

Welcoming and affirming,
St John's Episcopal Church
is a dynamic evolving spiritual community open to God's grace and human faith.



8 am Worship Book
Advent, 2014

*Regular worshiper, first-timer, or occasional visitor,
we hope you will enjoy our fellowship!*

Welcome

Please return this seasonal booklet to the baskets at the entrances for re-use.
Take home the Insert as a reminder of events, or recycle it in the baskets.

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

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

Celebrant Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two Commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Matthew 22:37-40

The Celebrant then says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

**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.**

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Celebrant says

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.**

Song of Praise *Said three times:*

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

The Collect of the Day

First Lesson

Psalm

Second Lesson

Gospel

Response before the reading:

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Response after the reading:

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Homily

The Nicene Creed

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.

Prayers

The Leader and People pray responsively

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.

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.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence—The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect (respond): **Amen.**

Prayers of the People, Form III BCP p. 387

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

We greet each other in the name of Christ.

Offertory Hymn *listed in the announcement sheet, and on the hymnboard.*

Eucharistic Prayer II

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

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

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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,

Celebrant and People

**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.**

The people kneel or stand. Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God....

.... 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,

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread and Holy Communion

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**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.**

The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer:

**We do not presume to come to this thy Table,
O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness,
but in thy manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table.
But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ,
and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him,
and he in us. Amen.**

The altar in our church belongs to God. All are welcome and encouraged to come forward during the distribution of Holy Communion.

To receive communion, stand or kneel at the rail, stand against the plaster wall inside the rail, or notify an usher that you need to have communion brought to you at your seat. After you receive communion at (or inside) the rail, please remain in place until the chalice says "Go in peace." The response after receiving each kind (bread and wine) is "Amen," or you may remain silent. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of communion, please cross your arms over your chest before the Bread comes by.

We do not practice "intinction," that is, dipping bread in wine. If you do not wish to drink from the chalice, please cross your arms over your chest so the chalice knows this. Receiving the Sacrament in either kind alone constitutes a full and valid Communion.

Gluten-free wafers are available; simply ask the person distributing the Bread.

Saint John's is committed to achieving the full inclusion of all people in Christ's Body, the Church. Please feel free to ask the rector if you have any questions.'

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray:

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 Celebrant gives the blessing. Response: **Amen.***

*The Deacon, or the Celebrant, will dismiss the people. Response: **Thanks be to God.***

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Please Join Us for Advent, Christmas and Epiphany Services

EVENSONG on Thursdays in Advent: December 4, 11 & 18

Sunday December 7

4 pm, Advent Lessons and Carols with the Parish Choir and the Cape Ann Choir School

Saturday December 13

**1 pm Children's Choir Program with seasonal favorites, Middle Street Walk
Cape Ann Choir School joined by choirs from Annisquam Village Church,
and First Congregational Church, Rockport**

Sunday 4 pm December 14 "Blue Christmas"

A service especially for those who the holidays are difficult

Sunday 9 am December 21 "Single Service with all parish photo & Christmas decorating"

Festive Coffee hour follows the work time.

Saturday December 24 Christmas Eve

5 pm Family Eucharist with Community Pageant

8:30 pm CHRIST MASS with Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day *Eucharist with music at 9 am*

Sunday, December 28, Lessons & Carols for Christmas & Holy Eucharist 9 am

Sunday, January 3, The Epiphany 8 am & 5 pm (potluck follows evening service)

Saint John's Episcopal Church— StJohnsGloucester.org

48 Middle Street, Gloucester, Massachusetts 01930-5795

Parish Office Telephone: 978.283.1708—Pastoral Emergencies 978.290.6331

Parish Office Hours: Monday - Thursday; 8am-noon during which the Church is open for prayer and meditation.

Alan McIntosh Gates, Bishop of Massachusetts

Gayle E. Harris, Bishop Suffragan

The Rev. Bret Bowie Hays, Rector

Mark Edward Nelson, Music Director

Jay DiPrima, Director of Youth Ministry

Betsy Levick, Parish Administrator

Marjorie I. Bishop, Church Assistant

Staff e-mail: first name+@stjohnsgloucester.org

Cloe the Dog, Parish Mascot

Wardens: Catherine McGeary & Astrid afKlinteberg

Clerk: Joan Gorga

Treasurer: Elizabeth Redmond

Assistant Treasurer: Karen Kasper

VESTRY

2015 – Don Cole, Marjorie Fergusson, Karen Kasper

2016 – Naomi Astyk, Lin York-Robbins, Martha Whitney

2017 – Norm Barr, Ian Bedford, Kim Prentice