



ST. TIMOTHY'S EPISCOPAL
EST. HERNDON, VA • 1868

432 Van Buren Street
Herndon, VA 20170
p: 703-437-3790
www.saint-timothys.org

Sunday, December 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent

8 a.m.



Weekly Services:

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|--------------------|--|
| Sunday, 8:00 a.m. | Holy Eucharist Rite I, spoken |
| Sunday, 10:00 a.m. | Holy Eucharist Rite II with Choir (Godly Play for ages 3–9 in Rm. B-1) |
| Sábado, 7:00 p.m. | Santa Eucaristía Rito II, en español |

Saint Timothy's Mission Statement

SAINT TIMOTHY'S MISSION IS TO RESTORE ALL PEOPLE
TO UNITY WITH GOD AND EACH OTHER IN CHRIST.

Information For Our First-Time Guests

We invite you to fill out a Welcome Card in the pew rack in front of you or on the podium in the Narthex. Please place the completed card in the offertory plate or give it to an usher.

Children are welcome to stay with parents in the Sanctuary or they may head downstairs for Godly Play after the reading of the Collect. For your convenience, there are also rocking chairs located at the back of the sanctuary to soothe little ones and worship bags with quiet activities in the Narthex.

We invite you to share in Holy Communion. To receive, come forward and kneel/stand at an open space on the altar rail. Both bread (gluten free available on request) and wine (either sip from the chalice or allow the chalice-bearer to intinct) will be offered. If you don't wish to receive, we invite you to come forward for a blessing. Please indicate that by placing your arms across your chest.

Staff

Church office hours are 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Monday through Friday.

The Rev. Charles R. Cowherd, Rector (x12)

priest@saint-timothys.org

The Rev. Brad Rundlett, Rector Emeritus

The Rev. Philene Ware Dunn, Interim Latino Supply Priest

pwardunn@cox.net

Deb Angerman, Bookkeeper (x13)

bookkeeper@saint-timothys.org

Julio Cuellar, Latino Service Musician

juliocuellarmusic@yahoo.com

Todd Grivetti, Organist/Choirmaster (x16)

music@saint-timothys.org

Allyson Showalter, Preschool Director (x14)

sttimothyspreschool432@gmail.com

Debbie Stolar, Parish Administrator (x10)

office@saint-timothys.org

Vestry

Sr. Warden - Maria LaWalt (2025)

Jr. Warden – Kristie Rudolph (2025)

Betsy Bosworth (2025)

Tom Davis (2024)

David Dopsovic (2024)

Carolyn Hamm (2025)

Vilma Lemus (2026)

Matt Schumann - Alternate

Rick Wilson (2024)

Midori Yanagihara (2026)

Trustees

Tom McLenigan

Keith Sinclair

Deke Smith

HOLY EUCHARIST- RITE I

The Word of God

At the tolling of the bell, please stand.

Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity (BCP 323)

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

People: His mercy endureth for ever.

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

Trisagion (BCP 324)

Celebrant: Holy God,
Holy Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,

People: Have mercy upon us.

The Collect for the Day (BCP 160)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

The Lessons

A Reading from Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will

make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 126 (Read responsively)

1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.

2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

3 Then they said among the nations, *
"The LORD has done great things for them."

4 The LORD has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.

5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.

6 Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.

|| 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

A Reading from 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

Holy Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

The Reverend Charles R. Cowherd

Please stand.

The Nicene Creed (BCP 358)

**People: We believe in one God,
the Father 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.**

Please stand, or kneel, as you are able.

The Prayers of the People (BCP 328)

Leader: Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love. **Amen.**

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially to Michael, Mark, and Charles, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments. **Amen.**

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. **Amen.**

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Joe our president, Glenn our governor, and Sheila our mayor, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world. **Amen.**

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty. **Amen.**

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity. **Amen.**

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of Timothy and all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. **Amen.**

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin (BCP 331)

Celebrant: Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God:

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

Absolution (BCP 332)

Celebrant: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant: God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

(John 3:16)

Please stand

The Peace (BCP 332)

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Welcome & Announcements

The Offering

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (Prayer I, BCP 333)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: **It is meet and right so to do.**

Celebrant: It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Because thou didst send thy 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, with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

The Sanctus (BCP 334)

All: **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Stand or kneel, as you are able.

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do

this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

All: 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 Fraction (BCP 337)

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The Invitation (BCP 338)

Celebrant: 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.

Administration of Communion

Post-Communion Prayer (BCP 339)

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant: May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. Amen.

Please stand.

Dismissal (BCP 340)

Celebrant: Alleluia, alleluia. Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER LIST:

(Please email careteam@saint-timothys.org with any prayer concerns.)

Repose of the Soul: David Hixon, Shannon Dailey (Ted Mankin's sister-in-law)

Health: Mark Thompson, Florita Tildon, Laura Ferguson, Jack Hamm (Andy Hamm's brother, heart surgery), Norma Fernandez (stroke)

Long Term: Sid, Maryanne, Chris W., Donna W., Chris, Chuck and Peggy, Christine Y., Sarah (recovering from brain surgery), Brad Rundlett, Catherine Hutcheon (Long Covid), David & Mabel Tettyfio (stroke, arthritis, hip pain), Brian Law, Jane Perry, Caroline Arlington (stroke), AG Miamee (Parkinson's disease & Alzheimers), Jerry Vandenberg, Fred McBride

THIS WEEK at ST. TIMOTHY'S

Sunday, December 17

- 8:00 AM Rite I Holy Eucharist - Sanctuary
- 9:00 AM Adult Forum - Gospel of Mark, Room C1
- 9:15 AM Adult Choir Warm-up - Music Room
- 10:00 AM Rite II Holy Eucharist - Sanctuary/Livestream
- 11:00 AM Coffee Hour – Henry Hall
- 7:30 PM Serenity Seekers Al Anon - Virtual

Monday, December 18

- 12:15 PM Step Into Recovery - AA
- 7:00 PM Handbell Rehearsal – Music Room
- 7:00 PM Hope For Today Al Anon
- 8:30 PM Monday Night Milkshake Group AA

Tuesday, December 19

- 7:00 PM Vestry Meeting – Room C1
- 7:00 PM Scouts Troop 159 – Henry Hall

Wednesday, December 20

- 12:00 PM Advent Healing Eucharist
- 7:30 PM Latino Ministry Prayer - Offsite
- 7:30 PM SA Meeting
- 8:00 PM New Hopefuls AA

Thursday, December 21

- 6:00 PM Scouts Troop 159 – Toddler Room
- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal - Music Room
- 7:00 PM Debtors Anonymous

Friday, December 22

- 10:00 AM Friday Gratitude AA

Saturday, December 23

- 9:00 AM Altar Guild Set-Up - Sanctuary
- 7:00 PM Rite II Santa Eucarista - Sanctuary

FAITH FORMATION – Today

(Join us in the Conference Room at 9 am)

This Sunday is our final session discussing the “Second Gospel” – the shorter and oft-forgotten Gospel of Mark, which will be devoted to discussion and answering of questions of how the Gospel touches us in our lives today.

WEDNESDAY HEALING EUCHARIST - (12/20).

December 20th will be our last Advent Wednesday Healing Eucharist (12 pm in the Sanctuary.) Come celebrate this liturgical season with a moment of meditation and prayer amidst the busy month of December. This year, we have focused on the Old Testament lesson with contemplative homily and visual image projected beyond the half-wall. Please write to priest@saint-timothys.org with any questions and to get involved!

ANGEL TREE HATS, GLOVES, AND SCARVES COLLECTION

We had a tremendously successful season for Angel Tree Gift Cards! We originally committed to sponsoring 25 children and five senior citizens but since we exceeded our donation goal, we have increased our commitment, and we are excited to be able to give that news to Cornerstones! Thank you, St. Timothy's, for your generosity and for putting your faith to work in support of those in need in our community!

Our focus now turns to collecting hats, gloves, scarves and clean, lightly used winter coats for all

ages. The items should be resilient to damp and cold, so function is more important than fashion! You may bring these items to Henry Hall before Christmas and place them in the bin near the Christmas Tree. We continue to hear that the Northern Virginia area is in for a cold and snowy winter so consider dropping off a pair of gloves or a warm hat. Service Ministry will distribute to those in need.

Questions: contact service@saint-timothys.org and Thank YOU!

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Would you like to donate for a poinsettia plant to be displayed in our sanctuary during our Christmas services? **If you wish, you may dedicate the plant to a friend or loved one.** Please contact the church at office@saint-timothys.org by **December 18th** with your special dedication. **Mark your check, "Poinsettia".**

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Advent 4 Services - December 24th at 8 AM and 10 AM. Magnificat (Song of Mary) sung by the choir and guest musicians at 10 AM.

Christmas Eve Family Service - December 24th at 5 PM. No-rehearsal Christmas Pageant for kids, families, and all ages. Kids come at 4:30 – 4:45 pm to pick out costumes in Henry Hall.

Christmas Eve Festival Eucharist - December 24th, at 7:30 PM. Special choral, handbell, and instrumental music, with pre-service music beginning at 7:15.

Lessons & Carols - December 31st at 10 AM. All the Carols you missed in the holiday rush!