

Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day  
your Lord is coming.



St. Mary of the Harbor

November 27, 2022

First Sunday in Advent

Where the land, the sea and the sacred meet

## Welcome to the Church of St. Mary of the Harbor

*A warm welcome to you! Here at St. Mary's, we welcome you with open arms and open hearts, to share with you the love with which Christ has welcomed us. Whoever you are, wherever you may be in life, there is a place for you here. In this beautiful place, you will find sojourners like yourself who are searching for truth, meaning, and purpose. And we invite you to explore and experience the gift of God's love in this place where the land, the sea, and the sacred meet.*

### **Worship Guidance**

Everything you need to guide you through today's service will be found in this leaflet, or in the hymnals in the chair just in front of you. You are invited to join in prayers and responses when the words are in **bold-faced** print in the leaflet. Most hymns may be found in *The Hymnal 1982*, the large blue hymnal. Occasionally hymns may be drawn from the green hymnal *Wonder, Love, and Praise* (abbreviated WLP in your leaflet), or from *Lift Every Voice and Sing* (abbreviated LEVAS).

### **Holy Communion**

Our worship is centered in the sharing of Communion, and no matter what your background, you are welcome to receive the Bread at this Table. Though the Diocese of Massachusetts has lifted many of its COVID-related restrictions, we at St. Mary's are continuing to receive Communion in one kind only, eager to do all we can to protect one another's well-being. Masks continue to be preferred throughout our worship services.

### **Hospitality Following Today's 10 am Service**

Immediately following our 10 am service, coffee and delicious refreshments will be served in Nicholson Hall. Nicholson Hall may be easily reached by turning right at the back of the church and proceeding through our beautiful garden. Please join us!

### **Hospitality Hosts Needed**

Over many months, we have been blessed with hospitality hosting by Carol Pesiri and others. As we move towards the winter months, we need new hosts. A sign-up sheet is posted on the pass-through counter in the kitchen. Please sign up. If no hosts step forward, coffee hour will go on hiatus.

### **Stewardship Update**

We are grateful to all of you who have already sent in your pledge for 2023. As of Wednesday, we have received 49 pledges. This means we are 65% of the way towards our goal of 75 pledges. If you are still reflecting about your pledge for the coming year, we would welcome your pledge as soon as possible.

### **In Case of Need**

If pastoral needs should arise, please contact the Reverend William W. Rich, Interim Rector, at 774-383-1236 or [WWRich53@protonmail.com](mailto:WWRich53@protonmail.com). Please make us aware of any needs for a pastoral conversation or visit.

### **A Commitment to Outreach – Thanksgiving Appeal**

Each year at this time, it is the tradition for St. Mary's parishioners to express their gratitude for God's many blessings through a Thanksgiving Appeal. This year, the Vestry has voted to devote half of the Thanksgiving Appeal as outreach, and to give that money to SKIP: the Soup Kitchen in Provincetown. The other half of the Appeal will be dedicated to needed capital repairs to the Rectory, in grateful anticipation of the arrival of the Parish's new Rector in 2023. Donations can be placed in the collection plate on Sundays, mailed to the church, or through the PayPal link on the church's website at [www.stmaryoftheharbor.org](http://www.stmaryoftheharbor.org). If you are donating by check, please enter "Thanksgiving Offering" in the memo section.

## **Message from the Vestry: Rectory Update**

After a successful summer rental season, the Vestry has voted to continue to rent the rectory through March, 2023. To begin readying the property for the arrival of the parish's new rector, re-shingling of two sides of the rectory has been undertaken. In April, additional renovations and repairs will be carried out to assure that the rectory is ready for the new rector's arrival. Looking to the future, the Vestry is beginning to plan for sewer hook-up for both the rectory and the church. Parishioners with questions are invited to contact the Wardens, Pat Penza and Tim Brown.

## **Supporting Our Neighbors – First Sunday Food Focus**

As a visual reminder of the needs of our neighbors, on the first Sunday of each month, we will be carrying to the altar the basket of donations that you make to the “Little Free Pantry,” hosted by our friends at the Unitarian Universalist Meeting House. That pantry provides non-perishable grocery and toiletry items for anyone in need. Please consider picking up an extra item or two when you shop. Items may be left in the basket by the baptismal font at any time. Please, no perishables, no glass containers and *please check expiration dates*. The Pantry cannot use expired items.

## **Advent Wednesday Evening Eucharist and Christian Formation – 5:30-6:30 pm**

For the first three Wednesdays of Advent (Nov. 30, and Dec, 7 and 14), the Holy Eucharist will be celebrated from 5:30-6, and Christian Formation will be offered from 6-6:30. In honor of the parish's patron saint, the Advent Christian Formation series will focus on “Three Ways of Seeing St. Mary: Justice-Seeker, Mother, and Companion in Faith.”

## **S-4 Memorial Service – Saturday, December 3 – 11 am**

On Saturday, December 3 at 11 am, St. Mary's will host the annual memorial service to remember those who died in the sinking of the S-4 submarine off St. Mary's Beach on December 17, 1927. The Marblehead Base of United States Submarine Veterans will be in attendance, and all are welcome.

## **This Week at St. Mary's**

**Wednesday, November 30 – 5:30-6:30 pm**

**Holy Eucharist – 5:30 pm – St. Andrew the Apostle**

**Adult Christian Formation – 6:00 pm – St. Mary, Justice-Seeker**

**Saturday, December 3 – 8:30 am**

**Strength for the Journey**

An online lay-led service of contemplation and healing. Contact Gerri Spinella ([gerri.spinella@gmail.com](mailto:gerri.spinella@gmail.com)) if you'd like to be included in the email invitation to each week's service.

**Saturday, December 3 – 11 am**

**S-4 Memorial Service**

**Sunday, December 4 – Holy Eucharist – 10 am**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**First Sunday Food Focus**

## **The Church of St. Mary of the Harbor**

517 Commercial Street, Provincetown, MA 02657 Phone: 508-487-2622

[stmaryoftheharbor.org](http://stmaryoftheharbor.org) 9

Office Hours: Tuesday (9-12), Wednesday (1-5), & Friday (9-5)

Julia Perry, Office Manager – [smothoffice@gmail.com](mailto:smothoffice@gmail.com)

## **Sunday Leadership Today**

Interim Rector, Celebrant, and Preacher – *The Reverend William W. Rich*

Deacon for the Gospel and Intercessions – *The Reverend Bruce Mason*

Deacon at the Altar – *The Reverend Charlie Nichols*

Organist – *Bill Carlson*

Crucifer – *Tim Brown*

Lector – *John Loftin*

Healer – *Andrea Sawyer*

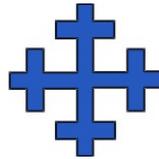
Ushers – *John Loftin, John Carroll*

Altar Guild – *John Loftin, John Carroll*

Hospitality – *Carol Pesiri*

Livestream – *John Carroll-Yagel*

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### **Vestry Officers**

Pat Penza, Senior Warden

Tim Brown, Junior Warden

John Loftin, Treasurer

Gerri Spinella, Clerk

### **Vestry Members**

Harry Ellsworth

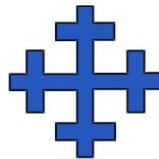
David Griffiths

Anita McGahan

Andrea Sawyer

Michael Sutilla

John Carroll-Yagel



### **Search Committee**

Bill Glass, Chair

Joan Gibbons

Sharon Inger

Julia Perry

The Search Committee may be contacted via email: [smothsearch@gmail.com](mailto:smothsearch@gmail.com).

# The Holy Eucharist

## Blessing and Lighting of the Advent Wreath

*Celebrant* Christ came to bring us salvation and has promised to come again.  
Let us pray that we may always be ready to welcome him.

*People* **Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Celebrant* That the keeping of Advent may open our hearts to God's love, let us pray to the Lord.

*People* **Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Celebrant* That the light of Christ may drive away the darkness of our world, let us pray to the Lord.

*People* **Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Celebrant* That this wreath may constantly remind us to prepare for the coming of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

*People* **Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Celebrant* That Advent and Christmas may fill us with peace and joy as we strive to follow the example of Jesus, let us pray to the Lord.

*People* **Come, Lord Jesus.**

**Prelude**

*Prelude*

*Jan Vanhal*

**Hymnal 73**

**The King shall come when morning dawns**

*St. Stephen*

*Celebrant* Christ our Savior now draws near.

*People* **Come let us adore him.**

## The Collect for Purity

**Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**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.**

## The First Reading

**Isaiah 2:1-5**

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come  
the mountain of the LORD's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.  
Many peoples shall come and say,  
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.'  
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.  
He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,  
and their spears into pruning-hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the LORD!

*~ Silence for 15 seconds ~*

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

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

## Psalm 122

*read responsively by the half verse*

1 I was glad when they said to me, \*  
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."  
2 Now our feet are standing \*  
**within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

- 3 Jerusalem is built as a city \*  
**that is at unity with itself;**
- 4 To which the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the LORD, \*  
**the assembly of Israel,  
to praise the Name of the LORD.**
- 5 For there are the thrones of judgment, \*  
**the thrones of the house of David.**
- 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: \*  
**"May they prosper who love you.**
- 7 Peace be within your walls \*  
**and quietness within your towers.**
- 8 For my brethren and companions' sake, \*  
**I pray for your prosperity.**
- 9 Because of the house of the LORD our God, \*  
**I will seek to do you good."**

*~ Silence for fifteen seconds ~*

## **The Second Reading**

**Romans 13:11-14**

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

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

*~ Silence for fifteen seconds ~*

**Hymnal 56 O come, O come Emmanuel (verses 1&2)**

*Veni, Veni Emmanuel*

## **The Holy Gospel**

**Matthew 24:36-44**

*Deacon:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke.

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

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

*Deacon:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon**

The Reverend William W. Rich

**The Creed**

## The Prayers of the People

*Leader* God calls us to love one another. As a sign of that love, let us lift up our prayer to God for the needs of all people throughout the world, saying:  
O Christ, come among us, and hear our prayer.

*Silence*

*Leader* We pray for the peace of the world, that our instruments of war may be transformed into instruments of peace, and that nations shall cease to learn war any more.

*People* **O Christ, come among us, and hear our prayer.**

*Leader* We pray for the church, that we may become more and more a means of grace and peace in the world.

*People* **O Christ, come among us, and hear our prayer.**

*Leader* We pray for all people of good will who seek to cast off the works of darkness, that we may be enlightened through our service of others in your name, O Christ.

*People* **O Christ, come among us, and hear our prayer.**

*Leader* For the children, teachers, and caretakers at Baobab Children's Home and the Stephen Tito School in Tanzania, that they may continue to know your love and grow in grace;

*People* **O Christ, come among us, and hear our prayer.**

*Leader* For our brothers and sisters who have pledged their lives in service to our nation and the world, especially those who serve in the military, those who protect our communities, and those who work to ensure the health and wellbeing of all of God's people.

*People* **O Christ, come among us, and hear our prayer.**

*Leader* For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, and especially for those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity: the people of Ukraine, the people of Russia, Elizabeth, Monique, Mike Sutilla, Joan Boudreau, Joyce, Sandra Powell, Julie, Ken Barry, Towanda deNagy, Bobby Taylor, Kent Taylor, Carol Studley, Ron Kershaw, Cecelia Hall, Diana Hardy, Scott Ashley, Sam Adams, Frank Milby, Priscilla McChesney, Maureen Cronin, Michael Mason, Terry Monaghan, Donna Pickener, Deidre Malloy, Ollie Ahmuty, Joan Walter, Phebe McPherson, and those whose names are spoken on our lips, those who are known to us in our hearts, or those known only to you

*[pause for names to be added].*

*Leader* Hear us, Lord;

*People* **O Christ, come among us, and hear our prayer.**

*Leader* We pray for all who have died, including \_\_\_, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*[pause for names to be added]*

*Leader* Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them,  
who put their trust in you.

*People* **O Christ, come among us, and hear our prayer.**

*People* **Spirit of the living God:**

**Guide us as we journey together in search for a new rector.**

**Grant us patience to listen and wisdom to understand each other and ourselves.**

**Equip us with open minds and truthful hearts.**

**Anchor us in faith, hope, and love during this transition and always. Amen.**

The prayers are concluded with hymn # 608, verse 1

*Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm hath bound the restless wave, who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep: O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.*

### **The Confession and Absolution**      *from Enriching Our Worship 1*

**God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

### **The Peace**

*Celebrant*      The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People*          **And also with you.**

### **Birthday and Anniversary Prayers**

**Offertory**                      *Berceuse*    *Vincent Persichetti*

### **The Presentation of the People's Gifts**

#### **Presentation Hymn**

**Hymnal 74**      **Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God**      *Valet will ich dir geben*

*During this time in which Covid numbers have increased, we will not be offering the chalice at Communion. Gluten free hosts are available. Please tell the priest if you would like a gluten free host. For those wishing to receive it, there is also sacramental anointing with oil and prayers for healing offered during Communion at the back of the church.*

## **The Holy Communion Eucharistic Prayer B**

*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. 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**

*Celebrant* 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 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 God,

*Celebrant & People*

**We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory.**

*Celebrant* 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 [\_\_\_\_\_] 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 Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours. Almighty God, now and for ever.

*People* **Amen.**

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

**The Lord's Prayer** *traditional form*

**The Breaking of the Bread**

*Celebrant* This is the Living Bread, given for all Creation.

*People* **All who eat this Bread share in Christ's Body.**

**Communion Hymn**

**Hymnal 53**

**Once he came in blessing**

*Gottes Sohn ist kommen*

**Post Communion Prayer**

**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, Holy God, 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 Christ, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

**Announcements**

**The Blessing**

**Hymnal 68**

**Rejoice! Rejoice, believers**

*Llangloffen*

**The Dismissal**

*Deacon* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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

**Postlude**

*Postlude*

*Charles Vincent*