

Holy Eucharist Rite II

Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025 - 9:00 a.m. - Chapel

A Letter for the Season of Advent

As we begin, once again, a new Church year, during the season of Advent—a time of longing, reflection, and hopeful waiting we are invited to pause amid the rush of December and listen for the quiet footsteps of God drawing near. The word itself means “coming,” and throughout these four weeks, we prepare not only to celebrate Christ’s birth in Bethlehem but also to welcome His presence among us now and His promised return in glory.

Advent is a season of **light growing in the midst of darkness**, a time when candles and prayers together remind us that the world’s true hope does not come from our own efforts but from the faithfulness of God. Each Sunday deepens this hope and moves us closer to Christmas.

On the **First Sunday of Advent**, we hear Jesus’ call to *watch and stay awake* (Matt. 24:36–44). The Church year begins not in a manger but with a reminder of Christ’s final coming—a call to vigilance and trust. The message is clear: history has meaning because God is not finished with the world.

The **Second Sunday** brings us the voice of *John the Baptist* crying in the wilderness, “Prepare the way of the Lord” (Matt. 3:1–12). His urgent words invite us to repentance and renewal, to clear away the clutter in our hearts so there is room for the Christ who comes.

On the **Third Sunday**, known as *Gaudete Sunday*, the tone brightens as we hear John’s question from prison: “Are you the one who is to come?” (Matt. 11:2–11). Even in doubt, joy breaks through. The pink candle on the Advent wreath glows as a sign that God’s promises are already unfolding in our midst.

Finally, the **Fourth Sunday** turns our gaze toward *Joseph*, who dreams of angels and learns to trust God’s plan (Matt. 1:18–25). His quiet obedience mirrors the deep peace that comes from faith. As Mary and Joseph await the child, so too do we wait—with love, humility, and readiness for Emmanuel, “God with us.”

Through these four Sundays, we trace the path of hope, preparation, joy, and love—the true gifts of Advent. I encourage you to keep this season prayerfully: light your candles, read Scripture, attend worship, and let this time shape your heart for the coming of Christ.

May this Advent be for us all a holy journey from darkness to light, from waiting to wonder, from promise to fulfillment.

Grace and peace,



Fr. Andreis +
Vice-Rector

*Welcome to Christ Church Ponte Vedra Beach! We are delighted to have you worship with us.
In order to prepare for this service, we ask that you silence your phone. Thank you!*

THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

As the Celebrant enters, please stand.

Introit (Psalm 146:4-8)

Celebrant Praise the Lord, O my soul! *

People I will praise the Lord as long as I live.

Celebrant Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! *

All whose hope is in the Lord their God;

Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; *
who keeps his promise for ever;

Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
and food to those who hunger.

The Lord sets the prisoners free;
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; *
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

The Lord loves the righteous; the Lord cares for the stranger; *
he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the wicked.

Celebrant Praise the Lord, O my soul! *

People I will praise the Lord as long as I live.

Advent Wreath Lighting (The Candle of Joy)

Celebrant The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

People Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them, light has shined.

Celebrant Week by week, the light grows stronger and brighter, as we anticipate the coming Christ. The candles of Hope and Preparation are already ablaze.

People **Today, we light the candle of Joy.**

The third candle on the Advent Wreath is lit.

Celebrant The promise of healing, comfort, liberty, and freedom is good news that is meant to be shared. Rejoicing in the mercy and justice of our Lord.

People **Together, we lift our hearts and voices, in songs of joy.**

Opening Sentences Page 355, *The Book of Common Prayer*

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

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.

Trisagion Page 356, *The Book of Common Prayer*

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

The Collect

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Reading

Lector A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

35:1-10

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.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

The Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 11:2-11

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

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’

“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

The Sermon *The Reverend Deacon Leila Quinlan*

Please stand.

The Nicene Creed Page 358, *The Book of Common Prayer*

You may kneel.

The Prayers of the People

Leader Be born again, O Christ, that the busy world may pause to behold the beauty of your face, and that we may come again to you, in adoration and joy.
With love and compassion

People **Come Lord Jesus**

Come to your world as King of the nations. We pray for those in authority in the nations of the world. For a recognition of our common humanity and for those who serve our Country.

With love and compassion

Come Lord Jesus

Come to the sick and suffering as Savior and comforter. Break into our lives, where we struggle with sickness and distress, and set us free to serve you for ever.

With love and compassion

Come Lord Jesus

Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls. Give us with all the faithful departed a share in your victory over evil and death.

With love and compassion

Come Lord Jesus

Come from heaven, Lord Jesus, with power and great glory. Lift us up to meet you, that with and all your saints and angels we may live and reign with you in your new creation.

With love and compassion

Come Lord Jesus

Silence is kept.

Celebrant: Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay; give new courage to your people, who trust in your love. By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom on earth as in heaven, where you live and reign with the Father and the Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Confession

Page 360, *The Book of Common Prayer*

Please stand.

The Peace

Page 360, *The Book of Common Prayer*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

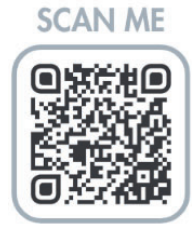
People

And also with you.

Please be seated.

Welcome and Announcements

*To make an offering online visit
ccpvb.org/give or scan this code.
Thank you for your support.*



THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory

Please stand.

The Presentation

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B *Page 367, The Book of Common Prayer*

Sanctus

You may kneel or sit. The Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic Prayer.

The Lord's Prayer *Page 364, The Book of Common Prayer*

The Breaking of the Bread *Page 364, The Book of Common Prayer*

Please be seated.

Distribution of Communion

Please join us at God's table.

*All people, including children, are invited to receive Communion. Gluten-free wafers are also available.
If you would prefer not to take Communion but would like a blessing, please fold your arms across your chest.
The usher will guide for Communion.*

Postcommunion Prayer Page 365, *The Book of Common Prayer*

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **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

Please stand.

Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

TODAY, Sunday December 14

Youth Mission Trip to Bolivia - Info Meeting

Today, Sunday, December 14 at 12:30pm

Come join our Director of Youth Ministries, Parker Wheeler, for an informational session about next summer's mission trip.

Grab a Bag Sunday-Advent!

For the Advent season, we're turning our monthly food drive into a weekly food drive. Help stock the shelves of BEAM and St Mary's food pantries by picking up a shopping bag and list after worship, and bring your donations to the M25 Room.

A delicious **Sunday Breakfast** will be served in the dining room from 8:15am - 10:45am. \$10/adult, \$7/children under 8; \$34 family max.

Nursery Care - Available from 8:45 am to 12:30 pm, for children ages four months to 5.

Children's Chapel -9:15 am - Hospitality Lobby

Voices of Advent: The Bible's Insights for a Season of Hope (100) Sundays (Dec14, 21) 10:15-11:00 am in Room 106

This clergy-led Bible study will explore Biblical texts to examine how they shape our lives and Christmas celebrations.

Gabe Bove Bible Study (100)

10:15 – 11:00 am in F209

Scott Burch Bible Study (200): Excavating the Bible; 10:15 – 11:00 am; Room 224

Contact: scottburch@yahoo.com

Children's Formation – 10:15-11:00am

Meet downstairs in the F&A Building

Youth Forum -10:15-11:00am

SPECIAL EVENTS THIS WEEK

Blue Christmas – Wednesday, December 17 at 5:30pm – Main Sanctuary

Blue Christmas is the time when we can, with others, acknowledge any sad feelings we may have at Christmas time, the reasons for them, and offer them to God. We invite you to reflect on your feeling and we pray that you will find hope and comfort in knowing that you are not alone. Contact Deacon Leila at Leila@ccpvb.org for more information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Children's Christmas Pageant There is still space in the 6:00pm children's pageant on Christmas Eve! Please contact Amy Schmitt at aschmitt@ccpvb.org for more information.

Christ Church Preschool's enrollment is open year round and we are taking inquiries for the 2026-2027 school year. Contact Head of School, Christy Maurer, at cmaurer@preschoolcec.org

Spaces are available for our next pilgrimage to the **Camino de Santiago**, taking place from

April 19 - May 2, 2026 AND on our **Grace and Gardens** trip to England from September 13-25, 2026. Please contact Deacon Leila Quinlan at Leila@ccpvb.org for more information about the Camino and Rev. Amy Slater at aslater@ccpvb.org for England.

Our **Flower Ministry** is looking for medium size clear vases. If you have received flowers or have vases that you are not using, please bring them to the front office. If you have received flowers and are unable to return the vase, please call the front office and let us know. We will stop by and pick them up. Questions, please reach out to Julie McAvity flowers@ccpvb.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

January 17, 2026 – Long Haul Love Encore Concert with Rachel & Friends
10:00am - Contemporary Worship Space

Christ Church Women's Retreat 2026
Friday, January 30 - Sunday, February 1
Don't miss the 2026 Women's Retreat! Our theme is *Prayers of the People*, and our speaker, the Rev Dr Linda Privatera, will lead us through a deep exploration of the ways and the reasons we pray. Make plans to join us at Epworth By the Sea for this time of fellowship, rest, and inspiration! Scan the code to register, or drop by the front office for a brochure. For questions, contact Deacon Leila or Mother Laura.



Cursillo Coed Weekend 2/27-3/1 2026

Cursillo is an adult spiritual renewal ministry and community of the Episcopal Church, which begins with a three-day retreat of learning, sharing, and living together in Christina community. This weekend features separate men's and women's sleeping cabins, meals, and discussion groups, while lectures and services in the Chapel will be held jointly. Registration is required.

There will be separate Men's and Women's Cursillo Weekends in the Fall of 2026.

Dates will be announced later next year. For more information see diocesefl.org/cursillo or contact Ron Kessner at cursilloccpvb@gmail.com

General Warning - Phishing & Other Scams

Please note that all of our clergy and some of our lay staff continue to be victims of phishing attempts and other online scams. There is nothing that we can do to stop these attacks apart from warning you about them. Please note on the church website (www.ccpvb.org) the real and valid email addresses of our clergy and staff. Phishing attacks work by taking our valid email addresses and changing them just a little bit. The scammers then impersonate the clergy or staff, using these faked email addresses, sending emails to you (yes, they have your email address as well), asking for money or gift cards. **Please do not fall for this scam.** No one from this church will ever ask you for gift cards. And please pray for the scammers, that they may repent from their thieving ways, and give their life to Jesus!

Christmas Worship Schedule

Blue Christmas - December 17 at 5:30pm.

A service of remembrance and comfort for prayers, and healing. Contemporary Worship Space.

December 24 – Christmas Eve

2:00 p.m. Main Sanctuary Traditional Rite II Holy Eucharist & Pageant

3:00 p.m. Vicars Landing

Traditional Rite II Holy Eucharist

4:00 p.m. Main Sanctuary

Traditional Rite II Holy Eucharist

***4:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship Space**

Contemporary Christmas Eve Candlelight service with the Jordan band.

***6:00 p.m. Main Sanctuary Traditional Rite**

II Christmas Eve with Pageant and Candle lighting

6:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship Space

Misa en Español. Spanish language Eucharist.

8:00 p.m. Main Sanctuary Traditional Rite II

Christmas Eve Candlelight Holy Eucharist

10:00 p.m. Main Sanctuary Traditional Rite

II Christmas Eve with incense.

Note: Those with sensitivities or respiratory issues may wish to consider attending a different service.

December 25 – Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. Main Sanctuary Christmas Morning Eucharist with hymns

First Sunday After Christmas

Sunday, December 28

***9:00 a.m. Main Sanctuary**

Traditional Rite II Holy Eucharist

11:15 a.m. Main Sanctuary

Christmas Festival of Lessons & Carols

Nursery care will be available on Christmas Eve for the 2, 4 & 6 p.m. services. No registration is required.

*These services will be live streamed on our YouTube channel.

MINISTRY CONTACTS

Caring Connections Director

Liz McCarthy / Lmccarthy@ccpvb.org
904-285-6127, ext. 235

Children

Amy Schmitt / aschmitt@ccpvb.org
904-285-6127, ext. 227

Development + Parish Executive

Mike Shepherd / mshepherd@ccpvb.org
o. 904-285-6127, ext. 228
p. 904-788-4295

Formation for All Ages

The Rev. Laura Magevney /
Lmagevney@ccpvb.org
904-285-6127, ext. 248

Hospitality + Nursery

Jennifer DeRycker / jderycker@ccpvb.org
904-285-6127, ext. 247

Marketing and Communications

Lindsey Bloodworth /
Lbloodworth@ccpvb.org
904-285-6127, ext. 260

Music

Dr. Rachel Root / rroot@ccpvb.org
904-285-6127, ext. 233

Newcomers + Spirituality

The Rev. Deacon Leila Quinlan /
Leila@ccpvb.org
904-285-6127, ext. 223

Operations + Parish Administrator

Stephanie Murray / smurray@ccpvb.org
904-285-6127, ext. 256

Outreach + Pastoral Care

The Rev. Amy Slater / aslater@ccpvb.org
904-285-6127, ext. 236

Staff and Clergy Chaplain

The Rev. Wendy Billingslea /
wwbillingslea@gmail.com

Preschool

Christy Maurer / cmaurer@preschoolcec.org
904-285-6371, ext. 243

Recovery

The Rev. Deacon Priscilla Wodehouse /
pdwodehouse@icloud.com

Worship

The Rev. Andreis Diaz / adiaz@ccpvb.org
904-285-6127, ext. 226

Youth

Parker Wheeler / CECYouth@ccpvb.org

Music used by permission- OneLicense.net A-701976 and CCLI 218107

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Year-End Contribution Checklist

To ensure the deductibility of your Church contributions, do not file your 2025 income tax return until you have received a written acknowledgement of your contributions. Some of your contributions may not be tax deductible if you file your tax return before receiving a written acknowledgment of your contributions from the Church.

Type of contribution	Report for 2025	Report for 2026
* Checks written in Dec 2025 and deposited in church offering in Jan 2026.		X
* Checks written and deposited in church offering in Jan 2026 but "backdated" to Dec 2025.		X
* Checks written and deposited in church offering in Dec 2025 but "postdated" to Jan 2026.		X
* Checks written in Dec 2025 and deposited in the mail and postmarked in Dec 2025 but not received by the Church until Jan 2026.	X	
* Checks written in Dec 2025 deposited in the mail in Dec 2025 but not postmarked until Jan 2026 and not received by the Church until Jan 2026.		X
Your 2025 tax receipt will be available by January 31, 2026. The Church cannot assign "value" to any non-cash donations, including donated stocks. Please consult your broker or tax adviser for the value of donated stock.		

STOCK DONATION INSTRUCTIONS - Christ Church receives its stock donations at Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Please deliver all OTC-Eligible Securities to Charles Schwab. All deliveries MUST include client name (Christ Episcopal Church) and Schwab account #8572-5407. Delivery to: DTC Clearing 0164, Code 40, Account #8572-5407, Christ Episcopal Church of Ponte Vedra Beach. Please notify Ronda Toonk, CFO, rondatoonk@ccpvb.org or 904-285-7390 x 232 with details of your donation. This will ensure that the donation is received and sold promptly and that your donation is recorded on your contribution statement correctly. Thank you for your continued support.

Worship Services

7:30 a.m.	Church Sanctuary	Holy Eucharist, Rite I
9:00 a.m.	Church Sanctuary	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
9:00 a.m.	Cooper Chapel	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
9:00 a.m.	Parish Center, 2nd floor	Jordan Service
9:00 a.m.	NSIA Community Center	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
11:15 a.m.	Church Sanctuary	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
11:15 a.m.	Parish Center, 2nd floor	Jordan Service
12:45 p.m.	Cooper Chapel	Spanish-language Service
5:00 p.m.	Church Sanctuary	Contemplative Service
5:30 p.m. (Wed)	Cooper Chapel	Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Vestry

Jack Parker, Sr. Warden	Heather Fouts, Jr. Warden	Janet Burnside, Treasurer
Kathy Blackman	Chris Brownlee	Jim Evanger
David Gagnon	Katharine Loeb	Doug Long
Justin Udelhofen	Wendy Waller	Trey Wilson
		Gretna Zerebny

Staff Clergy

The Rev. Thomas P. Reeder, Rector

The Rev. Andreis Diaz, Vice Rector

The Rev. Amy Slater, Sr. Associate Rector The Rev. Laura Magevney, Associate Rector

The Rev. Wendy Billingslea, Chaplain

The Rev. Sandy Tull, Vicar for Christ Church Among the Oaks

Deacons

The Rev. Deacon Leila Quinlan

The Rev. Deacon Priscilla Wodehouse

The Rev. Deacon Marsha Holmes

Adjunct Clergy

The Rev. Dr. Jim Cooper, Rector Emeritus

The Rev. Michael Ellis

The Rev. Keith Oglesby

The Rev. Eric Kahl

The Rev. Bob Morris

The Rev. Burt Shepherd

The Rev. Rich Roos

The Rev. Joan Bryan, Emeritus

The Rev. Deacon Jo Hoskins, Deacon Emeritus



CHRIST CHURCH

EPISCOPAL

400 San Juan Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082 ◦ 904.285.6127 ◦ CCPVB.ORG

  @CCPVB