

"ALL SAINTS IS A COMMUNITY OF GOD'S PEOPLE CALLED TO LIVE AS THE BODY OF CHRIST IN AUSTIN FOR THE WORLD

THROUGH WORSHIP, SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND SERVICE."

Before the service, there is a time for silent prayer and meditation. You are invited to use this prayer as a part of your individual preparation for worship:

"Eternal God.

you have called us to be members of one body.

Join us with those who in all times and places have praised your name, that, with one heart and mind, we may show the unity of your church, and bring honor to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen."

-The Book of Common Worship

A NOTE FOR OUR GUESTS:

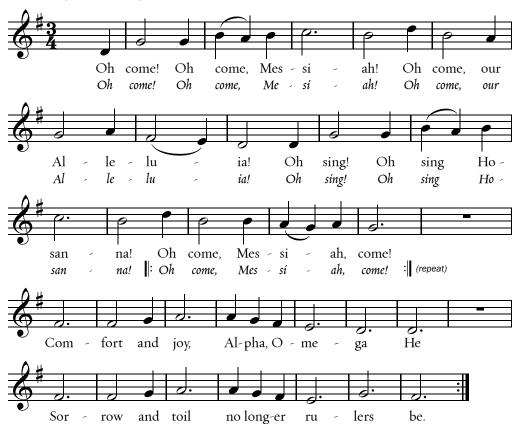
If you are joining us for the first time today, welcome! We are thankful to have you worship with us this morning. After the service, we invite you to stop by the Welcome Table in the foyer to find out more about All Saints and to pick up a small gift as a token of our appreciation for you and your presence with us today. If you have any questions, please contact one of the staff members listed in the back of this bulletin or visit our website at allsaintsaustin.org.

OFFERING STONES

If you give financially to All Saints online or by mail, please take a stone as you enter the sanctuary. You may place your stone in the offering basket as it comes your way during the offertory as a physical token of your offering to the Lord. (This is also a great way to teach children and others about sacrificial giving.)

PROCESSIONAL

O COME, MESSIAH, COME



(Words & Music: Isaac Wardell, arr. Isaac Wardell, Mason Neely, & Alex Foote; arr. David Lutes, 2014; CCLI License #2476739)

ENTRANCE

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

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.

Minister: LORD, you have been our dwelling place

in all generations.

People: Before the mountains were brought forth,

or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

Minister: So teach us to number our days

that we may get a heart of wisdom.

People: Return, O Lord! How long?

(from Psalm 90)

COLLECT

Minister: Let us pray:

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and savior we may be ready to receive him,

who is our Lord and our God.

People: Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Minister: We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

Advent means "coming," and we are preparing ourselves for the days when the wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf

together; and a little child shall lead them.

People: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

HYMN OF PRAISE

HAIL TO THE LORD'S ANOINTED



- Hail to the Lord's A noin-ted, I.
- He comes with suc - cor spee - dy 2.
- those who suf - fer wrong; shall come down like sho-wers He up - on the fruit - ful earth; 3.

Son!

him shall prayer un - ceas - ing cend; To dai - ly and vows as -



Hail in the time ap - poin-ted, his reign on earth be gun! poor and help the nee - dy, and bid the weak be strong; birth. joy, and hope, like flo - wers, spring in his path to king-dom still in king - dom with - out creas-ing, end.



He comes to break op - pres - sion, free; to set the cap-tive give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness light, turn to Be - fore him on the moun-tains, shall peace, the he - rald go, tide of time shall ne his ven - ant re move;

that

name to us is

love.



ev - er;

(Words: James Montgomery, 1821; Music: Christopher Miner, arr. David Lutes, 2013; CCLI license #2476739)

his name shall stand for

CONFESSION OF SIN

Minister: God of power and might, you promised through the prophets

that the day is coming when you will bring all nations under your rule.

People: We confess that we have not expected your coming kingdom.

We live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment.

We accept lies as truth, exploit our neighbors,

abuse your creation, resist your justice, and refuse your peace. In your mercy, forgive our wandering and rebellious hearts.

Grant us the humility to return to you, the strength to walk in your way, and the wisdom to seek those things that will endure; for the sake of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ who will come again to judge the world in righteousness. Amen.

(adapted from the Book of Common Worship)

(Pause for a time of silent confession)

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

CHOIR:

O come, Thou rod of Jesse, free Thine own from Satan's tyranny; From depths of hell Thy people save and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

Chorus: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to Thee O Israel!

ALL:

O come, O come, Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appears. (Chorus)

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height In ancient times didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe. (Chorus) (Repeat Chorus)

(Words: Tr. John Mason Neale, Music: arr. Thomas Helmore, addtl.. arr. David Lutes, 2007; CCLI license #2476739)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Minister: The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of

all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and

consolation of his Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF RESPONSE

OF THE FATHER'S LOVE BEGOTTEN



(Words: Aurelius Prudentius, tr. Henry Baker, Music: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, 13th cent. arr. David Lutes; CCLI license #2476739)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

ISAIAH 40:3-8

A voice cries:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

- 4 Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.
- And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."
- A voice says, "Cry!"
 And I said, "What shall I cry?"
 All flesh is grass,
 and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.
- 7 The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the Lord blows on it; surely the people are grass.
- 8 The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

EPISTLE READING

2 PETER 3:8-15a

But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

11 Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, 12 waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! 13 But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

14 Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace. 15 And count the patience of our Lord as salvation...

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL PROCESSION

MY SOUL IN STILLNESS WAITS

f * After the gospel reading, repeat refrain as the reader returns to the front.



(Words: Psalm 95 and "O" Antiphons, Marty Haugen; Music: Marty Haugen, 1982, arr. David Lutes, 2011; CCLI license #2476739)

PLEASE TURN AND FACE THE BIBLE AS IT IS PROCESSED INTO THE AISLE.

GOSPEL READING

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

2 As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

"Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way,

3 the voice of one crying in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'"

4 John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5 And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. 6 Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. 7 And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. 8 I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord. People: Praise be to you Lord Christ.

SMALL SAINTS DISMISSAL

At this time, children in Kindergarten - 3rd Grade may go to the chapel for a lesson and activity. They will return to the sanctuary during the Passing of the Peace.

II:00 AM SERVICE ONLY: ANY CHILDREN IN KINDERGARTEN - 5TH GRADE WHO WISH TO SING WITH THE CHOIR IN THE IO:00AM SERVICE ON DECEMBER 24 ARE INVITED TO REHEARSE THE MUSIC IN THE CHAPEL AT THIS TIME. (SEE PAGE 23 FOR DETAILS.)

HOMILY

"A New Center" Rev. Tim Frickenschmidt

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Celebrant: Christian, what do you believe?

People: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord;

Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,

Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate,

Was crucified, dead, and buried;

He descended into hell;

The third day He rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven,

And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost;

The holy catholic Church;

The communion of saints;

The forgiveness of sins;

The resurrection of the body;

And the life everlasting. Amen.

-The Apostles Creed

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Minister: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Greet one another with a sign of peace, such as: "The peace of Christ be with You" & "And also with You."

RETURN OF CHILDREN

During the Passing of the Peace, Small Saints teachers will bring the children back to the Sanctuary. Feel free to pick up younger children at this time as well. They will receive a blessing while you receive Communion. You may also wait to retrieve them, as childcare is provided for the duration of the service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please note this week's announcements in the back of the bulletin.

SIGN-IN

If you are on the end of a row, please take the black notepad from underneath the chair in front of you and sign in so we have a record of your attendance.

COMMISSIONING OF ARNOLDO & CRIZELDA CASTILLO

HOLY COMMUNION OFFERTORY

Celebrant: Let us with gladness present the tithes and offerings of our life and labor to the Lord.

OFFERTORY HYMN

SPEAK, O LORD



- I. Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to re-ceive the food of Your Ho-ly word.
- 2. Teach us, Lord, full o · be · di · ence, Ho · ly rev · er · ence, true hu · mil · i · ty.
- 3. Speak, O Lord, and re-new our minds; help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us;



Take Your truth, plant it deep in us shape and fash-ion us in Your like - ness; Test our thoughts and our at - ti-tudes in the ra - di-ance of Your pur - i - ty. Truths un-changed from the dawn of time that will ech - o down through e - ter - ni - ty.



That the light of Christ might be seen to-day in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.

Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your ma-jes - tic love and au-thor - i - ty.

And by grace we'll stand on Your prom-is-es; and by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.



Speak, O Lord, and ful - fill in us all Your pur-pos-es for Your glo - ry. Words of pow'r that can nev - er fail; let their truth pre-vail o - ver un - be - lief. Speak, O Lord, 'til Your church is built, and the earth is filled with Your glo - ry.

(Words and Music by Keith Getty & Stuart Townend, 2005; CCLI license #2476739)

TITHES & OFFERINGS

While there are many ways to contribute financially to God's Kingdom, the Church is the primary means by which that kingdom is established on Earth. Thus, God calls us first and foremost to be faithful in the regular, ongoing support of one's local church body through tithes and offerings. If you haven't made tithing a practice, please consider adopting tithing or generous giving as a spiritual practice—that you might grow in faith and that together we might increase All Saints' capacity to be the body of Christ in Austin for the world.

If you give to All Saints online or by mail, please take a stone as you enter the sanctuary. You may place your stone in the offering basket as it comes your way as a physical token of your offering to the Lord. (This is also a great way to teach children and others about sacrificial giving.)

Minister: Let us pray:

People: We do not presume to come to this, Your Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own

righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your Table. But you are the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean

by his body and our souls washed through his most precious blood that we may

evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

(PLEASE STAND)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. *People:* And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is very good and right, our duty and privilege, to at all times, and in all

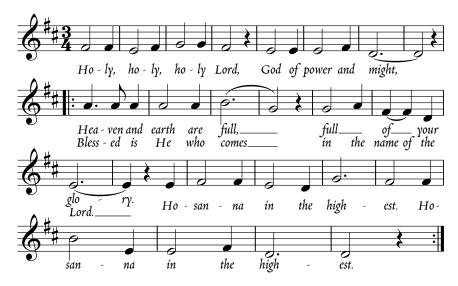
places, give thanks unto you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ your Son. For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh, he fulfilled the plan you formed before the

foundation of the world to open for us the way of salvation. Confident that your promise will be fulfilled, we now watch for the day when Christ our

Lord will come again in glory.

Celebrant: Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious Name; evermore praising you, and singing,

People:



(Music: Franz Peter Schubert; adapt. David Lutes, 2012)

(PLEASE KNEEL OR BE SEATED)

Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

> For in the night in which he was betrayed, Jesus took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Celebrant: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith: People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Celebrant: We now celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this

sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and

ascension, we offer you these gifts.

People: Gracious God, pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these Your gifts of bread

and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By Your Spirit make us one with Christ, that we may be one with all who share this feast, united in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for

us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

Celebrant: All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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.

People: Amen.

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

People: 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

INVITATION

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance

that Christ died for you, and feed on him by faith, with thanksgiving.

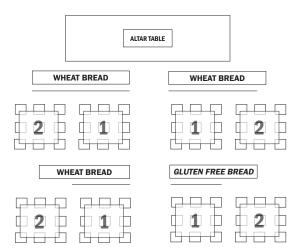
WE COME TO HIS TABLE

ALL SAINTS WELCOMES ALL BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS WHO BELIEVE IN THE GOSPEL (GOOD NEWS) OF JESUS CHRIST TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EUCHARISTIC MEAL. THIS INCLUDES ALL CHRISTIANS, WHETHER MEMBERS AT ALL SAINTS OR ANOTHER CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY. CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN BAPTIZED AND INTERVIEWED BY THE ELDERS OF THIS CHURCH OR THE RULING BODY OF ANOTHER CHURCH ARE ALSO WELCOME TO THE TABLE.

IF YOU'RE STILL INVESTIGATING CHRISTIANITY, NOT SURE WHAT YOU BELIEVE, OR SIMPLY CHOOSE NOT TO PARTICIPATE, YOU MAY EITHER REMAIN IN YOUR SEAT OR COME FORWARD, CROSS YOUR ARMS OVER YOUR CHEST, AND RECEIVE A BLESSING. NON-COMMUNING CHILDREN ARE ENCOURAGED TO COME FORWARD AS WELL TO RECEIVE A BLESSING WHILE THEIR PARENTS RECEIVE COMMUNION.

The ushers will guide you to the serving lines. The outer circles of each tray contain wine. Grape juice is provided in the inner circle of each tray. Gluten-free Bread is served in the back right section.

Grape Juice



HYMNS FOR COMMUNION

A PILGRIM'S PRAYER



- I. O teach us, Lord,
- 2. O send the day
- 3. So let there be

to count our days,

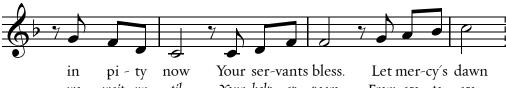
of joy and light, on us be-stowed and set our hearts for long has been

Your ve-ry beau -



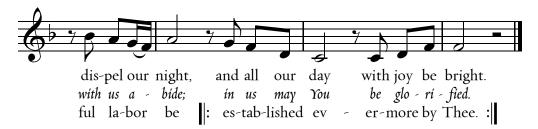
on wis-dom's ways.

Turn, Lord, to us in our dis - tress our sor-row's night; af - flic-ted through the wea-ry years, ty, Lord, our God; the work ac-com - plished by our hand,



wait un - til Your help ap - pears; we Lord, please est - a - blish and make stand;

From age to age O, let our hope -



(Words: Psalm 90 from the Psalter, 1912, adapt. D. Lutes, 2017; Music: Scottish melody, arr. D. Lutes, 2017, CCLI license #2476739)

LO. HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING



(Words: Charles Wesley (v. 1, 3, 4), Joseph Swain (v. 2), Music: Henry Smart, arr. David Lutes, CCLI License #2476739)





BENEDICTION

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you, and remain with you always. Amen.

PROCESSIONAL

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.

(Words: Thomas Ken, Music: Louis Bourgeois)

UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY Spring MOSS Registration Deadline Today: If you haven't already done so, **DEADLINE** please register today to participate in All Saints' MOSS program in the spring:

allsaintsaustin.org/moss. Find more details on p. 23 or at allsaintsaustin.org/women.

TODAY

Westminster Manor Lessons & Carols Service: Join folks from All Saints and 4:00 PM Redeemer in bringing tidings of comfort and joy to the residents of Westminster

Manor senior living. Service is family-friendly with opportunities to participate.

Visit allsaintsaustin.org/wm for more information.

TODAY E45 Ornament Exchange Christmas Party: The 4th and 5th graders will gather

5:00 PM for friendship and carols at the Cone Family home (3702 Gilbert St), 5PM - 7PM.

Bring an ornament and merriment!

TODAY Middle School & High School Christmas Parties: Wear your tacky Christmas

5:00 PM & attire and bring a white elephant gift (under \$10). Dinner provided.

7:30 PM Middle school: 5PM at the Dwelles' (9413 Zyle Rd).

High school: 7:30PM at the Saidlemans' (2008 Key West Cv).

TODAY 50+ Fellowship Christmas Party: Please join us 7PM - 9PM at the

7:00 PM Malachowskis' (3555 Lost Creek Blvd) for dessert and wine. Bring a finger dessert

or a bottle of wine to share. RSVP to Craig (cchapman@allsaintsaustin.org).

THU, DEC 14 60+ S.P.F (Support, Prayer, & Fellowship): For All Saints ladies sixty years and 10:00 AM

older. This week is our final lesson plus a Christmas brunch at Joanne's house (4701 Gold Flower Hollow). Contact Joanne Moore (jown.moore@gmail.com,

251-294-1945) for more information.

SUN, DEC 24 Christmas Eve Services: This year, Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday. Therefore,

All Saints is planning four services that day:

10AM Sunday morning worship: 4th Sunday of Advent

3PM & 5PM Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols service

11PM Christmas Eve Eucharist service

To help us be prepared to welcome many guests that day, please let us know

which service(s) you plan to attend: allsaintsaustin.org/christmas.

TUE, JAN 9 Young Adults Retreat Early Deadline: Register by January 9 for an early-bird

DEADLINE discount at this year's Texas Young Adult Retreat: Feb. 9-11 at Balcones

Springs Retreat in Marble Falls. Register at allsaintsaustin.org/yaretreat

SUPPORT GROUPS

Dementia Caregivers Group

1st & 3rd Tuesdays @ 2PM Contact Lise Rollert (214-679-6939)

Men's Sexual Integrity Group

1st & 3rd Thursdays | 7:30 PM Contact Garrett (glathan@allsaintsaustin.org)

Women's Infertility Group

4th Tuesdays | 7:30 PM Contact Joelle (jwbeisner@gmail.com) or Caitlyn (caitlynmaryallen@gmail.com) *This group will not meet in December

MOSS

Jan 10 - Apr 25

Join women of all life stages for a mid-week gathering (with accompanying children's program) on Wednesday mornings 9:30 - 11:30. MOSS is a time for the women of All Saints to enjoy worship, large group teaching, mentoring, small group discussion, prayer, and fellowship. Register online at allsaintsaustin.org/moss.

Through DEC 10: Regular Registration*
After DEC 10: Late Registration

*You must register by Dec 10 to reserve a spot in childcare. After Dec 10, children will be added to a wait list.

KIDS' CHRISTMAS CHOIR

Children in Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to participate with the adult choir for Advent. Rehearsals will occur during the first 10 minutes of Small Saints during the SECOND SERVICE ONLY on Sundays in December. Children are invited to sing during the 10:00AM service on Christmas Eve, December 24.

RSVP: Please let us know if your child will be singing with us - allsaintsaustin.org/parents Ouestions? Contact Jamie Taylor (itaylor@allsaintsaustin.org)

HELPING HANDS

During worship on October 29, Tim announced that, starting January 1, each able adult in our All Saints family will be asked to serve one Sunday each semester (*only 3 hours per year*) as "Helping Hands" for our growing Children's Ministry. As one of our Helping Hands, you will not be required to teach; instead, you can assist the current Children's Ministry Team in sharing Jesus by loving and being present with our many children. This fulfillment of our congregational baptism vows requires no preparation, but only a desire to help God's kingdom come in the next generation.

You likely received an email from Sally Bryant with instructions on how to use Ministry Scheduler Pro (MSP) to enter your availability for the spring. If you missed the opportunity or have questions, please contact Sally (sbryant@allsaintsaustin.org).

SPONSOR A POINSETTIA

All Saints is decorating the sanctuary with poinsettias for Advent. If you would like to sponsor a poinsettia in honor of or in memory of someone, you may do so at **allsaintsaustin.org/poinsettia**. You may take home a poinsettia after one of All Saints' Christmas Eve services (3pm, 5pm, 11pm).

QUESTION FROM TIM: WILL YOU GIVE THIS DECEMBER?

Friends,

Will you prayerfully consider giving sacrificially to All Saints this December through a financial gift?

We have just entered Advent, a time of expectation and preparation to celebrate Christmas. Advent anticipates and Christmas celebrates what the Apostle Paul proclaims in Philippians 2: "Christ Jesus... did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in the likeness of man." What love! What grace!

How are we to respond to such an infinitely prodigal act as the Incarnation? Reverence. Wonder. Action. This was the shepherds' response in hearing of Jesus' birth: "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened..." (Luke 2:15). Joy. Worship. Giving. This too was the wise men's response: "They fell down and worshipped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh" (Matt 2:11). How will we respond this year to God emptying Himself?

Pastors ponder questions like this right now, because it's not just the beginning of a new Church Year; it's also the end of the calendar year. And our budget for next year (and plans for ministry and mission) is largely determined over the next few weeks.

What will ministry and mission look like at All Saints in 2018? Will we continue to support our many ministry partners as planned? Will we be able to set aside funds for local church planting? Will we be able to continue all the ministry programs the Lord has used at All Saints over the years or the ones initiated this past year? Will we be able to hire any new staff or initiate any new ministry programs? This month, December 2017, will tell us.

Through November, our church has sacrificially given \$1,634,000 this year to the General Fund. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! That's a 5% increase from 2016. However, our church body has grown by more than that. And with new people come new needs and a growing budget. Last December, our general fund received \$555,000. This December, I'm praying we'll receive \$900,000 in order to maintain our current programming levels. By God's self-emptying grace, it is possible for us.

Will you join me in that "sacrifice of praise" initiated by the wise men who were the first to open their treasures and lay them at the feet of our Incarnate Lord?

Many of you have asked **if All Saints is planning a new capital campaign to build additional facilities for our church.** Our final sanctuary? Maybe. The church leadership, our architects, and I have been working on various plans and scenarios for how/if we take that step. Much of our campus is stretched at the seams, especially on Sundays.

But I want to make sure the timing is right and that we, as a church, are willing and able to "count the cost" and sing the "sacrifice of praise" that a new capital campaign would require. This December's giving will indicate our church's readiness and the Lord's leading in this potential endeavor.

If you haven't made tithing or sacrificial giving a practice, please consider doing so that together we might increase All Saints' capacity to be the body of Christ in Austin for the world. A quarter of All Saints members have not given financially to the church, and **we need everyone's participation to fund the ongoing work of God's Kingdom through All Saints.**

As always, **thank you for giving sacrificially to the ministry and mission of All Saints.** It is such a privilege to be your senior pastor for another year! My hope and sincere prayer is that we would all, as a community, be prepared this Advent to "go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened."

Come, Lord Jesus, Come!

Tine Knulfundfinot



One of All Saints' ten spiritual formation practices is Tithing & Sacrificial Giving. While there are many ways to contribute financially to God's Kingdom, the Church is the primary means by which that kingdom is established on earth. Thus, God calls us first and foremost to be faithful in the regular, ongoing support of one's local church body through tithes and offerings.

GIVE ONLINE (by Dec. 31)

allsaintsaustin.org/give
Via mobile app (allsaintsaustin.org/app)

GIVE BY MAIL (postmarked by Dec. 31)

7808 Rialto Blvd. Austin, TX 78735

GIVING STOCK

Did you know All Saints accepts contributions of stock? Even better, if you have appreciated stock that you have owned for at least a year, giving it to All Saints may allow you multiple tax benefits: you may receive a charitable deduction on your income taxes for the stock's fair market value and avoid capital gains taxes on the appreciated stock value. For more details or to make a stock contribution, visit allsaintsaustin.org/stock or contact David Breeding (dbreeding@allsaintsaustin.org, 512-953-1676).

YEAR-END GIVING

To all those who have given so generously this year, **thank you for your faithful financial support of All Saints**.

The end of the year is historically a season marked by generosity, both in our church and in our culture at large. As you reflect on 2017 and give thanks to God for His many blessings, please consider how you might respond to God's graciousness in your life. Giving back to God a portion of what He has given us is one way we show our thankfulness to Him.

While there are many ways to contribute financially to God's Kingdom, the Church is the primary means by which that kingdom is established on earth. Thus, God calls us first and foremost to be faithful in the regular, ongoing support of one's local church body through tithes and offerings. If you haven't made tithing a practice, please consider adopting tithing or generous giving as a spiritual practice—that you might grow in faith and that together we might increase All Saints' capacity to be the body of Christ in Austin for the world.

So far in 2017, **All Saints members have given \$1,753,000** to support the ongoing work of the church and our ministry partners. In order to stay on track with our budget, our goal is to **raise another \$800,000** by the end of 2017. Your joyful generosity is needed to help All Saints finish the year strong. Your gift today will make All Saints better positioned for ministry tomorrow. Your regular practice of generosity enables All Saints' ministry not only to continue but to grow as we seek to exercise hospitality with those God brings through the church's doors and to be generous with our missions partners across the city and around the world.

You can give online at **allsaintsaustin.org/give** or by mail to All Saints (7808 Rialto Blvd, Austin, TX 78735). If you have questions about year-end giving, stock contributions, or any related topic, please contact David Breeding (dbreeding@allsaintsaustin.org).

ALL SAINTS CONTACT INFORMATION

PASTORS

Rev. Tim Frickenschmidt, Senior Pastor Rev. Craig Chapman, Associate Pastor, 50+ Rev. Josh Eby, Associate Pastor, Missions Rev. Greg Grooms, Associate Pastor

Rev. Josh Keller, Associate Pastor, Young Adults

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STAFF

David Breeding, Finance/Operations Director
Sally Bryant, Volunteer Coordinator
Michael Clark, Pastoral Assistant
Kara Dunleavy, Congregational Care/Membership
Mary Freiberger, Administrative Assistant
Emily Gaertner, Preschool Director
Sarah Garrison, Pastoral Assistant
Rebecca Giddings, Communications Coordinator
Jordan Griesbeck, Youth Director
Kim Hall, Women's Ministry Director
Ashley Hood, Women's Ministry Coordinator
Garrett Lathan, Director of Counseling
David Lutes, Music & Arts Director
Sumner Pickering, Bookkeeper

Taylor Williams, Children's Ministry Director

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ELDERS

(ELDERS ARE AVAILABLE TO HELP WITH NEEDS OF PRAYER AND SPIRITUAL CARE)

,			,
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DEACONS

(DEACONS ARE AVAILABLE TO HELP WITH NEEDS OF BENEVOLENCE, PRAYER, OR MEALS)

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DAILY LECTIONARY READINGS

These readings are provided as a personal, family, or group worship resource. They are set IN THE REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY, A SCHEDULE OF DAILY BIBLE READING IN ACCORD WITH THE CHURCH YEAR. THEY ARE DESIGNED AROUND A TWO-YEAR CYCLE THAT WILL TAKE YOU THROUGH THE OLD TESTAMENT ONCE, THE NEW TESTAMENT TWICE, AND THE PSALMS FREQUENTLY. WE ARE CURRENTLY IN THE "YEAR I" CYCLE. CONSIDER USING THESE READINGS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ALL SAINTS DAILY OFFICE BOOKLETS

SUNDAY, THE LORD'S DAY, SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THURSDAY

Morning Psalm(s): 148, 149, 150 Evening Psalm(s): 114, 115 Old Testament: Amos 6:1-14

Epistle: 2 Thessalonians 1:5-12

Luke 1:57-68 Gospel:

Morning Psalm(s): 37:1-18 Evening Psalm(s): 37:19-42 Old Testament: Amos 9:1-10 Epistle: Revelation 2:8-17 Matthew 23:13-26

Gospel:

MONDAY

Morning Psalm(s): 25 Evening Psalm(s): 9, 15

Old Testament: Amos 7:1-9 Epistle: Revelation 1:1-8 Matthew 22:23-33 Gospel:

FRIDAY

Morning Psalm(s): 31 Evening Psalm(s): 35

Old Testament: Haggai 1:1-15 Epistle: Revelation 2:18-29 Matthew 23:27-39 Gospel:

TUESDAY

Morning Psalm(s): 26, 28 Evening Psalm(s): 36, 39

Old Testament: Amos 7:10-17 Epistle: Revelation 1:9-16 Gospel: Matthew 22:34-46

SATURDAY

Morning Psalm(s): 30, 32 Evening Psalm(s): 42, 43

Old Testament: Haggai 2:1-9 Epistle: Revelation 3:1-6 Gospel: Matthew 24:1-14

WEDNESDAY

Morning Psalm(s): 38

Evening Psalm(s): 119:25-48 Old Testament: Amos 8:1-14 Revelation 1:17-2:7 Epistle: Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12

SUNDAY. THE LORD'S DAY. THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Morning Psalm(s): 63 Evening Psalm(s): 98, 103

Old Testament: Amos 9:11-15

Epistle: 2 Thess. 2:1-3, 13-17

Gospel: John 5:30-47