

Advent 2019 at Grace First

Sunday, December 1—Please join us for the first Sunday in Advent, worship service at 10:40 a.m.
Sunday, December 8—Children's Christmas Musical at 10:40 a.m. followed by P.W. Cookie Packing
Tuesday, December 10—Circle 2 Christmas Party at 12:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 15—A Service of Lessons and Carols 10:40 a.m.
Monday, December 16—Evening Circle Christmas Party at 6:00 p.m. at Judy Rawlins' Home
Sunday, December 22—Please join us for the Fourth Advent service at 10:40 a.m.
Sunday, December 22—The Longest Night Service at 5 p.m.—Sanctuary opens at 4 p.m. for prayer
Tuesday, December 24—Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Harpist Sydney Howell at 6:45 p.m.



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The Reverend Ashley Drake Mertz, Pastor
The Reverend David A. Slyter, Associate Pastor
Marialice Parish, M.M., Organist and Director of Music



A Journey Through The Christian Year

THE ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP

November 24, 2019 10:40 A.M.

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

**The congregation is invited to stand as music begins.
Additional worshippers may enter as the congregation sings.*

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Around the Word

Opening Voluntary Arr. Gilbert M. Martin
"Thanksgiving Prayer"

Entrance of Baptismal Water, the Christ Light, and the Bible

Call to Worship (Responsive)
This is the day the Lord has made!
This is the crowning of the year!
The life of Christ is the model for our own,
and he shapes all we say and do.
The Lord reigns over all our days.
Let us worship God.

Prayer of Invocation

*Hymn 363 *Darwall's 148th*
"Rejoice, the Lord Is King"

Children's Moment The Rev. Ashley Drake Mertz

Doxology Hymn 606 *Old Hundredth*
Doxology
Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Reign of Christ: Already and Not Yet

Tenth Reading Psalm 93
Pew Bible: Page 549
*Hymn 269 *Lancashire*

"Lead On, Oh King Eternal!"

*Charge and Benediction

*Congregational Response *Antioch*
"Joy to the World"
Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing.

*Peace of Christ
The peace of Christ be with you
And also with you

*Closing Voluntary Sigfrid Karg-Elert
"Now Thank We All Our God"

Pastoral Joys and Concerns of the Church

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Call to Stewardship

Offertory
“Psalm 150”
Sanctuary Choir

*Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord in His sanctuary!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord in His firmament!
Praise God for His mighty deeds!
Praise God according to His greatness!*

Praise God with trumpet sound.
Let lute and harp resound with tambourine and dance in praise to God!
With strings and pipe let every type of praise be heard!
Sound the loud clashing cymbals! Let your praise resound with cymbals!
Let everything that breathes praise God!

Let heaven and earth praise God. Alleluia, sing Alleluia!
Lift your voice in praise to God. Alleluia, sing Alleluia!
Let everything that breathes praise God! Sing Alleluia!

(Congregation please remain seated and join in the singing of this hymn.)

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near,
join me in glad adoration!**

**Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen sound from His people again:
Gladly forever adore Him!**

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord in His sanctuary!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord in His firmament!
Let everything that breathes praise God!

Advent: Preparing to Welcome Jesus

First Reading
Isaiah 40:1-11
Pew Bible: Page 667
Hymn 82
Hyfrydol

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)
**You, God, are our one and only King.
We beg your forgiveness for the other “kings”
that we kneel before:
money...
power...
gossip...
self righteousness...
racial privilege...
We beg your forgiveness, we who are broken and
torn apart by our own doings and un-doings.
Guide us to be your servants.
Lead us to trust in you as the only king we need.
Direct our faith in your sovereign power
as we strive to follow your Son,
through the power of your Holy Spirit, we pray. Amen.**

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness (Responsive)
We have done wrong to God our King but the good news of the gospel is this:
God has chosen mercy over vengeance. Together, through the waters of our
baptism, we have been cleansed of our sin and are redeemed as beloved
servants of a merciful King. **Alleluia! Amen!**

Christmas: Immanuel, God-with-Us

Second Reading

Luke 2:1-20

Pew Bible: Page 58

Hymn 115 verses 1&3

Mueller

“Away in a Manger”

Epiphany: The Light Shines in the Darkness

Third Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

Pew Bible: Page 2

Hymn 150

Dix

“As with Gladness Men of Old”

Baptism of the Lord: Jesus Is Marked as God’s Own

Fourth Reading

Mark 1:4-11

Pew Bible: Page 34

Hymn 476

Sanctuary Choir

Crashing Waters

“Crashing Waters at Creation”

Lent: Penitence and Preparation

Fifth Reading

Mark 1:12-13

Pew Bible: Page 35

Hymn 167 verses 1, 2, & 5

Aus Der Tiefe Rufe Ich

“Forty Days and Forty Nights”

Holy Week, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday: God’s Love Revealed

Sixth Reading

Mark 15:25-41

Pew Bible: Page 54

Hymn 206 verses 1 & 5

My Neighbor

“This Is the Night”

Easter: The Lord Is Risen!

Seventh Reading

Mark 16:1-8

Pew Bible: Page 54

Hymn 231 verses 1 & 3

Suo Gan

“Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers”

Pentecost: The Holy Spirit Comes Among Us

Eighth Reading

Acts 2:1-13

Pew Bible: Page 119

Hymn 292

Wairua Tapu

“As the Wind Song”

Ordinary Time: For The Living of Our Days

Ninth Reading

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Pew Bible: Page 616

*Hymn 307 verses 1 & 4

Cwm Rhondda

“God of Grace and God of Glory”