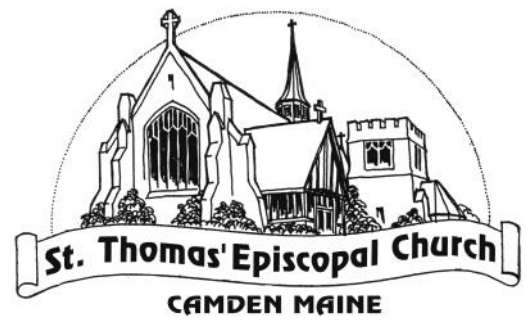


# S T . T H O M A S ' Tidings



Sunday, December 17, 2017  
The Third Sunday in Advent

We welcome all who enter these doors, especially those who enter for the first time or after a long absence. May this place be like home to you! All are welcome to receive the Bread and Wine at this altar. Members of our prayer ministry are available in the Chapel during Holy Communion to pray with you about any need or thanksgiving.

The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry, Rector  
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## Advent Forum

Our Advent Forum continues this morning following the 9:30 service. It is entitled *The Way, the Truth and the Life*. Brother Donovan, Rev. Lisa and Deacon Rosalee will each take a class to talk about what Way, Truth and Life mean to us in context of our Christian faith. Then the discussion begins! Don't miss this chance to 'Question in Faith'. We'll meet in the Guild Room.

## Greening of the Church

We will be greening the church today following the 9:30 service. All are welcome to stay and help!

## Nursery Assistant Needed

Liane, our nursery worker, is out indefinitely with an injury. We are hiring a nursery worker to watch our youngest kids. The hours are from 9:15-10:45 and the pay is \$13 an hour. If you, or anyone else you know is interested, please let the office know. 236.3680. We will also be advertising this locally.

## Christmas Flowers

Christmas flower donations are now being accepted. These can be in memory of a loved one or in honor of or in thanksgiving for someone or some place. Specially marked envelopes have been placed in the pew racks for your use.

## Pledge Envelopes

Pledge envelopes are in! If you ordered a set, check the table in the Sun Room. If you have not ordered them and would like some, let George know in the office. Thank you for supporting St. Thomas'!

## Christmas Services Sunday, December 24

There will be no 7:30 am service

9:30 am: Advent 4:

Holy Eucharist

4:30 pm: Paper Bag Pageant  
and Holy Eucharist  
(Music begins at 4:00 pm)

10:30 pm:

"Midnight" Eucharist  
with candles and choir  
(Music begins at 10:00 pm)

Christmas Day  
Monday, December 25

9:30 am: Holy Eucharist

There will be no Wednesday Eucharist on  
December 27)

1875. Then for the sequence hymn we sing the tune, *Psalm 42*, also known as *Freu dich sehr*. Last week the prelude and communion voluntary were based on this tune. Today's postlude (also based on this tune) is by Paul Manz (American, 1919-2009). Last week I played music that was more contemplative. Paul Manz's postlude is positively effervescent! The words we sing to Hymn 67 this morning echo last week's lesson from Isaiah, as well as underscoring all of today's lessons. Sing with joy and gusto!

The two settings of the prelude are based on the 8th century plainchant, *Ave maris stella*. (*Hail, Mary, star of the sea*). Both Healey Willan's (English, 1880-1968) and Marcel Dupré's (French, 1886-1971) mystical pieces allow us to focus on Mary's response: "Yes!" During communion I play Flor Peeters (Belgian, 1903-1986) homage to Mary's travel to Bethlehem. The communion hymn, *What is this crying at Jordan* was written by Carol C. Drake (while a choir member at St. Mark's Church, Berkeley, CA, hence the tune name) specifically for this tune, which to her "evoked a sense of mystery and awe." Norman and Margaret Mealy found the tune in a Gaelic collection (Dublin, 1928) and altered it rhythmically as well as harmonically. You might find yourself humming this one sometime this week!

We go forth into the world singing the rousing Welsh tune, *Aberystwyth* by Joseph Parry (Wales, 1841-1903). Parry was born to a poor family and by the age of ten was working in a coal mine; nevertheless he sang alto in a well-known local oratorio choir. In 1854 his family moved to Danville, PA, where he worked in a mill until 1865, all the while taking music classes given by other

## Today's Music

What messages of hope, redemption and joy we have as we arrive at the Third Sunday in Advent! Today we enter worship singing the exuberant hymn, *O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling*. Mary Ann Thomson, who wrote more than forty hymns, wrote the bulk of today's hymn as she sat up with one of her children who was ill with typhoid fever (1868). James Walch composed the music paired with this hymn around

miners. His fellow workers collected tuition money to send him to college in New York. In 1862 he took an organist's position in Wales, won prizes, attended the Royal Academy of Music, then returned to Danville, PA and founded a music school. He returned to Wales where he was organist as well as professor of music until his death. We have his tune, *Aberystwyth* three times in our hymnal! (#349, #640, #699).

The Choir sings the gorgeous text by the lyrical composer, poet and physician, Thomas Campion (1567-1620). After Campion's death, his work fell into oblivion (frowned upon by the Puritans!). In 1889 a collection of his works were published and he regained his place among the English Elizabethan poets. Charles Wood (Irish, 1866-1926) crafted an equally gorgeous musical setting for this text. Wood went to the Royal College of Music where he studied with Charles Villiers Stanford and Frank Bridge. He went on to become a fine teacher of harmony and counterpoint: Ralph Vaughan Williams was one of his students.

(By the way, "sprite" in Campion's day meant "spirit.")

Sing with gusto and verve!

—Jane Schroeder, Minister of Music

## Prayer List

**We celebrate those members whose birthdays are this week:** Melinda Wildes (December 18), Anne Edmonds (December 19), Susan Foltz (December 20), Pat Ayers, Anna Black, Gwen Prosser (December 22). Please pray for those members of this parish and others who are in special need: Marya Allen, Ron, Andrew, Jean Harper, Jane Hards, Joanne Scott, Nancy Soderberg, Missie Stone, Tiffany Andrews, Stormy Bok, Carolyn Morris, Roxanna, Brian Fitzpatrick, Cara, Risa, The Jackson family, Chris, Janan Vaughn, Peg, Ann Foster, Barbara Dyer.

## Next Sunday

December 24, 2017

**The Fourth Sunday in Advent**

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Canticle 15

Romans 16:25-27

Luke 1:26-38

*Please note there will be no 7:30 am service.*

**9:30 am: Celebrant and Preacher:** The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry; **Deacon:** The Rev. Rosalee Glass; **Crucifer:** TBA; **Eucharistic Minister:** TBA; **Lectors:** Paul Holman...; **Prayers of the People:** TBA; **Usher:** Terry Bunger.

December 24, 2017

**Christmas Eve**

Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalm 96

Titus 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-14(15-20)

**4:30 pm: Celebrant and Preacher:** The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry; **Crucifer:** Liliane Robbins; **Eucharistic Minister:** Jacqueline Recht, Sandy Lyle; **Lectors:** Jan Sidney Hall, Sarah Groman; **Prayers of the People:** Chris Glass; **Ushers:** Phillip Groman, Joan Bennett.

**10:30 pm: Celebrant and Preacher:** The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry; **Deacon:** The Rev. Rosalee Glass; **Crucifer:** TBA; **Eucharistic Minister:** Roy Gilley; **Lectors:** Pam Bardon, Jeff Conrad; **Prayers of the People:** Jan Gilley; **Ushers:** TBA.

## How to reach us

**Church Office:** 207 236-3680  
(We're closed on Monday)

**The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry, Rector**  
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# Calendar

**Sunday, December 17**

**The Third Sunday in Advent**

**7:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite I**

8:30 am—Choir Rehearsal

**9:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite II**

10:45 am—Coffee Hour—Parish Hall

11:00 am—Advent Forum—Guild Room

5:15 pm—Centering Prayer—Chapel

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

**Monday, December 18**

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

**Tuesday, December 19**

9:00 am—Xi Gong class—Green Room

6:30 pm—OA meeting—Library

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

**Wednesday, December 20**

**9:30 am—Holy Eucharist and  
Healing Service—Chapel**

10:00 am—Fellowship Time  
—Sun Room

10:30 am—Bible Study—Sun Room

2:40 pm—EfM Conference Room

6:00 pm—VoXX Rehearsal

—Parish Hall, Green Room

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

**Thursday, December 21**

5:00 pm—Choir Rehearsal

—Green Room

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

**Friday, December 22**

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

**Saturday, December 23**

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

**Sunday, December 24**

**The Fourth Sunday in Advent/  
Christmas Eve**

8:30 am—Choir Rehearsal

**9:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite II**

10:45 am—Coffee Hour—Parish Hall

11:00 am—Advent Forum—Guild Room

**4:00 pm—Holy Eucharist Rite II  
and Christmas Pageant**

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

**10:30 pm—Holy Eucharist Rite I**