

THE HOLY EUCHARIST  
The Fourth Sunday of Advent



DECEMBER 22, 2024  
10:00 AM

THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY OF THE HARBOR  
PROVINCETOWN



*Where the Land, the Sea, and the Sacred Meet*

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

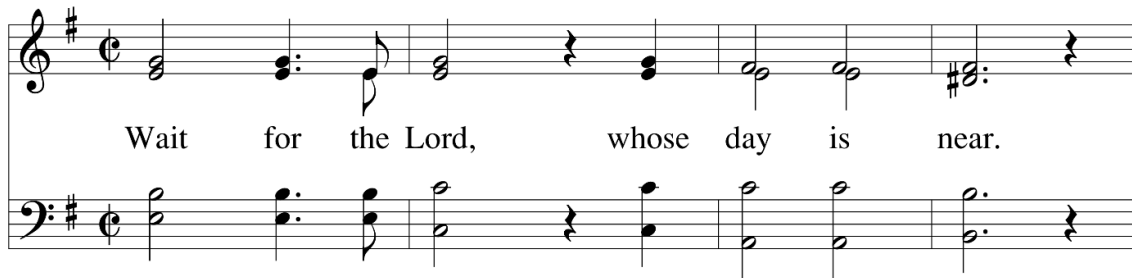
Welcome

Choral Prelude

Wait for the Lord

Taizé

Please join the choir as we take time to prepare for this Eucharist.



Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.




Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Gathering Hymn:

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Hymnal #56



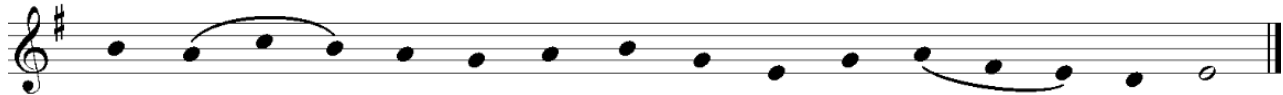
(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
(Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest  
(Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy  
(Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge  
3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the  
4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.  
 3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.  
 4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

**Opening Acclamation**

Presider: Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People: **You come to your people and set them free.**

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

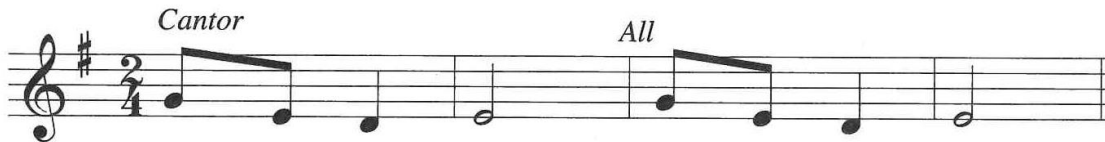
Dear Friends,

The time of Advent is drawing to a close. Let us recall how Christ's coming was proclaimed by all the prophets; how the virgin mother bore him in her womb with love beyond all telling; and how John the Baptist was his herald and made him known when at last he came.

*The Advent wreath candles are lit*

**Penitential Rite**

Presider: Coming together as God's family, with confidence let us ask for pardon and forgiveness, for God is full of gentleness and compassion.



1. Lord, have mer - cy.	Lord, have mer - cy.
2. Christ, have mer - cy.	Christ, have mer - cy.
3. Lord, have mer - cy.	Lord, have mer - cy.

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.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**Collect of the day**

Presider: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray:

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**First Reading:** *Micah 5:2-5a*

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Micah

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has brought forth;  
then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth;  
and he shall be the one of peace.

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

**Thanks be to God**

## The Song of Mary: Luke 1:46-55

Please remain seated for the singing of the Canticle



1 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!  
2 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his Name!  
3 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his might!  
4 Tell out, my soul, the glo-ries of his word!



Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spi - rit voice;  
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;  
Powers and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.  
Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.



ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word;  
his mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;  
Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,  
Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord



in God my Sa - vior shall my heart re - joice.  
his ho - ly Name— the Lord, the Might - y One.  
the hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.  
to chil - dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

## **Second Reading:** Hebrews 10:5-10

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

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

**Thanks be to God**

Hal - le - lu - ia, hal - le - lu - ia,  
hal - le - lu - ia, hal - le - lu - ia!

**Gospel:** *Luke 1:39-55*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said,

*The people join in reciting the Magnificat*

**Women:** My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

**Men:** **From this day all generations will call me blessed:  
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.**

**Women:** He has mercy on those who fear him  
in every generation.

**Men:** **He has shown the strength of his arm,  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.**

**Women:** He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,  
and has lifted up the lowly.

**Men: He has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he has sent away empty.**

Women: He has come to the help of his servant Israel,  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

**Men: The promise he made to our ancestors,  
to Abraham and his children for ever.**

The Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you, Lord Christ**

**Sermon**

The Rev. Brian Raiche

1. I be - lieve in God al - might - y, Au - thor of all things that  
 2. I be - lieve that Je - sus suf - fered, scourged and scorned and cru - ci -  
 3. I be - lieve in God's own Spir - it, bond - ing all the saints with-

be, Mak - er of the earth and heav - ens, Keep - er of the sky and  
 fied; tak - en from the cross, was bur - ied— True Life there had tru - ly  
 in One church, cath - o - lic and ho - ly, where for - give - ness frees from

sea. I be - lieve in God's Son, Je - sus, now for  
 died. I be - lieve that on the third day Christ was  
 sin; in the bod - y's res - ur - rec - tion, for the

us both Lord and Christ, of the Spir - it and of  
 raised up from the grave, then as - cend - ed to God  
 break - ing of death's chain gives the life that's ev - er -

Mar - y born to bring a - bun - dant life.  
 right hand. He will come to judge and save.  
 last - ing. This the faith that I have claimed.



Presider: May our hearts leap up for joy as we again assemble in prayer to await the Lord's coming. With Mary, may our souls proclaim God's greatness as we say, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Reader: Let us pray for the church: As the celebration of your incarnation draws near, we remember the many ways your revelation is lifted up in the world and we pray for our sisters and brothers in Christ throughout the world, and especially for those whose very faith endangers their lives. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For an end to violence, oppression and injustice: As you lead us, Lord, from darkness to light, may we be among those who exalt the lowly and fill the hungry with good things, rooting out the proud of heart and drawing courage from the power of your arm. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For our own spirits: May our hearts be magnified and made much bigger than we think possible. May this season of Advent stir in us such faith that we exert ourselves to be your light in a darkened world. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For this community: May we be enriched by welcoming the stranger and be drawn to a bright future in service to you, while also remembering and honoring those in the past who guided us into faith. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the sick and suffering: May they find healing and peace. Especially we pray for: Stella Mae Bird, Mark Ward, Richard Keeling, Joan Boudreau, Ken Barry, Towanda deNagy, Priscilla McChesney, Ollie Ahmuty, Joan Walter, Chelsea Diaz, Steve Moore, Nick Craciun, William Goodbody, John Kelly, and all those listed on our Parish Prayer List. And for those who are known to us in our hearts, those known only to you, and for those whose names are spoken on our lips: *(You are invited to offer your own intentions aloud or silently).* Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the dead and those on the threshold of death. May they and we be welcomed into the place of glory our Lord has prepared for us. We remember those members of the Parish who died in the past year, and in whose memory the Sanctuary lamp is lit, and those we name aloud. *(You are invited to offer your own intentions either out loud or silently.)* Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

**Closing Collect:**

Lord, we gather up the prayers of this household, confident in your promise to be with us always. Guide us in wisdom and faith; that we might live into the life created for us, trusting in your will. All this we ask through your Son, our redeemer, Jesus, who is your Christ. **Amen.**

*The prayers are concluded with hymn # 608, verse 1*

**Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm hath bound the restless wave,  
who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep:  
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.**

**The Peace**

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

**Birthday and Anniversary Blessings**

**Blessing and Tribute to Bill Carlson**

**Please consider supporting our parish**

Would you like to make a gift to support the Church of St. Mary of the Harbor? All you need is your phone! Use the following QR code to make your gift.



# LITURGY OF THE TABLE

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## Invitation:

*Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.*

## Preparation of the Table

*The Desert shall rejoice*

Grindal/Patterson

## Presentation of the Gifts

**Sing We of the Blessed Mother**

**Hymnal #278**

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Eucharistic Prayer III  
(From Enriching Our Worship)*

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 God thanks and praise.**

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb. You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

## Sanctus

Hymnal #S130

*SATB harmony can be found in the hymnal*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and  
might. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
God of pow'r and might. Heav - en and earth are  
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

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

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

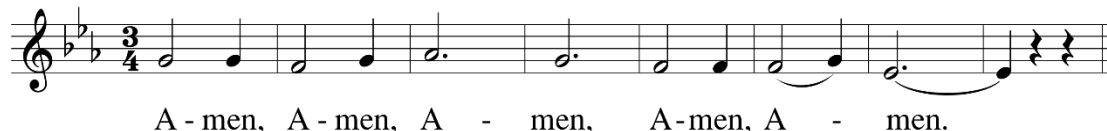
We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will  
 come a - gain. Christ has died, Christ is  
 ris - en, Christ will come a - gain.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with Blessed Mary and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise. Blessed are you now and for ever:



### **The Lord's Prayer**

Traditional Form

*And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,*

**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**

**Presider:** We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

**People:** We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

## Fraction Anthem:

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in G major. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with the bass clef providing a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us."

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us."

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

The third system of music continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:"

give us your peace, give us your peace.

The fourth system of music concludes the piece with a double bar line. The lyrics are: "give us your peace, give us your peace."

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Adaptation: Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

## Invitation to Communion

The gifts of God for the People of God. Holy Food for a Holy People. In this house which bears the name Mary, all are welcome to share the one she bore, Jesus the Bread of Life.

1 Hark! the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior  
 2 He comes, the pri - soners to re - lease in Sa - tan's  
 3 He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

prom - ised long: let ev - ery heart pre -  
 bond - age held; the gates of brass be -  
 soul to cure; and with the trea - sures  
 shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

pare a throne, and ev - ery voice a song.  
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
 arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

Words: Philip Doddridge (1702-1751). Music: *Bristol*, from *The Whole Booke of Psalmes*, 1621.

**Post Communion Prayer**

*From "Strength for the Journey"*

**A Litany of Mary of Nazareth**

Glory to you, God our Creator: **Breathe into us new life, new meaning.**

Glory to you, God our Savior: **Lead us in the way of peace and justice.**

Glory to you, healing Spirit: **Transform us to empower others.**

Mary, wellspring of peace: **Be our guide.**

Model of strength: **Be our guide.**

Model of gentleness: **Be our guide.**

Model of trust: **Be our guide.**

Model of courage: **Be our guide.**

Model of patience: **Be our guide.**

Model of risk: **Be our guide.**

Model of perseverance: **Be our guide.**

Mary, mother of the liberator: **Pray for us.**

Mother of the homeless: **Pray for us.**

Mother of the dying: **Pray for us.**

Mother of the nonviolent: **Pray for us.**

Widowed mother: **Pray for us.**

Unwed mother: **Pray for us.**

Mother of a political prisoner: **Pray for us.**

Mother of the condemned: **Pray for us.**

Mother of the executed criminal: **Pray for us.**

Mother of the Risen Christ: **Pray for us.**

**The Blessing**

Presider: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Presider: May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Recessional**

**O Come, Divine Messiah**

**GC 2 #333**

*See next page*

**Dismissal**

Deacon: Go in the Peace of Christ.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

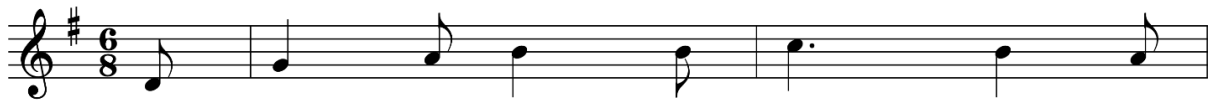
**Postlude**

Partita on Es ist ein Ros

Anthony Giamanco (b. 1958)



## O Come, Divine Messiah



1. O come, Di - vine Mes - si - ah, The  
2. O come De - sired of na - tions, Whom  
3. O come in peace and meek - ness, For



world in si - lence waits the day When hope shall sing its  
priest and proph - et long fore-told, Will break the cap - tive  
low - ly will your cra - dle be: Though clothed in hu - man



tri - umph, And sad - ness flee a - way.  
fet - ters, Re - deem the long - lost fold.  
weak - ness We shall your God - head see.



Dear Sav - ior, haste! Come, come to earth. Dis - pel the



night and show your face, And bid us hail the dawn of



grace. O come, Di - vine Mes - si - ah, The



world in si - lence waits the day When hope shall sing its



tri - umph, And sad - ness flee a - way.

*Join us for Festive Coffee Hour in celebration of Bill Carlson's Ministry in  
Nicholson Hall immediately following the service.*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## **Christmas at St. Mary's**

Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>: 5:00 PM

Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>: 10:00 AM

We will "green" the Church following the service today, Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## **Winter Lunches**

Winter lunches for our hungry neighbors will be offered on Saturdays in January and February. Your help is welcome. A sign-up sheet is located on the credenza near the bulletin board.

## **Christmas Communion**

If you, or someone you know in the Parish, would like to receive Christmas Communion at home, please contact the office or one of the clergy. We will be glad to come visit and bring communion.

## **Parish Prayer List**

In addition to the names listed in the Prayers of the People, we pray for healing and comfort for:

*Family and Friends:* Roger Ashe, Joan Russell, Jim Neely and Ann English, Kent Taylor, Margo Kent, Michael Mason, Donna Pickener, Marcia McClure, Marsha Davies, Carol Studley, Marge and Donna, Patty Davenport, Scotty Townsend, Barbara Crawford, Christian Hagerty, Steven Moore, Barbara Hammond, Elizabeth Mason

## **A.A. Support Groups**

Nicholson Hall: Monday 7:00 P.M.; Tuesday 6:00 P.M.; Wednesday 6:30 P.M.

## **UU Food Pantry**

On the first Sunday of each month, we collect donations for the "Little Free Pantry" hosted by our friends at the Unitarian Universalist Meeting House. That pantry provides non-perishable grocery and toiletry items for anyone in need. Items may be left in the basket by the baptismal font at any time. We could use additional volunteers to deliver the food. We are extending the usual first Sun of each month's ingathering of food for the UU's food bank. for an additional 2nd Sunday. Thanks for your continuing support.

## **Sanctuary Lamp**

Memorial opportunities are available to honor a deceased love one with the sanctuary lamp. Their name will be published in the bulletin. Suggested donation: \$20. Contact the parish office to reserve the date.

## **Stay in touch with St. Mary's**

Many of our most active members do not live here full-time. There are several ways to participate and keep in touch throughout the year: Sign our guest book with your contact information; Watch our weekly livestream on YouTube; Sign up for our Weekly e-newsletter.

### **Vestry Officers**

Sharon Inger, Senior Warden  
[srwarden@stmaryoftheharbor.org](mailto:srwarden@stmaryoftheharbor.org)

John Carroll-Yagel, Junior Warden  
[jrwarden@stmaryoftheharbor.org](mailto:jrwarden@stmaryoftheharbor.org)

John Loftin, Treasurer  
[treasurer@stmaryoftheharbor.org](mailto:treasurer@stmaryoftheharbor.org)

Brendan O'Neill, Clerk  
[clerk@stmaryoftheharbor.org](mailto:clerk@stmaryoftheharbor.org)

### **Vestry Members**

Mary-Jo Avellar  
Kathy Bachman  
Phil Franchini;  
Alex Glowacki  
Anita McGahan  
Janet Whelan

### **This Sunday's Leadership**

- Crucifer: Mary-Jo Avellar
- First Reader (First Reading and Psalms): Sharon Inger
- Second Reader (Second Reading): John Loftin
- Healer: Andrea Sawyer
- Ushers: John Carroll and John Loftin
- Altar Guild: John Carroll and John Loftin
- Livestream: John Carroll-Yagel

# THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY OF THE HARBOR

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517 Commercial Street, Provincetown, MA 02657

## **Welcome to St. Mary of the Harbor**

Here at St. Mary's, we welcome you with open arms and open hearts, to share with you the love with which Christ has welcomed us. Whoever you are, wherever you may be in life, there is a place for you here. In this beautiful place, you will find sojourners like yourself who are searching for truth, meaning, and purpose. And we invite you to explore and experience the gift of God's love in this place where the land, the sea, and the sacred meet.

Everything you need to guide you through today's service will be found in this bulletin, or in the hymnals in the chair just in front of you.

## **Land Acknowledgement**

At St. Mary's, we remember the Nauset and Wampanoag people on whose unceded land we now gather. We acknowledge the injustice done to them. We give thanks for their witness to living honorably and in balance with the sacred order. May we always remember that the Earth does not belong to us, that we belong to the Earth, and that we are all relatives in life. Help us to be instruments of justice and peace for all people in today's world, particularly the original Indigenous inhabitants.

The Rev. Brian Raiche, Rector  
revbrian@stmaryoftheharbor.org  
Cell: (508) 717-9002

The Rev. Bruce Mason, Deacon  
Bill Carlson, Music Director

Julia Perry, Office Manager  
office@stmaryoftheharbor.org

Office Hours: Tuesday (9-12), Wednesday (1-5 pm), Friday (9-12, 1-5 pm)

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