Sunday, December 5, 2021 9:00 am The Second Sunday of Advent



The Annunciation of Our Lady Episcopal Church 5725 Stearns School Road, Gurnee, Illinois (847) 336-3730 | annunciationgurnee.org

Before Worship

We ask that conversations and greetings before the worship service happen in the Narthex. We try to keep the Nave as a space for prayer and contemplation as we enter into worship.

What's Happening

The Parish News is your guide to everything happening in our parish. The bulletin contains everything you need to fully participate in the service. Some of the music we will sing can be found in either the Red or Blue hymnal in your pew.

Communion

All persons, including children, are welcome to receive Communion.

Hospitality

After the service, please enjoy good food, coffee, and conversation in the Parish Hall.

Let's Get Connected!

We want to get to know you better and tell you more about our community. Please fill in a Newcomer Card, available at the Communications Center near the main entrance.

Children

We welcome children to participate fully, and we do not expect them to be perfectly quiet. If your child needs a break, feel free to bring them to the Narthex (lobby) or make use of our Nursery: take a left as you exit the worship space, down the hall.

Restrooms

The main restrooms are off the Parish Hall, to your right as you exit the worship space. A gender-neutral restroom is located to your left as you exit the worship space, down the hall.

Wheelchair Accommodations

There are wheelchair-friendly spaces in the pews, on the outside aisles. Accessible restroom stalls are in the main restrooms off the Parish Hall, to your right as you exit the worship space.

Hearing Assistance

Hearing devices are located on the table near the main entrance. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Online Worship Streaming to Facebook Live

If you weren't able to join us for our live service, the video will be available at:

https://www.facebook.com/annunciationgurnee/live/

You do not have to have a Facebook account to view the video.

In-person, indoor worship

- If you are not feeling well, please stay home.
- Everyone, regardless of vaccination status, must wear a mask inside the building.
- Please maintain good physical distancing when in the building.
- A limited number of bulletins will be available, please consider bringing a printed copy or a mobile device.
- This morning you are welcome to sing the hymns.
- You are invited to share the Peace with one another this morning. Please be respectful of the community members who may not want to pass a physical peace.
- There will be a collection plate at the entrance of the Nave for your offering.
- You are welcome to be in the parking lot and stream the service – one of the clergy will bring you communion at the end of the service. You are welcome to use the Annunciation WiFi (AnnunciationOfOurLady Guest).
- Healing prayers will be in the chapel during the distribution of Holy Communion.
 Please make your way there if you desire personal prayers with a prayer minister. At this time we are unable to offer anointing.

Holy Eucharist:

• This morning we will be celebrating Holy Eucharist. At the invitation to Communion, please come forward to the altar, either one "pod" together or one individual at a time, and receive the wafer. Take a cup and after you have consumed the wine, put it in the glass container by the lectern. Then make your way back to your seat or to the chapel for healing prayers.

Please ask an usher or worship leader for assistance with anything you need.

The Sanctuary Candle is given in honor of Leni and Sid Bordelon by their daughter, Karin Trinco.

The Liturgy of the Word

Organ Prelude Opening Hymn #76, in the blue hymnal

Advent Wreath Lighting: Advent 2 - Peace

The poet Wendell Berry, wrote:

"When despair for the world grows in me...I come into the peace of wild things who do not tax their lives with forethought of grief. I come into the presence of still water."

We think of the 23rd Psalm,

"He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul."

When everything feels hopeless, when we feel as dead as the dry bones in Ezekiel's valley, God calls us away from the workaday world. God calls us to breathe in the holy breath of peace. When we light the candle of Peace, we breathe in the One who restores us.

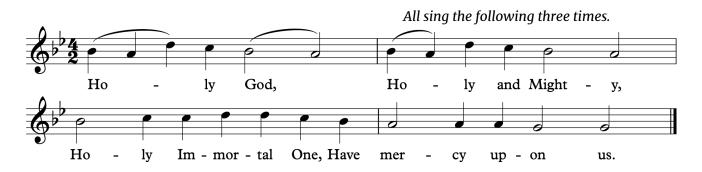
People: Whatever we face in life, God's spirit of Peace will dwell within us.

The Collect For Purity

The Celebrant and people pray together:

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



The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen*.

The people are seated.

The First Lesson: A Reading from the Book of Malachi

3:1-4

Luke 1:68-79

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

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

People: Thanks be to God

Canticle 16 Let us offer the canticle by half verse

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; * he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, * born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old, that he would save us from our enemies, * from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers*
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, * to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear, * holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, * for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation* by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God * the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, * and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

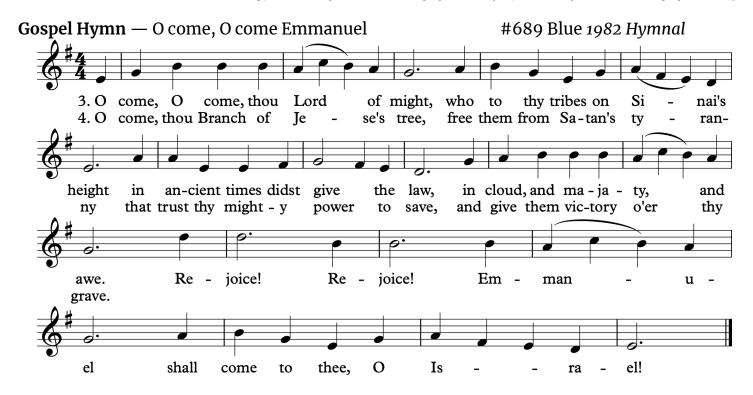
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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

People: Thanks be to God

All sing, verse 3 before the reading of the Gospel; verse 4 after the reading of the Gospel



The Gospel

Luke 3:1-6

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

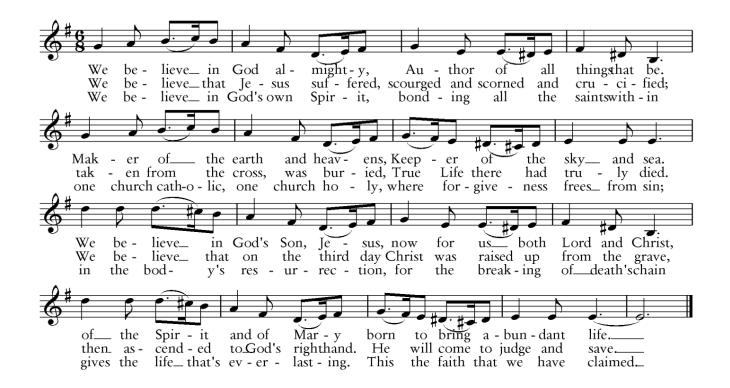
In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord. People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people are seated.

The Sermon An Affirmation of Faith



The Prayers of the People

Leader: I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. Prepare your hearts for his arrival, praying, "Fill the valleys, make low the hills; come, great Redeemer, come."

Leader: Merciful God, increase our love to overflowing. Make your Church pure and blameless that we may greet with joy the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. This morning we remember Fort Dauphin in the Diocese of Toliara, Madagascar, and The Anglican Church of Burundi. Fill the valleys, make low the hills;

People: Come, great Redeemer, come.

Leader: Merciful God, we long for the light of hope to break into our world, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide us into the way of peace. Fill the valleys, make low the hills;

People: Come, great Redeemer, come.

Leader: Merciful God, give us grace to heed the warnings of those calling us to be better stewards of your creation. We thank you for all you have made, especially those things that sustain and better our lives. This morning we remember *Liam* Mellen, *Chad* VanHorn, *Christopher* Pavy, *Nick* Unda, *Ian* Pocklington, *Ethan* Pocklington, *Christopher* Froelich, *Karl* Mohrmann, *Trish* Hull, *Clay* Anderson, *and Quinton* Hocking. Fill the valleys, make low the hills;

People: Come, great Redeemer, come.

Leader: Merciful God, you remember your children. You do not leave us in sorrow or affliction. Crown your children with glory; clothe them with righteousness. Bishop-elect Paula; Bishop Samy; Karen; Josianne; Alexis and Connie; The Schrunk Family; Pam; The Reis and Nemeth families; Ronia, Laundrina, Clarita, Mendrika; Ashley; Rob; Greg, Joe, Helene; Marsha; John; Noah; Charlie; Logan; Tom; Debbie; Jenny; Linda and Ralph; Dave; and the people served by Sunrise Assisted Living and PADS. Fill the valleys, make low the hills;

People: Come, great Redeemer, come.

Leader: Merciful God, you have raised up for us salvation through your Son. Keep us, with all your saints, in the eternal life of Christ. Fill the valleys, make low the hills;

People: Come, great Redeemer, come.

The Celebrant concludes with a Collect.

Confession and Absolution

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

You're invited to kneel or bow, as able. A moment of silence is observed for personal reflection.

People: 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.

Celebrant: 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.

People: Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ, the peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Offertory

Celebrant: If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your sibling

has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first to

be reconciled to them, and then come and offer your gift.

Offertory Hymn #67, in the blue hymnal

The Holy Communion



Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

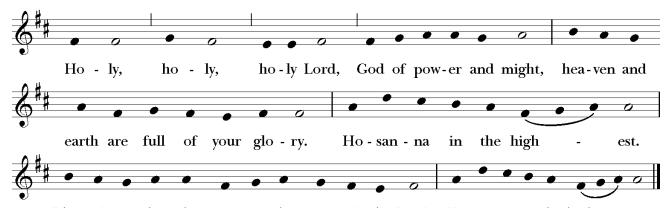
People: And also with you.

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 our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

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 the 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 Father,

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

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 Mary the God-bearer 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 him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN**.

Sending Forth of Lay Eucharistic Visitors

Deacon: You have been entrusted with the sacraments of the church. Go and share these signs of our community with those who are unable to be a part of our gathering, and assure them that they are in our prayers. May you bring peace to these places that welcome you.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now as our savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

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

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

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Invitation to Communion

Celebrant: These are the gifts of God and we are the people of God. Take them in

remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith

with thanksgiving.

Receiving Communion

You're Invited: This is Jesus' table; he made no restrictions, and neither do we.

Host: Our communion is by wafer. The priest will place the wafer in your hand.

Wine: Take a cup and after you have consumed the wine, put it in the glass container by

the lectern. You also may abstain from receiving the wine.

Gluten: Gluten-free wafers are available. Ask the priest for one when you come up.

Healing prayers will be offered in the chapel during the distribution of Holy Communion. Please make your way to the prayer station after receiving communion, if you desire personal prayers with a prayer minister. At this time we are unable to offer anointing.

Choir Anthem Post Communion Prayer

After Communion the Celebrant says:

Let us pray,

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

The Blessing

The Priest blesses the people, who respond

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

People: Amen.

Closing Hymn #65, in the blue hymnal The Dismissal

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

Please join us for Coffee Hour in the parish hall. Thank you for worshiping with us!

Ministers of the service

Crucifer Sandi Hucker

1st Reader &

Psalm Barb McNiell 2nd Reader Steve Kublis Prayers Carol Eads

Ushers Andy Hucker and Steve Kublis

Digital Verger Beth Hagan

Sunrise Minister The Sanders, Waynicks, Slugas, and Carol Eads

Altar Guild Elizabeth Danos Healing Minister Michael Chatlien

Staff & Leadership

Rector

Rev. Jenni Liem rector@annunciationgurnee.org

Deacon

Rev. Linda Lutter lindalutter@hotmail.com

Interim Director of Music

Kay Sutton

kaysutton@comcast.net

Assistant Director of Music

Betsy Donegan

Wardens

David Fulton and Debbie Rakestraw

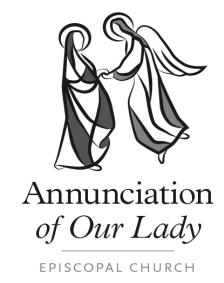
Vestry

John Anderson, Virginia Bosserman, Jennifer Edwards, Phil Fabry, Carl Gruber, Ruth Hull Chatlien, Mike Robison Clerk of the Vestry Bob Coates

Treasurer

Elizabeth Nemeth

treasurer@annunciation gurnee.org



Thank You



Today's coffee hour host:

The Cookie Exchange!

Parish Announcements and Calendar

Christmas Poinsettias

Giving toward our Christmas poinsettias is a great way to honor a loved one or to celebrate a blessing in your life. If you would like to sponsor a poinsettia this season, please bring or send in your gift with *Poinsettia* in the memo line and the name of who you would like to honor or celebrate. Please note if you would like to remain anonymous in the Christmas bulletins.

Cookie Exchange!

Today is the Cookie Exchange! Miriam will have instructions once we gather in the parish hall for coffee hour. Enjoy!

Annual Giving Tree for C4K

This Sunday will be the last day to take a heart tag to help a child in need through Caring 4 Kids. We started with 48 tags and have 15 left. Good job everyone, and thank you for your generosity! If you aren't attending church in person, please let me know if you would like a tag emailed and I can get it to you right away. Many people are opting to donate cash/checks/gift cards this year. I'm happy to do your shopping if that's a better option for you. Please make checks out to Annunciation with C4K in the memo and it will be used to shop for the specified items. Any leftover funds will be disbursed to C4K. This is such a wonderful opportunity to help those less fortunate, so please consider a contribution of any size. Every little bit helps!

Donations are due back on Sunday, December 12th. Please return the tag with your items - in regular store bags is just fine. I will consolidate the clothing and gifts by recipient, and C4K will distribute them in their "signature" purple bags. I plan to help deliver them this year and am excited to see this part of the process and report back to

the parish. Christine has expressed how much she appreciates our contribution many times over, so thank you for your continued support of this outreach ministry! Any questions, please email me at lindbladandrea@gmail.com.

What C4K is About and How You Can Help:

Every year hundreds of children go without proper clothing. Caring for Kids Clothing is a non-profit organization that helps provide these children with the clothing they so desperately need. Since our beginning in 2010 Caring for Kid has helped outfit hundreds of children every year. We provide an immediate need in warm winter gear, school uniforms, everyday clothing, gym shoes, snow boots, socks, under garments and so much more.

Goods and services donations are especially welcome as we hold several fundraisers each season and can always make use of raffle prizes and silent auction items. You can make a difference in a child's life; even the smallest donation can make a difference!

Wednesday Book Study

We will gather again on Wednesday morning, 12/8 at 10:00am. We will hear the story of the festival of Purim and celebrate the saving of the Jews in Persia by Esther and Mordecai! Please read chapter 8 in the Book of Esther and join us.

Hospitality Corner

A reminder to check your calendars for a date you might want to host coffee hour. Sign up at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040e4fadaf2 <u>8a57-annunciation</u>. Any questions, please contact Miriam Berry.

Annual Ornament Exchange

I am very happy to report that the number of people coming to the Ornament Exchange is now far greater than those "regulars" who will not be coming. As usual, I was getting worried but things are definitely looking up.

Last week I had noted that my normal friendly elves would not be available this year and wasn't sure where I would find suitable elves to take their place. Well, let me tell you, you will not forget THESE elves. How's that as an inducement to come join us??

This is an adult party which will be on Saturday, December 11 at 7 PM in the Narthex.

The party is very similar to a White Elephant party except that weird, funny and pretty ornaments are involved. Of course, stealing is also involved and expected. We will all bring beautifully wrapped ornaments to the church along with drinks (read that wine if you like) and appetizers or desserts. We will socialize for a few minutes than get down to the serious work of making this event a rollicking good time as always.

Please put this great event on your calendar and start the creative shopping, which, of course, I have already done. I know for sure that one ornament from several years ago is making an encore appearance. I wonder if any others will as well. The only way to know for sure is to come and see.

Please email me at mamamastercard@comcast.net to let me know how many will be coming with you. If you have any questions please see me (Miriam Berry).

Men's Group

Men's Group meets **Saturday**, **Dec. 11th at 9:00am**. We are back to cooking a fresh breakfast to have at the beginning of the meeting. All Annunciation men are welcome! For those that have never attended, give us a try. We have a delicious breakfast, brief Gospel study (for that coming Sunday Gospel reading) and discussion, share ideas of outreach inside and outside the parish and overall enjoy some great fellowship.

Please contact Bill Hagan at gldn2@aol.com or (847) 560-0358 with any questions.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

People:

Gracious God, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I believe that you are present in the Bread and Wine of the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot now receive you in the Sacrament, I ask you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from you. Let me live and die in your love. Amen.



Save the Dates

Bave the Dates	
December	
5	Cookie Exchange & St Nicholas'
	Sunday
6	Book Ćlub 7:00pm
7	Scouts 7:00pm
8	Wednesday Morning Bible Study
	10:00
11	Annual Ornament Exchange
	7:00pm
12	C4K gifts due for distribution
14	Scouts 7:00pm
15	Wednesday Morning Bible Study
	10:00
	Finance Committee 7:00pm
	Prayer Shawl Ministry
	7:00-8:30pm
19	Advent Lessons and Carols
20	Vestry 6:30pm
21	Cub Scouts 6:00 pm
	Scouts 7:00 pm
24	Christmas Eve 4:00 pm
25	Christmas Day 10:00am
	-

January

3	Book Club 7:00pm
4	Scouts 7:00pm
9	Feast of the Epiphany
	De-greening of the Church
11	12@12 Recovery service 12:00pm
	Scouts 7:00pm
12	Finance Committee 7:00pm
17	Vestry 6:00pm
18	12@12 Recovery service 12:00pm
	Cub Scouts 6:00pm
	Scouts 7:00pm
25	12@12 Recovery service 12:00 pm
	Scouts 7:00pm
30	Annual Meeting

This Week's Calendar

Today	Worship 9:00am
-	Cookie Exchange!
Monday	Book Club 7:00pm
Tuesday	Scouts 7:00pm

Wednesday Wednesday Morning Bible Study

10:00

Annual Ornament Exchange Saturday

|7:00pm

Morning Prayer meets Monday through Friday at 8:30 in our Zoom Room - please see the website or Parish News for the link.

The Office will be open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 9:30-4:00.