then the Lord God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.'

The Lord God said to the serpent, 'Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you

shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.' To the woman he said, 'I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.'

And to the man he said, 'Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, "You shall not eat of it", cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return.'

The man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all who live. And the Lord God made garments of skins for the man and for his wife, and clothed them. Then the Lord God said, 'See, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever'

*Reader* Here ends the lesson.

#### **CHOIR ANTHEM**

Adam lay ibounden

Boris Ord (1897-1961)

Adam lay bounden, bounden in a bond; Four thousand winter thought he not too long. And all was for an apple, an apple that he took, as clerkes finden written in their book. Ne had the apple taken been, the apple taken been. Ne had never our lady abeen heavene queen. Blessed be the time that apple taken was, therefore we moun singen, Deo gracias, Deo gracias, Deo gracias!

#### SECOND LESSON

**ISAIAH 40:1-11** *God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption.* Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

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. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!'

See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

*Reader* Here ends the reading.

#### HYMN 67

#### Comfort, comfort ye my people

Psalm 42

#### THIRD LESSON

**ISAIAH 35:1-10** *The prophet proclaims that God will come and save us.* The 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* Here ends the reading.

**CHORAL ANTHEM** *Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain Carolyn Jennings (b.1936) Climb to the top of the highest mountain, joyous tidings proclaim to the world. Lift up your voice, shout the good news: Behold, your Lord comes to you. He will lead his flock like a shepherd, He will carry the lambs in his arms, He will ever keep them safe from harm. Behold, your Lord comes to you. He who made the stars in the heaven, He who fashioned the earth and the sea, from time eternal he was God, the Alpha and Omega, He. Behold, behold your Lord! He will come in power and glory, He will rule with mercy and truth, Hope of the nations, Light of the world, Light of all. He will love the little children, He will hold them in his arms. Love him and trust him as a child, Behold, your Lord comes to you. Trust him as a child.* 

#### FOURTH LESSON

**ISAIAH 11:1-9** The Spirit of the Lord will rest upon the Holy One.

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding,

the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

*Reader* Here ends the reading.

HYMN 66		Come thou long expected Jesus	Stuttgart		
PSA	L <b>M 85:1-2, 8-1</b> 3	Read in unison	Benedixisti, Domine		
1	-	racious to your land, O LORD, * estored the good fortune of Jacob.			
2	2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people * and blotted out all their sins.				
8	3 I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, * for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.				
9	9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, * that his glory may dwell in our land.				
10	10 Mercy and truth have met together; * righteousness and peace have kissed each other.				
11	11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, * and righteousness shall look down from heaven.				
12	12 The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, * and our land will yield its increase.				
13 Righteousness shall go before him, * and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.					
SEQ	UENCE HYMN 6	0 Creator of the stars of night	Conditor alme siderum		

#### THE GOSPEL

GospelerThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 1:1-8.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

GospelerThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

#### **CHORAL RESPONSE** *Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God G.F. Handel (1685-1759)*

Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God, come. Holy Son of God. Thy truth unseal. Thy love reveal, truth unseal, Thy love reveal. Lord, hear Thou in mercy our prayer to Thee. Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God, come. Holy Som of God. Come in Thy might. Send forth Thy light, come in might, come send forth Thy light. Lord, hear Thou in mercy, our prayer to Thee. Come, Jesus, O Holy Son of God. For Thee we long. Hear Thou our prayer. For Thee we long. O hear Thou our prayer. To Thee be glory now and evermore. Lord, hear Thou in mercy our prayer to Thee. Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God. ToThee be glory, to Thee be glory evermore.

#### THE PEACE

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

People And also with you.

#### THE HOLY COMMUNION ~ THE HOLY EUCHARIST, PRAYER A

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** Jesus Christ the apple tree Elizabeth Poston (1905-87) The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit and always green: The trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ the apple tree.

- His beauty doth all things excel: By faith I know, but ne'er can tell. The glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ the apple tree.
- For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought: I missed of all; but now I see 'tis found in Jesus Christ the apple tree.
- I'm weary with my former toil, here I will sit and rest awhile: Under the shadow I will be, of Jesus Christ the apple tree.
- *This fruit doth make my soul top thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive; Which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.*

Verses 3-4

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give God thanks and praise.
Celebrant	

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: *Celebrant and People say Sanctus* 

> Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith: *Celebrant and People* 

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. The Celebrant continues We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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**.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, *People and Celebrant* 

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

**FRACTION ANTHEM** 

Celebrant and People

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

The Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION SOLOCorpus Christi CarolBenjamin Britten (1913-76)Susan Sloan, SopranoHolbrook Platts, Guitar

*On, on. He bare him up, he bare him down. He bare him into an orchard brown. Lully lullaby, lully lullay. The falcon has borne my make away. In that orchard there was an hall; that was hanged with purple and pall. And in that hall there was a bed; it was hanged with gold so red. Lully lullay, lully lullay. The falcon has borne my make away.* 

In that bed there lieth a knight; his wounded bleeding day and night. By that bedside kneeler a may, and she weepers both night and day. Lully lullay, lully lullay. The falcon has borne my make away. And by that bedside there standeth a stone; Corpus Christi written thereon. On, on.

#### A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION SAID BY THOSE NOT PRESENT AT HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant

In union, O Lord, with the faithful of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest wish that we may always be united to you. And since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all the love of our souls. Let nothing ever separate you from us. May we live in you, and may you live in us, both in this life and in the life to come. **Amen.** 

#### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray. Celebrant and People

Eternal God, 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.

#### THE BLESSING

<b>RECESSIONAL HYMN 65</b>	Prepare the way, O Zion	Bereden väg för Herran
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#### DISMISSAL

CelebrantGo in peace to love and serve the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE** Veni Emmanuel *arr. by Alfred V. Fedak (b. 1953)* 

Thanks to Dan Bishop, Michael Gouge, Susan Sloan, Holbrook Platts and the All Saints Choir for providing today's music. Music copyright for this liturgy: Public Domain, OneLicense A-733778, or St. James Music Press 14939

BLESSINGS TO ALL CELEBRATING THIS WEEK OF DEC. 10–16					
Birthdays	vs Eddie Adams, Heather Glenn, Pam Heard, Esther Panza,				
	Trey Rhiddlehoover, Will Sarnowski, Susan Shell,				
	Mike Smith				
Anniversaries	Danny Bright and Rich Clarke				
	Dan Dailey and Matt Matejcic				
	Kathy Friend and Sarah Young				



The Altar Greens this week are given to the Glory of God and and in thanksgiving for 50 happy years together, by Matt Matejcic and Dan Dailey.

The Sanctuary Candle this week is given to the Glory of God and in joyful celebration of the 10th anniversary of our civil marriage and the 9th anniversary of the blessing of our marriage, December 13, 2013 & 2014 by Julia Bruno and Sandra Delzotti.

Please join us online or in person each Wednesday at 12:05 p.m. for our WEDNESDAY HEALING AND PRAYER SERVICE WITH THE HOLY EUCHARIST WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2023 THE COMMEMORATION OF LUCY OF SYRACUSE

Please join us in person or online each Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m. for our VESPERS ~ EVENING PRAYER RITE I THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2023 THE COMMEMORATION OF JOHN OF THE CROSS

Please join us online each evening, except Thursday, at 8:30 p.m. for our SERVICE OF COMPLINE.

#### **KEEP IN TOUCH WITH ALL SAINTS**

All Saints Episcopal Church 333 Tarpon Drive Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Phone: 954-467-6496 Fax: 954-467-2668 Email: office@allsaintsfl.org Website: allsaintsfl.org CLERGY



The Rev. Leslie J. Hague, Rector, x1103, leslie@allsaintsfl.org ADJUNCT CLERGY

The Rev. Robyn M. Neville, PhD, Theologian in Residence, robyn@allsaintsfl.org The Rev. Carl H. Beasley, Priest Associate, carl@allsaintsfl.org The Very Rev. Clark Powers, Priest Associate, clark@allsaintsfl.org The Rev. Todd J. Hoover, Priest Associate The Rev. Dr. Joseph A. Krasinski, Priest Associate **STAFF** Interim Musical Director – Dan Bishop

Administrator – Michael Lee, x1102, michael@allsaintsfl.org Assistant to the Rector – Lou Strennen, x1104, lou@allsaintsfl.org Sexton – Richard Fraser, richard@allsaintsfl.org



Do you want to deepen your Christian faith, learn how to articulate that faith, and perhaps let that faith inspire you into action?

Operating under the auspices of The University of the South (Sewanee) EfM enables each of us to discover and exercise our own God-given gifts for ministry in everyday life. Through study, prayer and theological reflection EfM provides a framework for us to examine and deepen our Christian faith. It is not preparation for the priesthood.

Sometimes we see no alternative to a version of Christian faith that we now find difficult to accept. We have been told that rejecting anything we have been taught means ceasing to be a Christian. What we have been told is wrong. On your own, it may be difficult to imagine any form of faith different from what you have been taught. EfM can help. It can be a guide for those who see the need to let go of some of what they have been taught, but don't know how to replace it with something better. Questioning some aspects of our Faith leading to greater understanding is encouraged and being able to do that in a non-judgmental and supportive environment is very rewarding. In addition, many friendships made in an EfM seminar remain in place long afterward.

An EfM seminar with six to twelve members and a trained mentor meets weekly for three hours over the course of a nine-month academic year. The All Saints group meets on Monday evenings from 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM. A **new class will begin on January 9th, 2023**. The seminar will meet in person at the Parish House on the All Saints campus. While the full curriculum takes four years to complete, participants are asked only to commit to one year at a time. Year One focuses on the Old Testament, Year Two on the New Testament, Year Three on the history of Christianity and Year Four on theology. Upon completion participants will receive a diploma from The University of the South. There is a tuition fee and some financial aid may be available.

If you are interested in learning more about EfM please speak to Frank Asterita either in person on most Sundays or by phone or email. You can reach Frank at 516-225-6344 or <u>frankdon724@att.net</u>. You may also visit the Sewanee EfM website at <u>http://efm.sewanee.edu</u> for more information.



# 2023 All Saints Boat Parade Festival

### Join us for the best viewing in town!





# The 52nd Annual Fort Lauderdale Winterfest Boat Parade Saturday, December 16, 2023

### \$20/Person in advance; \$25 at the gate Children 9 & under free

Parkintg (limited) \$10 First-come, first served. Parking opens at 4:30 pm

Gates open at 5:00 pm Parade starts at 6:30 pm Excellent food and beverage options for purchase Bring your own chairs, blankets, & umbrellas!

No outside alcoholic beverages may be brought onto the property. Pets are welcome but <u>must</u> be leashed. No Refunds/No Rain-Out Date



All Saints Episcopal Church 🕆 333 Tarpon Dr. 🕆 Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301





The Laundry Spot (The Laundromart) 1410 N Federal Highway, Hollywood, FL 33020 Volunteers are always welcome!!





*The letter below contains portions of the letter that was sent by mail to parishioners on Thursday. To read the entire letter, click <u>https://bit.ly/RootedinAbundanceLetter</u>.* 

They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought, it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. - Jeremiah 17:8

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we reflect on the theme of our pledge campaign for this year, *Rooted in Abundance*, we have spent much time thinking about the ways in which trees need to be nurtured to grow.

If we look at All Saints Episcopal Church as a tree, we recall that the eight women who founded the All Saints Guild in 1912 planted the roots of our church in the newly incorporated City of Fort Lauderdale, the first growth in what has become a vibrant Christian community today. A century beyond, we look at the three years past, when outside events shaped our lives together, and those roots held fast. We experienced the global pandemic, arson, and vandalism, but thanks to our abundant blessings and the generous continuing support of our church family, the roots planted by those who came before have not only survived, but thrived. Our roots go deep, and we give thanks to God and to you for sustaining us.

Now we need to nurture our roots with a mind towards unfurling new branches of growth for the future. We need to put out new shoots and expand beyond what we have done for these past three years. As we look at our financial picture this year, it would be easy to be afraid. Sometimes new growth can be uncomfortable. All Saints is not defined by our bottom line; our abundance is manifest in everything we do. *Together, we can give abundantly and find new energy* 

Your support will allow us to strengthen our current vibrant ministries and engage in exciting new areas of growth this coming year. God's abundant love and resources are there for us. We can't branch out in ministry without you. *Won't you help us today by sharing what you have with us to grow our church community for the future? By:* 

- Fulfilling your 2023 pledge today.
- Prayerfully considering your *Rooted in Abundance* pledge for 2024, striving to increase it by 10%, if you are able.
- If you haven't made a pledge before, prayerfully considering taking part in *Rooted in Abundance* and making your very first pledge for 2024.

We ask that you make your pledge by January 1, 2024. Paper pledge cards will be available at church, or you may download a pledge card at <u>https://bit.ly/ASECPledgeCard2024</u>.

God's abundant love and resources are there for us. God's abundant grace gives us new opportunities to expand the ministry of All Saints Episcopal Church. We pray that you will join us in this exciting new phase of growth, expansion, and mission.

Yours in Christ,		
The Rev. Leslie J. Hague	Alyson Hardin	Barry Moss
Rector	Senior Warden	Pledge Campaign Chair
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### Nazareth to Jerusalem: The Prince of Peace in the Holy Land

An Advent series at All Saints Episcopal Church Reflections from Mother Leslie on her pilgrimage to the Holy Land

This advent, our four-part series will visit places where the Prince of Peace was born, lived, taught, suffered, died, and rose again. The reflections will include pictures taken by Mother Leslie during her pilgrimage to the Holy Land in April. We will also pray and reflect on the current war in Israel and Palestine.

Three sessions are on Zoom. One will be in person after the 10:30am service. Please note the days and times of the sessions. All sessions will be recorded, including the in-person session.

#### Monday, December 11, 6:30pm, ON ZOOM\*

The Jordan River, the Judean Wilderness, the Sea of Galilee:

The geography of Jesus' ministry

#### Sunday, December 17, following the 10:30am service, IN PERSON

The Transfiguration and the journey to Jerusalem:

Healing, teaching, and taking up our cross

Reflections on the Palestine of Jesus and the Palestine of Today

#### Wednesday, December 20, 6:30pm, ON ZOOM\*

"Hosanna" to "Crucify him!"

The Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Emmanuel, the Prince of Peace

\*Zoom invitation for all Zoom sessions:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86171123456?pwd=MHJKdDhVYjhCZ3ZUcTZqK09Hd3Qydz09

Meeting ID: 861 7112 3456; Passcode: 813793





CHRISTMAS FLOWER CONTRIBUTIONS

MEMORIALS & THANKSGIVINGS

Help to beautify All Saints nave and sanctuary and provide for special flowers during the Christmas services by making a thanksgiving or memorial financial contribution.

Please print clearly. Given by:

Phone or email:

In thanksgiving for:

In memory of :

Make check payable to ASEC. Memo: Christmas Flowers

Deadline is 12:00 pm Wednesday, December 20, 2023

Please return this page to the church in the offering plate or send it to the office via US mail or email... office@allsaintsfl.org