

St John UMC Augusta
November 27, 2022
First Sunday of Advent
Reverend Jeff Pullium

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

ENTRANCE

**All who are able, standing*

GATHERING

Welcome to St. John.

Have questions?

Ushers are available to help with directions and to answer questions.

If you need hearing assistance aids, they will be provided.

Children:

All ages are welcome to join us in worship.

We offer children's worship bulletins and pew pouches.

A nursery is available, if you wish, for children ages birth-kindergarten.

After the gathering, a bell will ring to signal the beginning of worship.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Picardy

* GREETING

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

**With wreaths of holly and ivy,
telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.**

How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

**By hearing again the words of the prophets,
who foretold the saving work of God.**

* HYMN

211 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come to thee, O Israel

1 *all* O come, O come, Immanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

2 *all* O come, O Wisdom from on high,
and order all things far and nigh;
to us the path of knowledge show
and cause us in her ways to go.

Refrain

3 *men* O come, O come, great Lord of might,
who to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times once gave the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.

Refrain

4 *choir* O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree,
an ensign of that people be;
before the rulers silent fall;
all peoples on thy mercy call.

Refrain

5 *Women* O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home.
The captives from their prison free,
And conquer death's deep misery.

Refrain

6 *All* O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by thy justice here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

Refrain

7 *All* O come, Desire of nations bind
All peoples in one heart and mind
From dust thou brought us forth to life;
Deliver us from earthly strife.

Refrain

* OPENING PRAYER

God of justice and peace,
 from the heavens you rain down mercy and kindness,
 that all on earth may stand in awe and wonder
 before your marvelous deeds.
 Raise our heads in expectation,
 that we may yearn for the coming day of the Lord
 and stand without blame before your Son, Jesus Christ,
 who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

... Let us Pray:

**Loving God, as we enter this Advent season
 we open all the dark places in our lives and memories to the healing light of
 Christ.
 Show us the power of hope.
 Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you that we may walk in the light of
 Christ. Amen.**

HYMN RESPONSE

All are invited to sing verse 1, seated:

206 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light
 I want to walk as a child of the light.
 I want to follow Jesus.
 God set the stars to light the world.
 The star of my life is Jesus.

Houston

In him there is no darkness at all
 The night and the day are both alike.
 The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
 Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Open wide the window of our spirits, O Lord,
 and fill us full of light;
 Open wide the door of our hearts,
 that we may receive and entertain thee
 with all our powers of adoration and love. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 2:1-5

Old Testament p. 773

I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

**Our feet were standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem!**

Jerusalem is built as a city
and is bound firmly together,
to which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord,
to give thanks to the name of the Lord,
as we decreed for Israel.

**Thrones for judgment were set there,
the thrones of the house of David.**

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!

“May they prosper who love you!

**Peace be within your walls,
and security within your towers!”**

For the sake of my relatives and friends

I will say, “Peace be within you!”

For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,

I will seek your good.

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

* GOSPEL LESSON
Matthew 24:36-44

New Testament p. 33

ANTHEM

Thou Shalt Know Him

Austin Lovelace

Thou shalt know Him when he comes
not by any din of drums,
Nor the vantage of his airs,
nor by anything he wears.

Thou shalt know him when he comes,
neither by his crown nor his gown,
for his presence known shall be
by the holy harmony which his coming makes in thee

SERMON

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

UMH 881

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 Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, dead, and buried;
 the third day he rose from the dead;
 he ascended into heaven,
 and sitteth at the right hand of God
 the Father Almighty;
 from thence he shall come to judge
 he quick and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.

CONCERNS AND PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 forever. Amen.

* THE PEACE

OFFERING

MUSIC AT THE OFFERING

The Truth from Above

Ralph Vaughan Williams

This is the truth sent from above
 The truth of God, the God of love,
 Therefore don't turn me from your door,
 But hearken all both rich and poor.

The first thing which I do relate
 Is that God did man create;
 The next thing which to you I'll tell
 Woman was made with man to dwell

But they did eat, which was a sin
 And thus their ruin did begin;
 Ruined themselves, both you and me
 And all of our posterity

Thus we were heirs to endless woes,
 Till God the Lord did interpose;
 And so a promise soon did run
 That He would redeem us by His Son.

And at this season of the year
 Our blest redeemer did appear;
 He here did live, and here did preach,
 And many thousands he did teach.

* DOXOLOGY

95 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, yet heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Old 100th

SENDING FORTH

* HYMN

202 People, Look East

Besancon

People look east the time is near
 Of the crowning of the year
 Make your house fair as you are able
 Trim the hearth and set the table
 People look east and sing today
 Love, The guest, Is on the way

Furrows be glad
 Though earth is bare
 One more seed is planted there
 Give up your strength
 The seed to nourish
 That in course the flower may flourish
 People look east and sing today
 Love, The rose, Is on the way

Stars

Keep the watch when night is dim
 One more light the bowl shall brim
 Shining beyond the frosty weather
 Bright as the sun and moon together
 People look east and sing today
 Love, The star, Is on the way

Angels announce with shouts of mirth
 Him who brings new life to earth.
 Set every peak and valley
 Humming with the word
 The Lord is coming
 People look east and sing today
 Love, The Lord, Is on the way

* DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Go forth in peace.
 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
 and the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit
 be with you all. **Amen**

* POSTLUDE

Fanfare on *Picardy* (Let All Mortal Flesh)


Albert Zabel

Ministry of Worship


Preacher	Jeff Pullium
Liturgist	Vic Johnson
Lay Reader	Mary Ottinger
Advent Readers	Stephanie Quattlebaum and Pamela Light, Micah and Annabelle
Greeters	Becky Rogers, Betty Aldridge
Ushers	Gerry Aldridge, Justin Bargeron
Acolyte	Micah Quattlebaum
Crucifer	Josh Scaper
Organist and Choir Director	Jamie Council Garvey
Choir	The St. John Choir
Pianist	Larry Millen
Worship and Sound Technician	Donald Tilton Jr.
Offering Counter	Mark Barron

Weekly Stewardship	
Giving this week	\$1,575.00
2022 Budget	\$599,513.00
YTD Giving	\$414,344.58
Attendance 11/20	Sanctuary: 86 Online: 14

Weekly Announcements:
 Please visit this QR code or paper copies can be found with the bulletins.



Online Giving:
 Point your camera phone at the QR code to be taken directly to StJohnAugusta.org/donate



St. John United Methodist Church

St. John is a welcoming and affirming congregation.

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