The Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Day



Wednesday, December 25, 2024

St. Augustine by-the-Sea Episcopal Church 1227 4th Street, Santa Monica, CA. 90401 310.395.0977

> www.saint-augustine.org Facebook & Instagram: @augbysea

Welcome to St. Augustine by-the-Sea Episcopal Church!

We are a spiritually engaged community, seeking the knowledge and love of God, and sharing that life-giving love with the world. We believe in following the teachings of Jesus Christ and see God at work in our faith-based questions, doubts and curiosity. Scripture reveals that God loves each and every one of us, no exceptions. As such, St. Augustine's is LGBTQIA+ welcoming and affirming.

Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here!



If you are new or visiting, we invite you to introduce yourself by filling out the online Welcome form through this QR code. We look forward to meeting you and answering any questions you may have about St. A's.

Holy Eucharist Wednesday, December 25, 2024 – 10:30am The Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Day

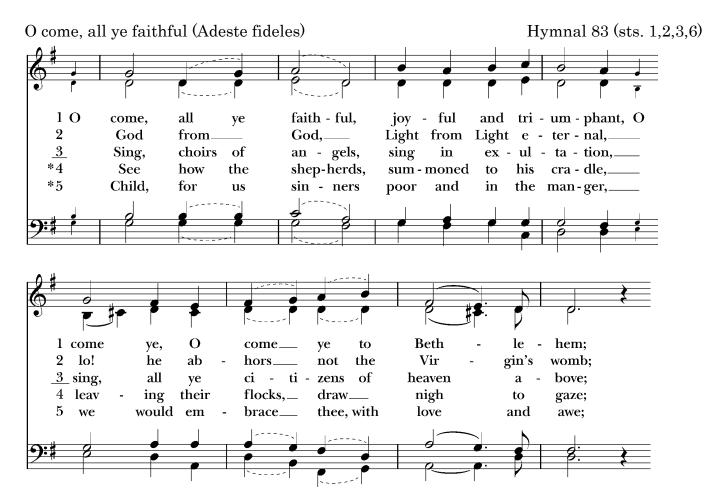
Prelude: Variations on a Polish Carol by Franklin Ritter Greg Schreiner, Organ

Liturgy of the Word

Entrance Rite

(please stand and sing)

ENTRANCE HYMN





6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory given; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

(the Celebrant says)

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

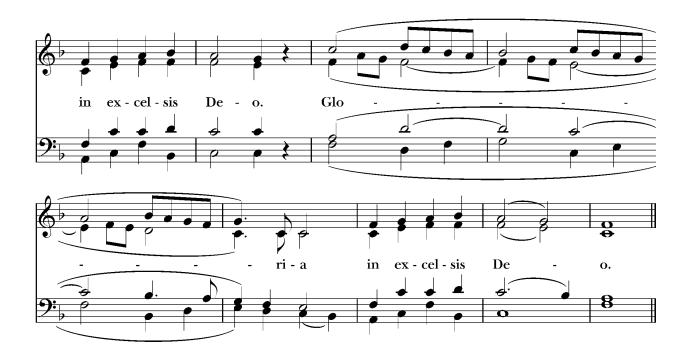
People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

(the Celebrant says)

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.*

SONG OF PRAISE





THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born *this day* of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

(please sit for readings)

FIRST READING Isaiah 52:7-10

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

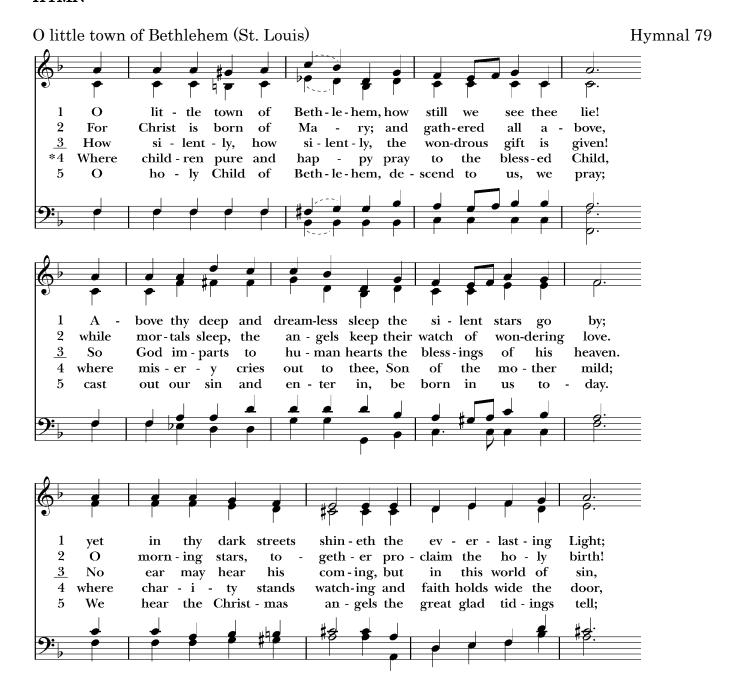
How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

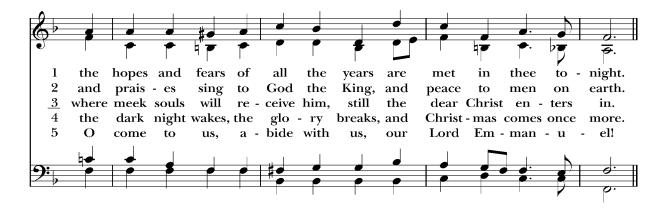
Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

(stand and sing)

HYMN





SECOND READING Hebrews 1:1-4

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Hebrews.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

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

People Thanks be to God.

(please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - Alleluia Ordinaria by Daniel J. Smith

(stand and sing 3 times before and after the reading of the Gospel)



GOSPEL John 1:1-14

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON – The Rev. Nathan A. Rugh

(a moment of silence is observed)

THE NICENE CREED

(the Celebrant announces the Creed and the people stand)

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Come let us adore Christ, the Lord. Let us pray, "Glorious Lord, grant us your peace."

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: make joyful our hearts. Strengthen your Church with humility and faith that we might triumph over the power of evil. Glorious Lord,

Grant us your peace.

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: you abhor neither the simple nor the lowly. Shine your light on all the world that the nations may look upon your truth and find their salvation. Glorious Lord,

Grant us your peace.

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: may all of creation burst forth in songs of praise. May all the works of your hand glorify you. Glorious Lord,

Grant us your peace.

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: summon the people of the city to yourself. May all of the distractions and heartache of our lives fade away in the joy of your presence. Glorious Lord,

Grant us your peace.

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: you love us so dearly. Grant your healing grace to sinners, to the poor, to those in need of love. Open your arms to the sick and the lonely. Glorious Lord.

Grant us your peace.

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: all glory be given to you. You blessed our earthly bodies with your birth; and you promise to raise us to new life by your death and resurrection. Glorious Lord,

Grant us your peace.

For all who have asked for or need our prayers, naming them either silently or aloud (intercessions may be offered). Glorious Lord,

Grant us your peace.

(the Celebrant adds a concluding Collect)

O God, the source of light and sound, your word dispels our darkness, and your light speaks to our hearts. As we praise you, we beg that your power overwhelm us, that all the world might find us the more perfect ministers of your presence. Thus may you be glorified this Christmas Day and forever in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

(then the ministers and the people greet one another in the name of the Lord)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Celebrant Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. Ephesians 5:2



Offerings in thanksgiving for God's gifts to us are invited through:

- Offering plate
- Texting the amount you want to give to (323) 615-2625
- Using the QR code

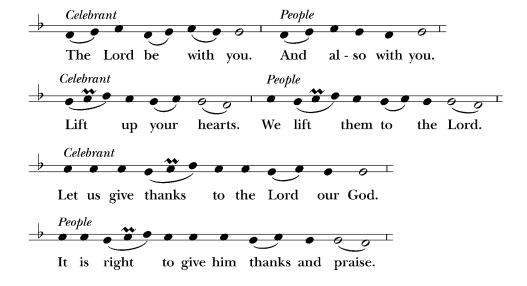
OFFERTORY ANTHEM - What Is This Lovely Fragrance?, Healey Wilan sung by Saint A's Section Leaders

OFFERTORY HYMN





The Great Thanksgiving



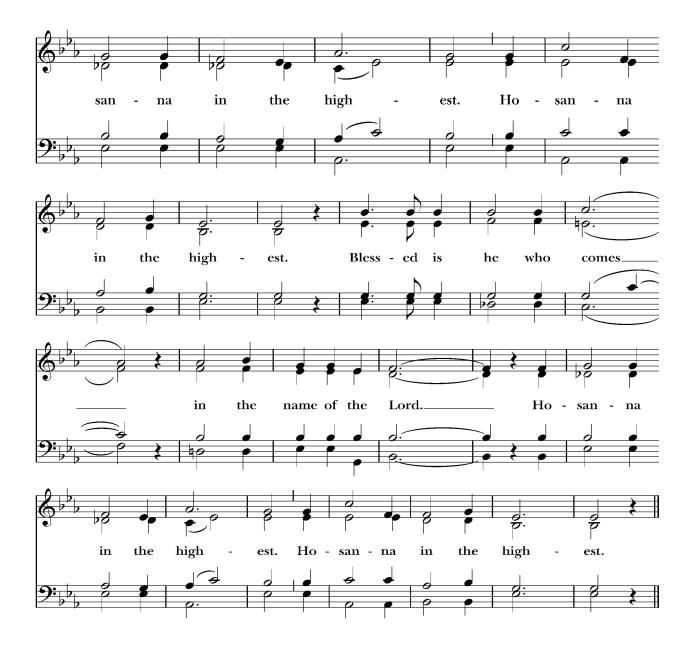
(the Celebrant proceeds)

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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:





(the Celebrant continues)

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 Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, 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 Savior 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 Jesus 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 God,

Celebrant and People

We remember Christ's death, We proclaim Christ's resurrection, We await Christ's coming in glory;

(the Celebrant continues)

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, 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 all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. *AMEN*.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Celebrant and 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 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 and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

(a period of silence is kept – the following anthem is sung)



INVITATION

(Celebrant)

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Wherever you are in your spiritual journey you are welcome at Christ's Table.

Invitation to Spiritual Communion for Online Worshippers

(The Book of Common Prayer reminds us that the simple desire to consume the consecrated elements is enough for God to grant all the benefits of communion.)

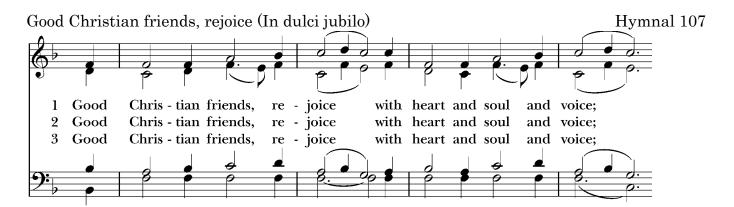
Celebrant Will all who are online, join in praying:

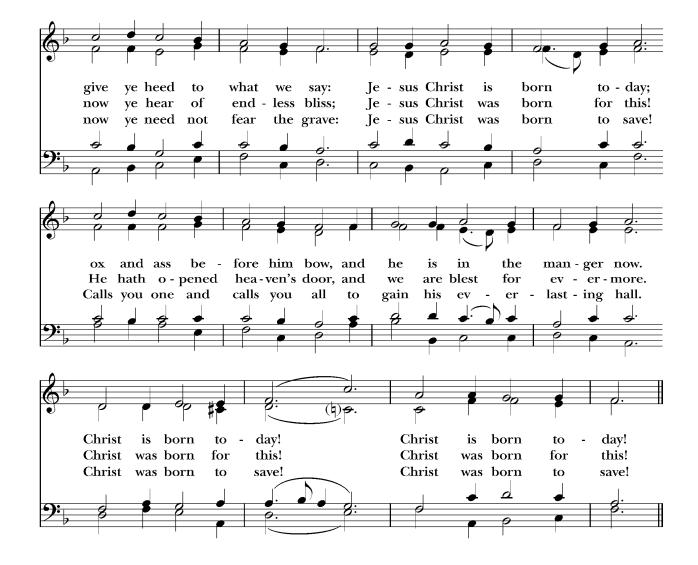
In union, Blessed Jesus with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church, where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, we believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. Since we cannot at this time receive communion, we pray you to come into our hearts. Let nothing separate us from you; let us serve you in this life until, by your grace, we come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen

COMMUNION ANTHEM – In the Bleak Midwinter, Harold Darke sung by Saint A's Section Leaders

(the people remain seated)

COMMUNION HYMN





POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

(please stand as we pray together)

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.

BLESSING

(the people stand and the Celebrant says)

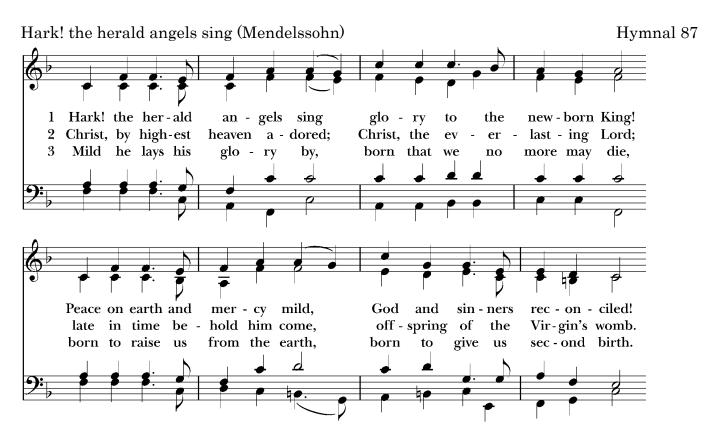
May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

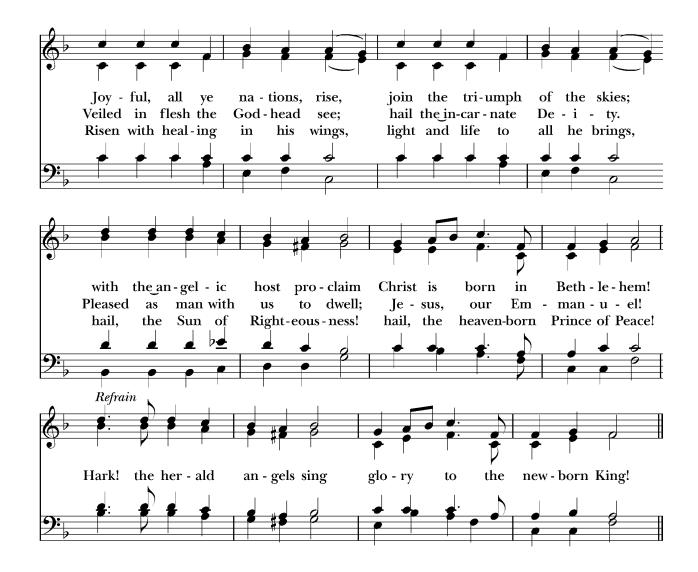
May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **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





DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Postlude: "Joy to the World" by Alfred Fedak

Greg Schreiner, Organ

Flowers & Greenery in Celebration of The Birth of Christ are given by:

Katie Cadigan as a thank offering for the St. A's community.

André Champagne.

Suzanne Edwards in loving memory of Cassie Edwards.

Martha Goode in loving memory of Cara, my grandmother and Mary Ellen, my mother.

Charles & Greg Schreiner Griffis in loving memory of Opal & Val Schreiner; Dan & Evelyn Griffis and our dear Lucy Dog; and as a thank offering for Fergie and Missy.

Peter & Gretchen Haight in loving memory of Peter C. Haight.

Jason LaPadura in loving memory of Natale & Beryl LaPadura and Robert & Mary Murphy.

Alice Lunsford in loving memory of Jim Lunsford; Dulcie & Eric Nobes and June & Dewitt Lunsford and as a thank offering for Amy and Danny and their wonderful family.

Ann McDonald in loving memory of Wayne Stone and as a thank offering for St. A's.

Carla Meyer & Chuck Arnold in loving memory of Dick & Mary Anna Meyer and Glen & Pearl Arnold.

Christopher Muntz & Charlene Huang as a thank offering for the blessing of our families.

Nate & Rebecca Rugh in loving memory of Nathan & Jan Coursey and as a thank offering for Eliot, Gavin, and Blake.

Maryella Bowens Satinover in loving memory of William J. Bowens, Anthony E. Bowens and M. Marina Bowens.

Cecil & Paul Slye in loving memory of Muggy, Marty, Susan, George, Gerry, Janet, Cecil, and Jay and as a thank offering for our St. A's family.

Susan Stewart in loving memory of Jim Stewart and as a thank offering for our dear family and friends.

Carrie Takamiya-Price in loving memory of Jean & Masaru Takamiya, my wonderful parents and Katsuko Kamimura, my maternal grandmother.

The Thomas-March family in loving memory of Reece Thomson.

The Westover family.

Tim Whalen in loving memory of my parents, Bill & Marianne and my brother, Michael.

Kathryn Wilcox.

Linn Wile in loving memory of Dave Wile.

Deborah Williams.

And as a thank offering for the forthcoming union of the Hersch-Vodicka families.

Ongoing Ministries at St. A's

Children's Program Sundays, 10:30am

Youngsters have fun discovering God's love through activities and story-telling, then join families for communion. For more info email Kiwan Cato-Fox, Director of Children's Ministries, k_cato@me.com.

Market Mass Wednesdays, 8:30-9am

A simple weekly Eucharist centering on a feast day or saint of the week.

Bible Study on Zoom Wednesdays, 9:30-10:30am

Join clergy to explore the Gospel reading for the upcoming Sunday. https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86748028725

Contemplative Prayer Wednesdays, 7-8pm

Rest your soul in beauty of holiness and breathe in the Spirit with silent meditation, centering prayer and a contemplative reflection.

Choir! 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursdays, 7:15-9pm

If you love music, come sing with us - everyone is welcome. Contact Mike Raleigh, Music Director, mike@saint-augustine.org.

Cook Meals for Unhoused Folk

Each month we prepare a meal for two organizations serving youth and adults struggling with homelessness: Home-y Made Meals and Safe Place for Youth (SPY). To get involved email Carrie Price, carrie@saint-augustine.org

Young Adult Lunch Group 3rd Sunday of the month, after 10:30am service

Are you 20+, but perhaps not yet middle-aged? We gather in the church entry each month to walk to food. For more information contact: Ian, ianlundberg@ucla.edu, or Katie, katielusk3@gmail.com.

Sign up for weekly emails which list current activities.

Contact office@saint-augustine.org

Contacts

The Rev. Nathan A. Rugh (he/him), Rector nate@saint-augustine.org

The Rev. Katie Cadigan (she/her), Associate Rector katie@saint-augustine.org

Mike Raleigh (he/they), Music Director mike@saint-augustine.org

Carrie Price (she/her), Parish Office Manager carrie@saint-augustine.org

Cover Image: *Nativity*, by He Qi, www.heqiart.com

Church office closed weekdays in Christmastide December 26 – January 5, 2025

For pastoral emergencies only, please contact the Rev. Nate Rugh (412) 862-8866.