The Rev. Gia Hayes-Martin *she/her*
Rector
giahm@stjohnsworthington.org
614-846-5180, ext. 302
Usually available: Mondays to Thursdays
Sabbath: Friday

The Rev. David Burman *he/him*
Associate Rector
davidb@stjohnsworthington.org
614-846-5180, ext. 308
Usually available: Mondays to Thursdays
Sabbath: Friday

Pastoral Care Emergency Phone
to reach a priest after hours
220-219-1880

Mr. Richie Gregory *he/him*
Organist
614-846-5180, ext. 307

Mr. Nick Taylor *he/him*
Choral Director
music@stjohnsworthington.org
614-846-5180, ext. 307

Ms. Bella Olmstead *she/her*
Parish Engagement Coordinator
bellao@stjohnsworthington.org
614-846-5180, ext. 301

Ms. Christine Rees *she/her*
Staff Accountant
christiner@stjohnsworthington.org
614-846-5180, ext. 306

Mr. David Talbot *he/him*
Facilities Manager
davidt@stjohnsworthington.org
614-846-5180, ext. 304

Ms. Carrie Troester *she/her*
Director, St. John's Early Education Center
earlyed@stjohnsworthington.org
614-885-2315

Mr. Steve Ellcessor *he/him*
Senior Warden
sjellcessor@gmail.com

Mr. Keith Redmill *he/him*
Junior Warden
redmill.1@osu.edu

Office Volunteers
614-846-5180
Tuesday 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon
Wednesday 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon
Friday 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

To grow, heal, and serve with God's wisdom, love, and joy

St. John's Episcopal Church
700 High Street, Worthington, Ohio 43085
614-846-5180
stjohnsworthington.org

St. John's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WORTHINGTON

Advent

November 29 - December 23, 2026

As part of St. John's practice of caring for God's creation and stewarding resources responsibly, this order of service is reusable. Please return it to the ushers at the end of worship.

Welcome to St. John's. Please participate in our service at your own level of comfort. The congregation's responses are in ***bold.***

A special welcome to those who are guests of our congregation this morning. We are glad you are here, and we hope you find something in this community that feeds your soul. We invite you to fill out a visitor card, which can be given to one of the clergy or an usher at the end of the service.

We use four books in our worship:
The Book of Common Prayer *(red, hardcover)*
The Hymnal 1982 *(blue, hardcover)*
Wonder, Love & Praise *(green, softcover)*
Lift Every Voice and Sing II *(red and black, hardcover)*

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY AT ST. JOHN'S

Children are an active, vital part of the St. John's community, and they are always welcome in worship. Nursery care is available for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers on the lower level. During Sunday services, children ages 3 to 11 are invited to Children's Church for the first half of the service. All professional staff and volunteers who work with children and youth are Safe Church-trained, and parents may observe children's and youth ministry at any time.

To center yourself before worship, you may wish to use this prayer:

O Almighty God, you pour out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and of supplication: Deliver us, when we draw near to you, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Voluntary

Welcome *seated*

Lighting of the Advent Wreath *standing as you are able*

Leader May the grace and peace of God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Leader As we make our Advent pilgrimage, looking forward to the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, let us in prayer and praise, thanksgiving and song, give voice to the hope set forth in the Scriptures, that Christ's reign of love and light will indeed come among us. Let us offer ourselves anew as witnesses to the advent of Christ's glory, seeking to bring Christ's light and love to those who sit in darkness.

People **Come, O long expected Jesus, come.**

Opening Hymn *standing as you are able*

Children are invited to attend Children's Church. They will return in time for Communion.

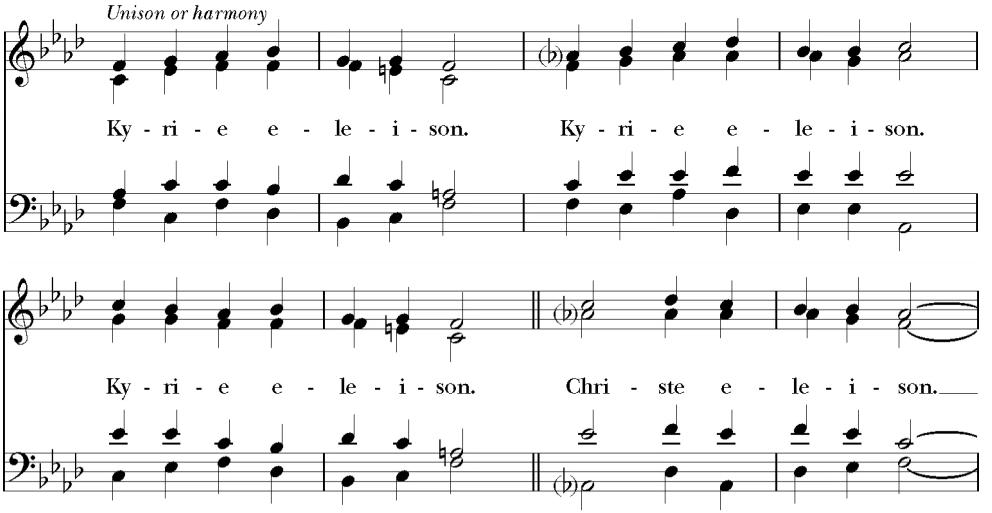
Opening Acclamation *standing as you are able* *Book of Common Prayer,* p. 355

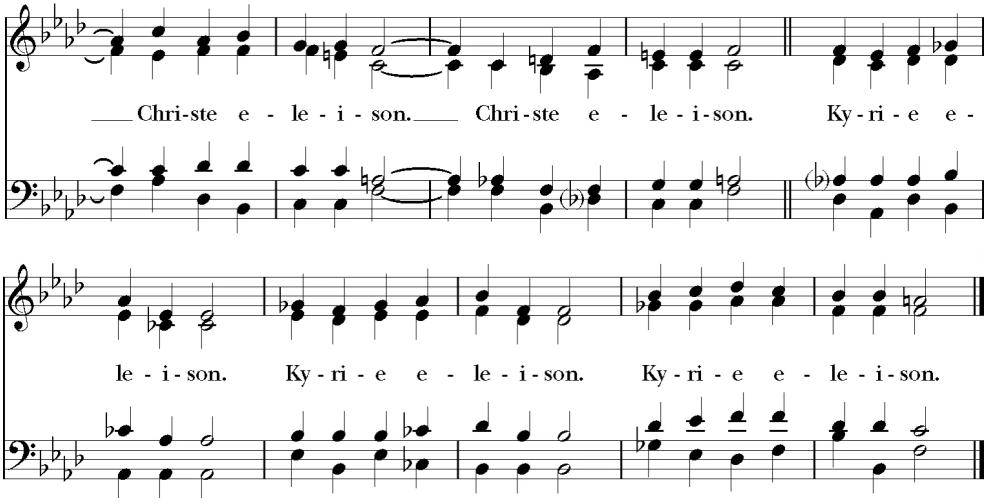
Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Presider 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.**

Kyrie S 89 *standing as you are able* James McGregor





Collect of the Day *standing as you are able*

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
The Presider prays the collect.

People **Amen.**

First Reading *seated*

Reader A reading from...
After the reading
Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm *seated*

Second Reading *seated*

Reader A reading from...
After the reading
Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn *standing as you are able*

Gospel *standing as you are able*

Priest The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to ...

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the Gospel

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon *seated*

Nicene Creed *standing as you are able* *Book of Common Prayer,* p. 358

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.

Advent Litany *standing or kneeling as you are able* Anglican Church of Canada

Leader In joyful expectation, let us pray to our Savior and Redeemer, saying "Lord Jesus, come soon!"

Leader O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live.

People **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader O Lord and head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us.

People **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader O Branch of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more.

People **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader O Key of David and scepter of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison.

People **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader O Morning Star, splendor of the light eternal and bright Sun of righteousness: come and enlighten all who dwell in the shadow of death.

People **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader O King of the nations, you alone can fulfill their desires; Cornerstone, you make opposing nations one: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay.

People **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Savior: come and save us, Lord our God.

People **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader We pray especially for those for whom prayers have been asked... (names are read from prayer list)... For whom else do we pray?

In the Parish Cycle of Prayer, we pray for... (names are read from prayer list)

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for… (names are read from prayer list)

We remember those who have died… (names are read from prayer list)… Whom else do we remember?

We give thanks for all the blessings of this life, especially… (thanksgivings are read from prayer list)… For what else do we give thanks?

Come and save your people, O Lord.

People **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

The Presider adds a concluding collect.

Confession of Sin *standing or kneeling as you are able* *Book of Common Prayer,* p. 360

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

All **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.**

Presider 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. **Amen.**

The Peace *standing as you are able*

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements *seated*

Announcements

Online Giving

Text GIVE to 614-418-6662. You will receive a text with additional instructions. Tap the link to open the GIVING FORM. Select the FUND DROP DOWN and enter your dollar amount. You will need to enter your payment information.

Birthday and Anniversary Prayer *seated* *Book of Common Prayer,* p. 830

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence *seated*

Offertory Music *seated*

Presentation Hymn *standing as you are able*

The Great Thanksgiving *standing as you are able* *Book of Common Prayer B*, p. 367

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

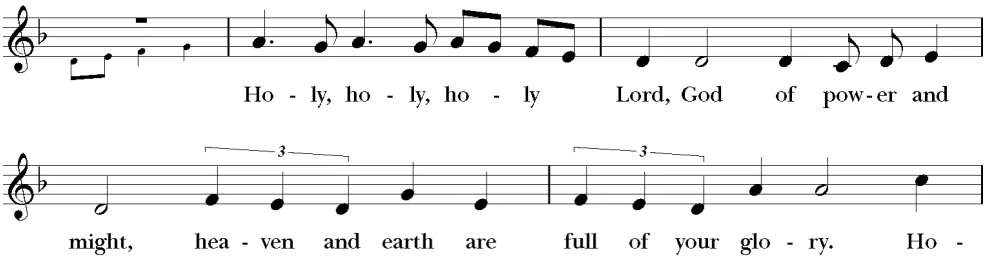
People **We lift them to the Lord.**

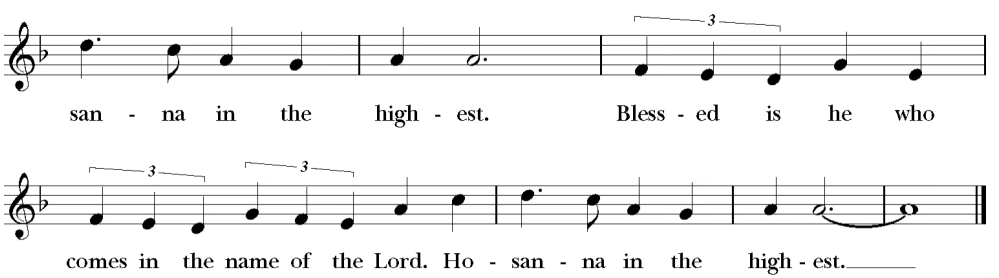
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your 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 we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus S 129 *standing as you are able* Robert Powell





The people stand or kneel.

Presider 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,

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

Presider 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 John and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters;

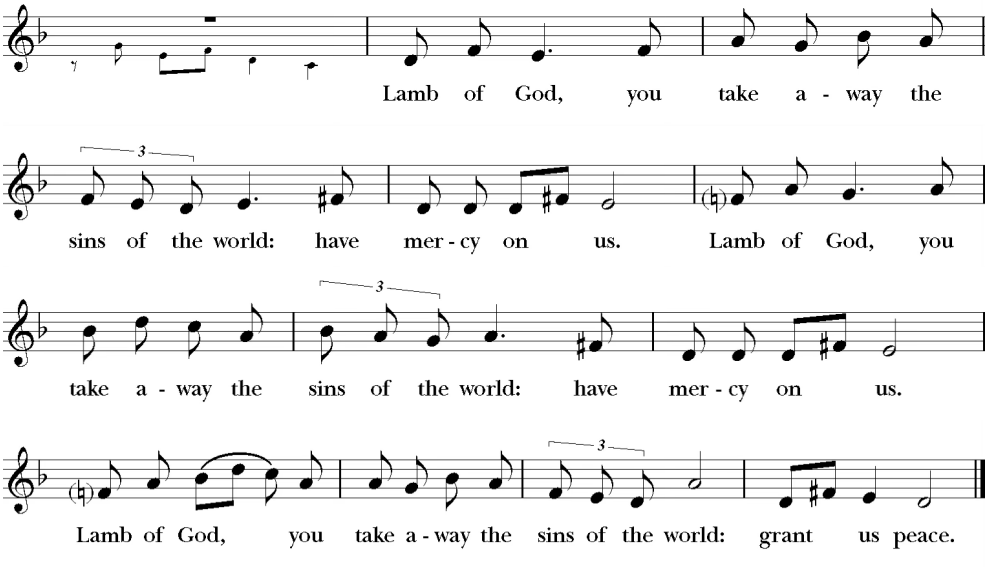
through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Presider As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

All **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

Fraction Anthem S 163 *standing as you are able*

Robert Powell



The Breaking of the Bread *standing as you are able*

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died and rose for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion of the People

In the Episcopal Church, anyone who is baptized, no matter what church they were baptized in or how old they are, is welcome to meet Jesus in the bread and wine. Baptized children may receive communion as soon as they can eat solid food, as their parents wish. Come forward to the altar rail when the ushers indicate it is your turn. To receive the bread, extend your hands in front of you for the priest to place

a wafer in your palm. Gluten-free wafers are available by request. If you wish to receive the wine, guide the cup to your mouth and drink directly from it. Please do not dip your wafer in the wine. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of communion, cross your arms over your chest. Communion can be brought to you at your seat; just let an usher know. Receiving neither a blessing nor communion is always an option, as well. To learn more about baptism, please speak with Gia or David.

Communion Hymn

Post-Communion Prayer *standing as you are able* *Book of Common Prayer,* p. 365

Presider Let us pray.

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Advent Blessing *standing as you are able*

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

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

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn *standing as you are able*

Dismissal *standing as you are able*

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude