

# Sherwood Episcopal Church

Five Sherwood Road  
Cockeysville-Hunt Valley, MD 21030

410-666-2180

[sherwoodcockeesville.org](http://sherwoodcockeesville.org)

**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**10 am**

**December 12 2021**  
**Holy Eucharist, Rite II**



## THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude      Prelude on *Besançon* (People look East)

Welcome and Announcements      The Reverend  
Nancy H. Hennessey, Rector

## THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

*Reader:* Today we light the first, second, and third  
candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a

meaning. The first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE, and the third candle is JOY.

*The candle is lit.*

You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

*Isaiah 55:12*

Let us pray.

Gracious God, you came to us in human flesh and you abide with us in the Holy Spirit. Fill us with your joy, and help us shine as a light to the world. Through Jesus Christ, who makes our joy complete. **Amen.**

*Compiled and written by the Rev. Matthew Kozlowski*

HYMN – 59

*Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding*

1 Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding:

“Christ is nigh,” it seems to say;

“Cast away the works of darkness,

O ye children of the day.”

2 Wakened by the solemn warning,

from earth’s bondage let us rise;

Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling,  
shines upon the morning skies.

3 Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,  
comes with pardon down from heaven;  
let us haste, with tears of sorrow,  
one and all to be forgiven;

4 so when next he comes with glory,  
and the world is wrapped in fear,  
may he with his mercy shield us,  
and with words of love draw near.

5 Honor, glory, might, and blessing  
to the Father and the Son,  
with the everlasting Spirit  
while unending ages run.

THE OPENING SENTENCES

BCP pg. 355

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

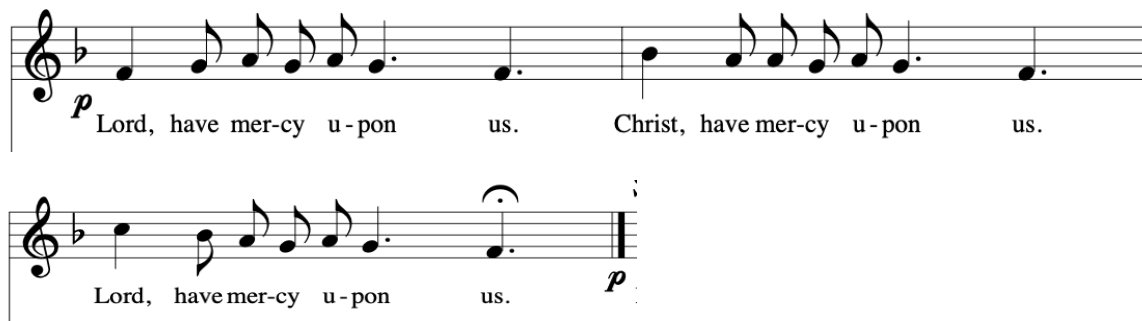
**Amen.**

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.**

## KYRIE

*Arranged by Edmund Brownless*



*p* Lord, have mer-cy u - pon us. Christ, have mer-cy u - pon us.

Lord, have mer-cy u - pon us. *p*

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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 FIRST READING

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak.

The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you

home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 9 Page 86, BCP, The First Song of Isaiah  
*Read responsively by whole verse*

Surely, it is God who saves me; \*

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

**For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure  
defense, \***

**and he will be my Savior.**

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \*  
from the springs of salvation.

**And on that day you shall say, \***

**Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his  
Name;**

Make his deeds known among the peoples; \*  
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

**Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, \*  
and this is known in all the world.**

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \*  
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

THE EPISTLE

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## GOSPEL AFFIRMATION



THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 3:7-18

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In



reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.*

THE SERMON     The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey

THE NICENE CREED             BCP pg. 358

*Said by all, standing as you are able.*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation**

he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and  
the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,  
the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and  
glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic  
Church.

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Form III, BCP p. 387

Let us pray.

Father, we pray for your holy catholic church;  
**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the church may truly and humbly serve you;  
**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

We pray especially for those impacted by COVID-19 as well those on our parish prayer list:, Virginia, Timothy, Margaret S. & family, Louis, Shannon T., Marisa, Bill P., Casey, Betsey, Kiernan & Colleen, Lou D., Wayne L., Nancy C., Sheila, Hoa, Diane B., Kaylay, Lorraine, Kathy, Butch, Paige, John M., and Kyle.

We thank you for the blessings of this life, including those celebrating birthdays, especially Mary and Kate, as well as anniversaries.

Give to the departed eternal rest.

**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

*Concluding Collect:*

Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.  
*Silence may be kept.*

**Most merciful God,**  
**we confess that we have sinned against you**  
**in thought, word, and deed,**  
**by what we have done,**  
**and by what we have left undone.**  
**We have not loved you with our whole heart;**  
**we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**  
**We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**  
**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,**  
**have mercy on us and forgive us;**  
**that we may delight in your will,**  
**and walk in your ways,**  
**to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

## THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*The people will greet one another with a sign of God's peace. Don't forget to show the sign of peace to our friends who are worshiping with us virtually.*

***Please be seated.***

*We continue to do God's work and your contributions of any size make a huge difference. Give online ([sherwoodcockeyville.org/give](http://sherwoodcockeyville.org/give)) or if you would prefer, mail your contribution to 5 Sherwood Road, Cockeysville, 21030.*

*Thank you!*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

*All persons, including children, are invited to receive the real and living presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Communion. Come forward to the altar rail at the invitation of the ushers. To receive the Bread, extend your hands upward, palms crossed. If you would prefer a blessing in lieu of Communion, please cross your arms on your chest.*

## THE OFFERTORY

*The people are seated while an offering is collected to support God's mission here at Sherwood Church and in the world.*

## OFFERTORY HYMN

He shall feed his flock (*Messiah*) - G.F. Handel

Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
then shall the lame man leap as a hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing.

He shall feed his flock like a shepherd; and he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young. Come unto him, all ye that labor, come unto him that are heavy laden, and he will give you rest. Take his yoke upon you, and learn of him, for he is meek and lowly of heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

*Please stand as you are able.*

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord.

People: **And of thine own we have given thee.**



# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B – BCP pg. 367

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

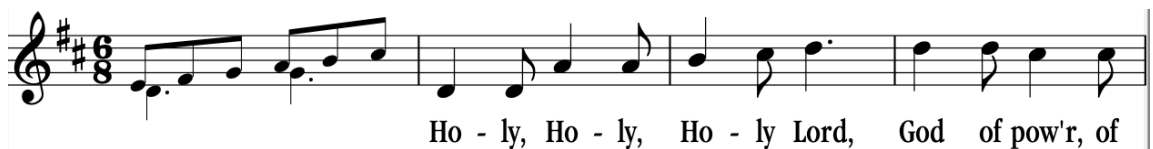
*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth ...

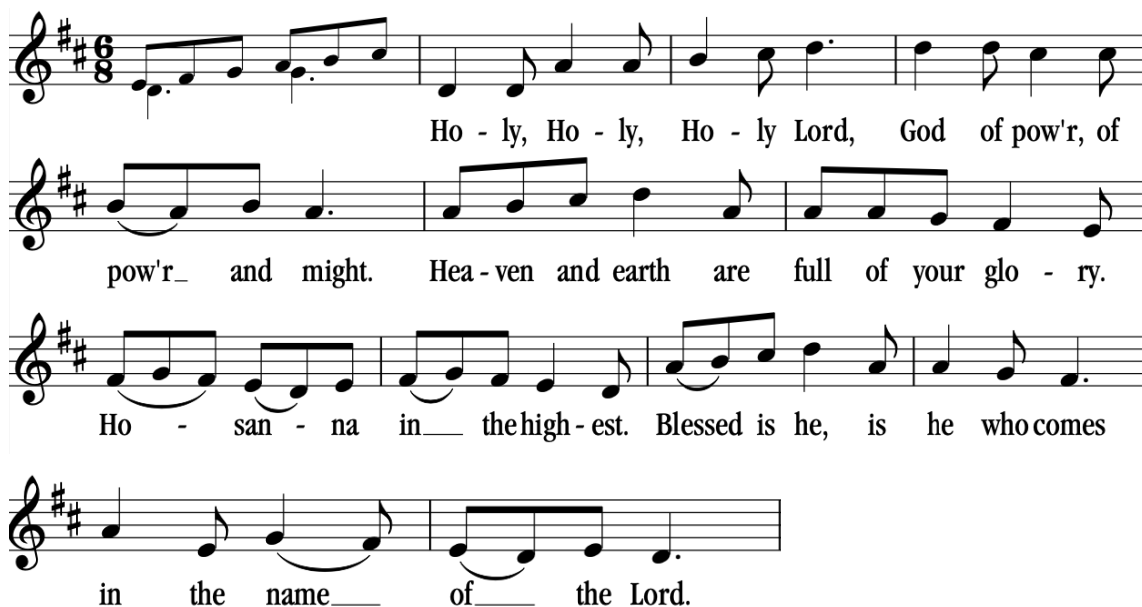
Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

*Holy, holy, holy*



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r, of



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r, of  
 pow'r\_ and might. Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
 Ho - san - na in\_ the high - est. Blessed is he, is he who comes  
 in the name\_ of\_ the Lord.

*The Celebrant gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ's passion and resurrection and prayers over the bread and wine.*

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*People and Celebrant*

**We remember his death,**

**We proclaim his resurrection,**

**We await his coming in glory;**

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      BCP pg. 364

*The Celebrant says*

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,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.  
**Therefore let us keep the feast.**

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## AGNUS DEI

Arranged by Andrew Adair



Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on  
us. Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on  
us. Have mer - cy, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on  
us. Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world, give us your peace.

*For those who are not able to be present for communion, please pray the Spiritual Communion Prayer while Mother Nancy distributes communion to those present.*

## A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*Episcopal Prayer Book for the Armed Forces (1988)*

*In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. And since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.*

POST COMMUNION PRAYER      BCP pg. 365

Let us pray.

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

*The Celebrant pronounces a blessing over the People, and  
the People respond, **Amen.***

## RECESSIONAL HYMN – 76

*On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry*

1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
awake and hearken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings.

2 Then cleansed be every breast from sin;  
make straight the way for God within,  
and let each heart prepare a home  
where such a mighty guest may come.

3 For thou art our salvation, Lord,  
our refuge, and our great reward;  
without thy grace we waste away  
like flowers that wither and decay.

4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,  
and bid the fallen sinner stand;  
shine forth, and let thy light restore

earth's own true loveliness once more.

5 All praise, eternal Son, to thee,  
whose advent doth thy people free;  
whom with the Father we adore  
and Holy Spirit evermore.

## THE DISMISSAL

As we go forth into the world, refreshed and renewed, we reaffirm our commitment to our mission as a congregation:

**God commands us to enthusiastically cast open our doors to embrace all, impacting lives through bold service, no exceptions.**

Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Postlude on *Helmsley*

### Worship Participants

Celebrant: The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey

Music Director: Greg Sesek

Cantor: Cassidy Dixon

Seminarian: Karen Mercer

Lector: Anne Wismer  
Acolyte: Anne Wismer  
Usher: Sandy Thompson  
Broadcast Engineer: Robin Rouleau  
Hospitality: Anne Wismer

### **Lay Participants for Sunday, December 19**

Lector: Bronwyn Mitchell-Strong  
Acolyte: Dylan Strong  
Ushers: Bill & Karyn Galetto  
Broadcast Engineer: Stephanie Everts  
Hospitality: COOKIES NEEDED

*Please keep those with ongoing needs in your prayers:  
Sally, Debbie, Shannon, Norma, Joyce, Christine,  
Kendall, Marge, Sarah, Gail, Steve W., Michelle, Joe  
G., Jeanetta, Christina, Khalil, Danny, Joe C., Marisa,  
Bill P., Dante, David D., Sandy & Jack, Alice, Debbie  
R., and Marian.*

*Thank you for joining us for worship. Please be sure to check out our Facebook page for updates and also remember to subscribe to our YouTube channel. If you are interested in receiving our e-newsletter, please contact Carey Mednick at [sherwoodparish@gmail.com](mailto:sherwoodparish@gmail.com).*



## *This Week @ Sherwood*

### **Sunday**

Youth Formation via Zoom @ Noon

### **Monday**

Mother Nancy's day off

Office closed

### **Tuesday**

Joseph Bible Study via Zoom @ 6:15 pm

### **Wednesday**

Office hours 10 am-3 pm

### **Thursday**

Joseph Bible Study via Zoom @ 3 pm

### **Did You Know?**

Each Sunday in Advent we will be adding figures to the manger. Advent is a time for preparation and waiting. Last week the shepherds and their sheep were placed in the manger. This week the heavenly angel will join the manger scene. We are getting close!

**Outreach Update – Adopt-A-Family:** The phrase “all things great and small” has been running through my mind quite a bit these past few days. The holiday season at Cocksylville Middle School (CMS) has been a mixture

of both the great (big) and the small. The “great” include Sherwood’s sponsoring of an event at the school on December 22 to recognize the positive behaviors exhibited by the 6th grade class during a challenging school year. The students will watch a holiday movie and enjoy a small snack. Sherwood will be providing the snack. Please join us on December 19 after church to help assemble 300 “treat bags” for the students. We are also gearing up for another big event—the Christmas food distribution on December 21. Volunteers from Sherwood representing the Student Support Network (SSN) will be at CMS to hand out household necessity bags, gift cards and cold weather items. And then there is the “small”. We have just been made aware of a family at the school that could use some extra support during the holidays. There will be a Christmas Tree in the wing on December 12 with tags representing some modest gifts requested by the family. Please take a tag, purchase the gift and return to Sherwood (unwrapped) by December 19. We would also like to include a grocery store or Walmart gift card with the presents. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make check out to Sherwood and note “Adopt-A-Family” on the check. Finally, I would like to share a small story about the

difference we were able to make in one student's life through our involvement with the SSN. Our school liaison informed me of a student with some very urgent and specific needs. Working with together with the SSN we were able to obtain the items needed and get them to this student within 24 hours. Thank you all for your continued support as we go forward. Please feel free to email me at [joymann3@gmail.com](mailto:joymann3@gmail.com) if you have any questions or need more information.--*Joyce Mann, Outreach Coordinator*

**Thank you!** On behalf of the vestry, thank you to everyone who made their 2022 pledge. The vestry will begin to set the 2022 budget. Each gift matters and as a community we are blessed by the generosity of so many. If you haven't gotten your pledge in, it is not too late. Visit [sherwoodcockeyville.org](http://sherwoodcockeyville.org) and click on Give then 2022 Stewardship to make your pledge to Sherwood. Thank you!



## **Christmas Service Schedule 2021**

*We invite you to come celebrate with us!*

**Christmas Eve Service @ 5 pm--In person and on  
Facebook Live**

Festive service with communion as we rejoice in the  
birth of Christ, including our tradition of singing  
*Silent Night* by candlelight

**Christmas Day Service @ 9 am--On Facebook Live**

Join Mother Nancy for Morning Prayer from her home  
on Christmas morning

**First Sunday after Christmas @ 10 am**

*Christmas Lessons and Carols in person and  
on Facebook Live*

The celebration continues with readings and carols  
sung by everyone to enjoy