

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 17, 2023 - Year B

**A Call to Intentional Discipleship,
360th Anniversary Celebration of the Mission**

6:30 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST

First Lesson	Isaiah 61: 1 - 4, 8 - 11	Afeef Lazarus
Magnificat	Page 67	
Epistle	1 Thessalonians 5:16 - 24	June Rose
Gospel	John 1:6 - 8, 19 - 28	
Intercession	Form B Page 107	

8:00 a.m. SOLEMN EUCHARIST AND SERMON

Procession	251 Hail to the Lord's anointed
First Lesson	Isaiah 61: 1 - 4, 8 - 11 Yvette Smith -S.S. Teacher
Magnificat	Chanted (all stand) - see flysheet
Epistle	1 Thessalonians 5:16 - 24 Fay Duncan -S.S. Teacher
Gradual	Prepare Ye the way of the Lord - see flysheet
Gospel	John 1:6 - 8, 19 - 28
Sermon	The Sunday School Play
The Creed	see flysheet
Intercession	Form C Page 108
Offertory	Rejoice in the Lord always see flysheet
During Communion	This is the air I breathe, Advent Hymn see flysheet
Recessional	Glory, Glory to God Hallelujah see flysheet

Intentional Discipleship Prayer of the Diocese

Heavenly Father, we thank you that you have awakened Your Church to hear again, the call of our Saviour Jesus Christ to come to Him and learn from Him. Grant that as we say "Yes" to discipleship, your Holy Spirit will enable us so completely to commit all areas of our lives to His service, that in our personal, family and church lives, our work, recreational and social lives, we would act as Jesus would have acted if He were in our place; in His name and for His sake we pray. **Amen.**

Connecting to the streaming link for 8:00 a.m. Service
<https://www.facebook.com/sapcjamaica>
The 8 a.m. service can also be viewed on YouTube.

Diocese of Jamaica & The Cayman Islands
ST. ANDREW PARISH CHURCH

Patron Saint Andrew The Apostle
Half - Way -Tree, Kingston 10. Telephone: 968-9366, 926-6692 , 926-0988
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Chapel of Ease:
St. Thomas - Majesty Gardens 10:30 a.m. and St. Clement's - Kencot 10:30 a.m.



INTENTION FOR THE YEAR:
**A Call to Intentional Discipleship,
360th Anniversary Celebration of the Mission**

CLERGY

Rector/Curate	The Very Revd. Canon Serrano Kitson, D. Min.
Assistant Curate	Fr. Bertram Gayle
Supplementary Clergy	Fr. Claude Campbell
Church Army	Sister Andrea Taylor-Smith

Wardens

Rector's Warden
Mr. Dwayne McKenzie
Email (dwayne_ja@yahoo.com)
People's Warden
Miss Lisa Campbell
Email

(PeoplesWardenSTAPC@yahoo.com)

Administration

Office Administrator & Ops. Officer
Mrs. Merle Thomas
Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Hortense James
Verger - Miss Ann Morrison

The Rector is out of Office on Mondays

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Celebrant: Jesus says, "Surely I am Coming Soon!"

All: Amen, Come, Lord Jesus!

Celebrant: (+) Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: Thanks be to God

Celebrant: Today is the third Sunday of Advent and we will light the Candle of Joy.

Last Sunday we lit the second candle in our Advent Wreath, and celebrated the patriarchs. The first candle reminded us of our Hope in Christ, the second candle reminded us that Love is the fulfillment of the law and through Christ we experience the love of God.

Today we light the third candle of Advent, the candle of **Joy**. When the angel Gabriel told Mary that a special child would be born to her she was filled with **joy**. She sang a song that began with the words: My soul magnifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour". Just as the birth of Jesus gave great **joy** to his mother, so his presence in the world gave **joy** to those who had none before. He healed them and gave them hope and love when they believed in him.

The Candle of Joy

Jesus taught his disciples to rejoice at His second coming as that meeting will bring eternal **joy**, for we will be with Him forever (John 16:22, 1 Thes. 4:17). **Joy** is a fruit of the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit that grows from within us, and this **joy** is rooted in a personal relationship with the God of love. Also the **joy** we experience in worship and prayer gives us courage to proclaim the good news of Jesus and the gospel of the Kingdom of God.

We light the candle of **Joy** to remind us that when Jesus is born in us we have **Joy** and that through him there will be everlasting **Joy** on earth.

(The third candle is lit)

The following is sung:

2.

Birthdays for this week: Clarissa Kerr and Ashley Johnson 17/12, Enid McDonald and Johnathan Newman 18/12, Revd. Percival Lynch, Rose Bramwell and Audrey Chin 19/12, Delano Fields, Sylvia Bennett, Jackie Gayle and Kristen Raymore 20/12, Revd. Michael Allen, Revd. Robin Samuda and Juliet McKenzie 21/12, Noel Anderson and Lorna White 22/12, Nicola Elliott, Juliet Gordon and Monique Bowie 23/12,

Congratulations to Mildred Johnson who will celebrate her 104th birthday on the 19th.

Condolence is extended to Fontain Jones and family on the passing of his aunt, Lilieth Jones. The funeral Service for Steve Williamson will be on Tuesday 19th at 11:00 am.

Our Annual Gift Days will be from December 10 - 17, 2023.

The Sunday School will be presenting their Christmas Play today, the 17th during the 8:00 service.

Kingston College Chapel Choir Christmas Concert will be held today, 17th, at UWI Chapel, at 5:00 p.m. Tickets \$3,500 at the door.

The Altar Guild is asking those who wish to **donate Poinsettias** for the Christmas decorations to contact the Church Office.

We express thanks to our members who continue to give sacrificially to ensure that the ministry and mission of the church are sustained as we continue to witness and minister in these challenging times.

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK Dec. 17 - 23

Dec. 19	Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
Dec. 20	Wednesday	6:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
Dec. 22	Friday	9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist St. Thomas

SICK AND SHUT - IN

Percival Lynch	(Priest)	Elesia Blackburn	Ilene Henry
Alton Tulloch	(Priest)	Margaret Green	Linda Mahon
Hazel Bell		Calvin Murray	Daphne Whitely
Rema Samuels		Vernon Miranda	Neville Hendricks

Faith Formation and Christian Education

Did you know that?

Our Province uses three sets of Bible readings – for Sundays, for weekday celebrations of the Eucharist and for Morning and Evening Prayer. These are to be found in our Book of Common Prayer, beginning on pages 668, 707 and 734 respectively. During most of the year, the Sunday readings include: a reading from the Hebrew Bible, a Psalm, a reading from the Epistles, and a Gospel reading. During the season of Easter, the Hebrew Bible lection is usually replaced with one from the Acts of the Apostles. The lections from the Hebrew Bible are sometimes chosen from the Apocrypha.

Quote for reflection

“The early Christians met from the first for services which consisted principally of the reading and exposition of the Scriptures. For this they had the precedent of the services in the Jewish synagogue. Readings in the synagogue were either chosen at the reader’s discretion or were a part of ‘in course’ readings (*lectio continua*) or were a fixed lectionary. The early Christians soon added readings from Christian writings to those from the Old Testament; the books of the New Testament were in fact largely selected from Christian writings which had come into general use in the church’s worship. Gradually lectionaries developed which provided systematic patterns for the readings.”

~ *Marion J. Hatchett, Commentary on the American Prayer Book*

Question for Reflection

- Which Bible readings in the BCP can I commit to reading at the start of this new church year?

Electronic payment instruction JAMAICAN DOLLARS

Bank Name: NCB - Half-Way-Tree
 Beneficiary Name: St. Andrew Parish Church
 Beneficiary Account #: 301045077
 Account Type: Current Account

If you encounter any difficulties with the transfer, contact your own bank

NO Monday Bible Study. Bible Study resumes on 8th. January 2024

**Readings for December 24, 2023: 2 Samuel 7: 1 - 11, 16;
 Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26, Romans 16:25 - 27, Luke 1: 26 - 38**

**O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer
 Our spirits by thine advent here;
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 And death’s dark shadows put to flight.**

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Leader: Joy is like a light shining in a dark place.

All: As we look at the light of this candle we celebrate the joy we find in Christ.

Celebrant: Let us pray:

All: We thank you O God for the joy you give us. We ask that as we wait for all your promises to come true, and for Christ to come again that you would remain present with us. Help us today, and everyday to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your joy with each other. We ask this in the name of the One who was born in Bethlehem. Amen.

THE TRISAGION

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and Immortal One,
 Have mercy upon us.
 Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and Immortal One,
 Have mercy upon us.
 Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and Immortal One,
 Have mercy upon us.**

President: The Lord is here.

People: His Spirit is with us!

President: Let us pray.

THE COLLECT

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Beloved Brothers and Sisters

We are called as God's stewards to manage that which belongs to God. While God has graciously entrusted us with the care, development, and enjoyment of everything He owns, as His **stewards**, we are responsible to manage his holdings well and according to His desires and purposes. Stewardship expresses our obedience regarding the use of everything God has placed under our control, which is all encompassing. This means the commitment of one's self and possessions to God's service, recognizing that we do **not** have absolute right of control over our material things, or ourselves.

Although God gives us "all things richly to enjoy," nothing is ours, nothing really belongs to us. God owns everything, we're responsible for how we treat it and what we do with it. While we complain about our rights here on earth, the Bible constantly asks, what about your responsibilities? Owners have rights and stewards have responsibilities.

The use of our talents, monetary resource and abilities must indicate that God is the **Giver**, who gives generously and we are **stewards** of what we have received from Him. Each gift that we have received has a purpose beyond our self interest, which is, to point to God who desires our loving response to God's generosity, mercy, love and goodness. So that in everything God is glorified with thanksgiving and praise. Examine your life and identify God's generous hand in it, and give a tangible expression of thanks, this gift day for the ministry of Jesus which is our sacred responsibility. "Do not neglect to do good and share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God". (Heb. 13:16)

How we live each day, the choices we make as disciples of Jesus, and our lifestyle all flow from what we love most and where our hearts are centered. This is the litmus test of our love and commitment to God, who redeemed us in Jesus Christ and appointed us as steward. Our stewardship is measured by what we give back to God with our tithes and offerings, for the continuation of Christ's ministry through the church and our baptismal covenant and commitment demand our support and sacrifice for the enterprise of the mission of God .

Fr. Serrano +

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON 2023 - 24

Dec. 24	6:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
	8:00 a.m.	Solemn Eucharist
		No Mid-Night Service
Dec. 25	6:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
	8:00 a.m.	Sung Eucharist
Dec. 31	Christmas Sunday	
	6:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist -
	8:00 a.m.	Solemn Eucharist
	11:00 pm.	Watch Night service - Holy Name
Jan. 1		No Services on New Year's Day
Jan. 6	9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist The Epiphany
Jan. 7	6:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - 1st Sunday after Epiphany
	8:00 a.m.	Solemn Eucharist
Jan. 14	6:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
	8:00 a.m.	Solemn Eucharist
Jan. 28		Congregational Meeting

First Sunday of Advent

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armour 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.

2. I know this pretty little tune is simple as can be,
It's easy, easy like A,B,C so sing along with me. **Refrain**

3. Mother, father, sister and brother, raise your voice and sing,
Peace, goodwill to everybody, Glory to the King! **Refrain**

Dec. 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent

Processional: CPWI 251 Hail to the Lord's anointed

Canticle: My soul proclaims the Lord my God

1. My soul proclaims the Lord my God
My spirit sings his praise
He looks on me, he lifts me up
And gladness fills my days.

Refrain:

**My soul give thanks,
My soul give praise,
My soul give thanks,
Give thanks and praise to God.**

2. All nations now will share my joy
His gifts he has outpoured
His little ones he has made graet
I magnify the Lord. **R**

3. His mercy is forever more
His name I praise again
His strong righ arm puts down the proud
And raises lowly men. **R**

4. He fills the hungry with good things
The rich he sends away
The promise made to Abraham
Is filled by him each day. **R**

Gradual: Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord

Refrain: Prepare ye the way of the Lord. (repeat)

1. Make straight in the desert a highway for our God. [Refrain]

2. Fill ev'ry valley, bring all mountains low. [Refrain]

3. Go up to a mountain and shout with a loud voice. [Refrain]

4. Say to all people, here is your God. [Refrain]

Creed

I believe in Jesus
I believe He is the Son of God
I believe He died and rose again
I believe He paid for us all

I believe in You, Lord
I believe You are the Son of God
I believe You died and rose again
I believe You paid for us all.

And I believe He is here now
Standing in our midst
Here With the power to heal now
And the grace to forgive

And I believe You're here now
Standing in our midst
Here With the power to heal now
And the grace to forgive.

Offertory: - Rejoice in the Lord Always

Rejoice in the Lord always: again I say, Rejoice!
Rejoice in the Lord always: again I say, Rejoice!
Rejoice, rejoice, and again I say, Rejoice!
Rejoice, rejoice, and again I say, Rejoice!
Rejoice in the Lord always: again I say, Rejoice!
Rejoice in the Lord always: again I say, Rejoice!

During Com.

This is the Air I Breathe

1. This is the air I breathe
This is the air I breathe
Your holy presence
Living in me (Repeat)

2. This is my daily bread
This is my daily bread
Your very word
Spoken to me

And I... I'm desperate for you
And I... I'm lost without you

Repeat verse 1 & 2

Advent Hymn

1. Christ whose glory fills the skies
Christ the everlasting light
Their some of righteousness arise
And triumph o'er these shades of night

2. And come thou long awaited one
In the fullness of your love
And loose this heart bound up by shame
And I will never be the same

3. So here I wait in hope of you
All my soul's longing through and through
And dayspring from on high be near
And daystar in my heart appear

4. Dark and cheerless is the morn
Until your love in me is born
And joyless is the evening sun
Until Emmanuel has come

5. So here I wait in hope of you
All my soul's longing through and through
And dayspring from on high be near
And daystar in my heart appear (repeat)

Rec: Glory, Glory to God Hallelujah!

1. Here is very, very simple song
I'd like to sing for you
And before it finish you will want to sing it too

Refrain:

Glory, Glory to God Hallelujah
Glory, Glory Amen (repeat)
Glory, Glory to God Hallelujah
Glory, Glory Amen
Let the whole world sing hallelujah
Peace, goodwill to all men.