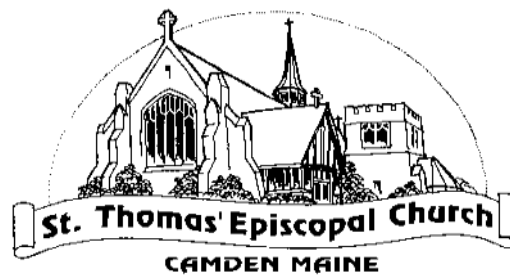


S T . T H O M A S '   
 Tidings

Sunday, December 16, 2018

The Third Sunday of Advent

We welcome all who enter these doors, especially those who enter for the first time or after a long absence. Everyone is welcome! 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  
33 Chestnut Street (P.O. Box 631)  
Camden, ME 04843  
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**Greening the Church**

We will be greening the church NEXT SUNDAY, December 23, following the 10:00 am service. All are welcome to stay and help!

**Rector's class to discuss Bishop Candidates for the upcoming election.**

The Rector will be teaching a two week class on the Bishop Candidates for the upcoming Electing Convention this Sunday. There are 5 candidates: two male and three female, from a diverse set of backgrounds. Come and hear them speak in short video clips, and read their resumes as we discuss the future of the Episcopal Church in Maine. All are welcome!

**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 something. Specially marked envelopes have been placed in the pew racks for your use.

**Christmas Pageant**

There will be a children's pageant again this year during the December 24th Christmas Eve Service at 4.30pm. Rehearsals are in progress during the Sunday school classes at 9-10 am and continue every Sunday leading up to Christmas. For further information about the pageant and rehearsals, please contact Rachel Bickham at [troyandrachelb@hotmail.com](mailto:troyandrachelb@hotmail.com).

**"Blue" Christmas service**

Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Rockland, ME is adding a new service to its Christmas programming this year. It will be a "Blue" Christmas service designed to reach

those for whom the holiday season is a difficult time of year. It may be a hard time of year because of the loss of a family member, the loss of a job, the loss of a partner, sickness, depression, loneliness- or a host of other things which make this season painful. The message of the service: Christ's light coming in to the world. Appropriately, the service will be held on the darkest night of the year: December 21 at 7:00pm. This is an ecumenical service and open to all.

**Stewardship Update**

A big "Thank You" to the 49 members and friends of St. Thomas' Church who have pledged a total of \$120,000 to support the mission and ministry of our parish. If you have not sent in a pledge card, please consider supporting St. Thomas; your support, regardless of what you are able to give, is truly appreciated. If you need a Stewardship Brochure, there are extras in the Sun Room and Narthex; you can ask Raylene and she will be glad to provide you with one. Thanks to everyone who supports St. Thomas'.

*Everything is possible for him who believes. (Mark 6:23)*

**Lessons and Carols service  
December 30**

There will be a traditional service of Christmas lessons and carols as the Ministry of the Word part of the 10:00 am service on the Sunday following Christmas. George Bickham will read a story by Paul Harvey at the sermon time, and the service will conclude with a Eucharist.

**Today's Music**

December 16, 2018, Advent 3

We will hear echoes of the classic German Advent chorale, *Sleepers, wake!* (we sang this a few weeks ago on Advent 1) in the prelude based on this tune. **Johann Sebastian Bach** (German, 1685-1750) made a trio arrangement for the organ from the final movement of his Cantata #140. It's a trio because the right hand, left hand and pedal part are equal, as they would be in a trio of voices or instruments. To me it would not feel like Advent if I did not play this wonderful piece! It also would most definitely not feel like Advent if we did not sing *O come, O come, Emmanuel*. Each week a different choir member sings one stanza of this chant from the eighth century. Research to date claims the tune to originate in a fifteenth-century collection belonging to French Franciscan nuns. During communion I play a piece based on this chant by **Gerald Near** (American, b. 1942) I find the compositions written by Near to be well-crafted. I learn and play pieces by Near based on chant or hymn tunes. I also find that his music clearly underscores the texts from these chants and hymns.

We then enter worship singing a tenth century text, *Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding*. As in *Sleepers, wake!* And *O come, O come, Emmanuel*, this hymn is brimming with scriptural references. **William Henry Monk** (English, 1823-1889) composed the tune we sing in 1850. As the sequence hymn we sing a metrical paraphrase of today's *Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah*. I love the folk-like setting we sing today by **Ray W. Urwin** (American, b. 1950) who composed it to this text in 1980 as a wedding gift!

The communion hymn was written in 1930 by the poet **James Lewis Milligan** (English/Canadian, 1876-1961). The lilting tune for this text was written by the English/Canadian organist/choirmaster **Hugh Bancroft** (1904-1988) in a half-hour on a piano in the church basement!

The Choir sings the florid anthem written by the English clergyman and hymn writer, **Henry Ramsden Bramley** (1833-1917). Bramley and **Sir John Stainer** collaborated on the 1871 publication *Christmas Carols, New and Old*. They are credited with reviving the 19<sup>th</sup> century Victorian Christmas Carol; many of which we still sing today. The soaring music was written by the Irish composer **Charles Wood** (1866-1926). Wood studied with Charles Villiers Stanford and Frank Bridge. He taught harmony and counterpoint: one of his students was **Ralph Vaughan Williams**. Wood also composed anthems, communion services and canticles and collaborated on many hymn and carol collections.

We go forth into the world singing a hymn resonating today's reading from Philippians, *Rejoice! Rejoice believers*. This early 18<sup>th</sup> century text by **Laurentius Laurenti** (German, 1660-1720) sounds fresh today. It is paired to an 18<sup>th</sup> century Welsh tune of unknown origin: and possibly an English folk-tune which migrated to Wales! Then I play **Marcel Dupré's** broad setting of the chant, *Ave Maris Stella* (Hail Mary, Star of the Sea).

Go forth with joy!  
Jane Schroeder, Minister of Music

### Prayer List

Please pray for those members of this parish and others who are in special need: Marya Allen, Ron, Andrew, Joanne Scott, Tiffany Andrews, Seana Roubinek, Pat Olds, Carolyn Morris, Janan Vaughn, Rosalind Clarke, Amy, Gordon Gushee, Susan, Martha, Jean Harper, Abby Neal, Mary, Jeremiah Swett, Dustin, Maxine, Ruth, Gwen, Jan, Millie.

## This Sunday December 16, 2018 Third Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3:14-20  
Canticle 9  
Philippians 4:4-7  
Luke 3:7-18

### 7:30 am: Celebrant and

**Preacher:** The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry ;  
**Eucharistic Minister:** JoAnne Ryan;  
**Lectors:** Pam Bardon, Paul Holman;  
**Prayers of the People:** Sandy Lyle;  
**Usher:** Edmund Hartt

### 10:00 am: Celebrant and

**Preacher:** The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry;  
**Crucifer:** Kavan Kibler; **Eucharistic Minister:** Jacqueline Recht; **Lectors:** Chris Glass, Roy Gilley; **Prayers of the People:** Br. Donovan Bowley; **Acolytes:** Kingston Kibbler, Tom Colburn;  
**Ushers:** Dean Jackson, Bill Freeman

## Next Sunday December 23, 2018 Fourth Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:2-5a  
Canticle 15  
Hebrews 10:5-10  
Luke 1:39-45

### 7:30 am: Celebrant and

**Preacher:** The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry ;  
**Eucharistic Minister:** Sandy Lyle;  
**Lectors:** Jan Lyle, Pat Ayers; **Prayers of the People:** JoAnne Ryan; **Usher:** Marilyn Smith

### 10:00 am: Celebrant and

**Preacher:** The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry;  
**Crucifer:** George Bickham; **Eucharistic Minister:** Roy Gilley; **Lectors:** Sarah Groman, Jeff Conrad; **Prayers of the People:** Br. Donovan Bowley; **Acolytes:** Charlotte Watkins, Poppy Johanson; **Ushers:** Phil Groman, Leamon Scott

### What's Where

Our Sunday School and Nursery rooms are located past the sun room. Turn right. The *Blue Room* is the Nursery & *Godly Play*; the *Yellow Room* is the *God, the Bible and Me* classroom. Restrooms are located down the right aisle, past the Chapel, at the end of the corridor on the left side. Additional rest rooms are located in the basement (down the same corridor, via the stairway on your left). The Conference Room is past the sunroom, take the right corridor to the end and turn left.

# Calendar

## Sunday, December 16

### Third Sunday of Advent

**7:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite I**

8:30 am—Choir Rehearsal

9:00 am—Christian Education Classes

**10:00 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite II**

(Coffee Hour follows)

5:15 pm—Centering Prayer—Chapel

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

## Monday, December 17

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Parish Hall

## Tuesday, December 18

9:00 am—Xi-Gong Class on Vacation  
until the end of January

2:00 pm—Staff Meeting

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

## Wednesday, December 19

**9:30 am—Eucharist Service with Healing—Chapel**

10:15 am—Fellowship—Conference Room

11:00 am—Bible Study—Conference Room

4:00 pm—Efm—The Glass' Home

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

7:00 pm—VoXX

## Thursday, December 20

5:00 pm—Choir

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

## Friday, December 21

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

## Saturday, December 22

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

## Sunday, December 23

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

**7:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite I**

8:30 am—Choir Rehearsal

9:00 am—Christian Education Classes

**10:00 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite II**

(Coffee Hour follows)

**Greening the Church after second service.**

5:15 pm—Centering Prayer—Chapel

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Meetings and Events are subject to change. St. Thomas' welcomes the use of its facilities for meetings and events. Please contact the Parish Office before scheduling any event. A detailed building calendar can be viewed in the office copier room.