



St. Thomas' Episcopal Church
1108 Providence Road, Towson, MD
(410) 821-5489

www.stthomastowson.org

First Sunday of Advent
9:30 AM Holy Eucharist, December 2, 2018

Announcements and Welcome

Hymn: Come thou long expected Jesus

#66

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Trisagion

Collect

pg. 211

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Psalms 25:1-9

pg. 614

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Hymn: Signs of ending

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 21:25-36

The Sermon

Rev. Loree Penner

The Nicene Creed

pg. 358

Prayers of the People

Confession

pg. 360

The Peace

pg. 360

The Blessing of Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries

pg. 830

The Offertory: Kyrie Eleison

Doxology

#380 (vs. 3)

The Great Thanksgiving (Prayer C)

pg. 369

Sanctus: Land of Rest

The Lord's Prayer

pg. 364

The Breaking of the Bread

pg. 364

The Communion of the People

Hymn: In remembrance

Post Communion Prayer

pg. 365

Blessing

Hymn: O come, O come Emmanuel

#56, vs 1-3

Dismissal

~~~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~~~

**Altar Guild:** For the month of December the Wafers are given in memory of Martha Gaylor by George Gaylor. The Branch Candles are given in memory of Catherine Stultz by Jim Stultz. The arrangements on the altar today are in memory of Melvin and Diane Carlson by Trish Carlson. Wine, Eucharistic Candles, the Sanctuary Candle and Christmas Poinsettias are available for the month of December. The cost of each dedication is \$30. Please contact Diane Flayhart, [410-426-4618](tel:410-426-4618) or [dflayhart.stthomas@gmail.com](mailto:dflayhart.stthomas@gmail.com), or the church office, [410-821-5489](tel:410-821-5489), if you are interested in reserving a dedication. Thank you.

**Sunday Forum:** As we await the coming of Christ into the world, join us after worship in the Fellowship Hall as we journey the way of love through Advent. Presiding Bishop Curry introduced *The Way of Love* as a life-long, intentional practice that allows us to reconnect with ourselves, our families and our communities. We will reflect on the first two chapters of Luke's Gospel while exploring the seven movements through *the Way of Love* – Turn, Learn, Pray, Worship, Bless, Go, Rest.

**Advent One (12/2):** The Annunciation: Saying "Yes" to the Journey

**Advent Two (12/9):** Mary and Elizabeth: Journeying with Family and Friends

**Advent Three (12/16):** The Birth of John the Baptist: Journeying with Community

**Advent Four (12/23):** The Birth of Jesus: Journeying with the World

Even if you cannot join us, attached to your bulletin, you'll find an **Advent calendar** that you can use through the season. Each day you will be challenged to engage in one of the seven movements. It's a great way to be more intentional with your faith in a time that is often overshadowed by the "busyness" of this time of the year.

**Come check out our newly formed Book Club! The next meeting will be held TOMORROW, December 3rd at 7pm,** and we will be discussing the book "Braving the Wilderness" by Brene Brown. The meeting will be held at St. Thomas'. All are welcome to attend, so please come and bring a friend!

**2019 Offering Envelopes:** We are in the process of preparing your 2019 offering envelopes for the coming year. However, many of you have opted to make your pledge contributions, as well as special occasion contributions, electronically through our online system or through your own bank. If you would prefer to make your contributions electronically and do not wish to receive offering envelopes, please contact Diane Flayhart, [410-426-4618](tel:410-426-4618), or [dflayhart.stthomas@gmail.com](mailto:dflayhart.stthomas@gmail.com). Offering envelopes will still be available for all who desire them. Thank you.

**Prayers for Healing are requested for those who are ill or in any need:** Mo Otradovec, Dottie D., Jan Jr., David J., Jeri Adams, Robert Yoos, Andrew Bures, Bill D., Rick D., Pete, Leigh, Vera O., Wanda S., Dowell S., Bill F., Mary Lou P., Curtis Meador, Lou W., Amy S., Janet, Larry, Tammy J., Doug H., Donna, and Peter C.

**And for those who are homebound:** Theresa Welsch, Mary Shorter, Nan Fitzgerald, Charles and Susan Harryman, Carrie Hemberger, Susan Herring, Ellen Monahan, Connie Waxter, and Dan Licht.

**Rev. Loree Penner, Rector**  
**443-377-9048**

**Diane Flayhart, Sr. Warden**  
**410-426-4618**

**Sharon Greenbeck, Jr. Warden**  
**410-963-2996**

# ADVENT CALENDAR

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                  | Monday                                                                                                                                               | Tuesday                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Wednesday                                                                                                            | Thursday                                                                                                                                                                | Friday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Saturday                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>2 Worship</b><br/><b>Advent 1</b></p> <p>Pay attention during worship. What part of the gathering fills your heart?</p>                                                           | <p><b>3 Go</b></p> <p>Take time to listen closely to someone you may not ordinarily take seriously, or who has a different perspective than you.</p> | <p><b>4 Learn</b></p> <p>Read Luke 1:26-38. What is God calling you to say “yes” to?</p>                                                                                                                                    | <p><b>5 Pray</b></p> <p>Set a timer for five minutes. Silently repeat this prayer: “Come, Lord Jesus.”</p>           | <p><b>6 Bless</b></p> <p>In the spirit of St. Nicholas, practice a random act of kindness today.</p>                                                                    | <p><b>7 Turn</b></p> <p>Reflect: Where have I fallen short this week? How can I make amends?</p>                                                                                                                                                | <p><b>8 Rest</b></p> <p>Do something that replenishes your spirit.</p>                                                                                         |
| <p><b>9 Worship</b><br/><b>Advent 2</b></p> <p>What word or words from worship today have found a home in your heart? Share these words with someone close to you.</p>                  | <p><b>10 Go</b></p> <p>Choose to take a different route to work, to school, or to play today. Who or what did you encounter differently?</p>         | <p><b>11 Learn</b></p> <p>Read Luke 1:39-56. Tell a friend or family member about your practice of the Way of Love and invite them to join you.</p>                                                                         | <p><b>12 Pray</b></p> <p>Join a family member or friend for 10 minutes for prayer, either in person or by phone.</p> | <p><b>13 Bless</b></p> <p>Call or write a family member with whom you desire a closer relationship. Tell them what they mean to you. Ask how you can pray for them.</p> | <p><b>14 Turn</b></p> <p>Turn away from the busyness of the week and turn toward someone who gives you life or to whom you give life. Give thanks.</p>                                                                                          | <p><b>15 Rest</b></p> <p>On this day of rest, pause and breathe deeply with a friend or family member. Give thanks for the restorative power of love.</p>      |
| <p><b>16 Worship</b><br/><b>Advent 3</b></p> <p>Pray for each person as they receive communion. Imagine who you would like to see at church next week. Invite them to church today.</p> | <p><b>17 Go</b></p> <p>Read or watch your local news. Where is reconciliation needed? Pray for healing.</p>                                          | <p><b>18 Learn</b></p> <p>Read Luke 1:57-80. Name three ways your faith community challenges you to practice the Way of Love. Share your list with a member of your community.</p>                                          | <p><b>19 Pray</b></p> <p>Gather with your faith community for a short time of prayer today.</p>                      | <p><b>20 Bless</b></p> <p>Identify a blessing you have that you could give away. Then share this blessing with your church, a local ministry, or your community.</p>    | <p><b>21 Turn</b></p> <p>Read the Confession (BCP 352) in an unfamiliar location - in the park, at work, at school, or on the bus. What does the prayer inspire you to turn from in that location? What does it inspire you to turn toward?</p> | <p><b>22 Rest</b></p> <p>How can you or your community open yourselves to people in need of rest and relief from overwork? From oppression? From violence?</p> |
| <p><b>23 Worship</b><br/><b>Advent 4</b></p> <p>Linger before leaving worship today. Ask God to prepare and send you to go out into the world to witness to God’s love.</p>             | <p><b>24 Go</b></p> <p>Notice and pray for all those who, like Mary and Joseph, are in need of shelter.</p>                                          | <p><b>25 Learn</b><br/><b>Christmas Day</b></p> <p>Read Luke 1-2. Give thanks for the birth of the Christ-child. Pray that you may follow Christ Jesus on his Way of Love with your whole heart, mind, body and spirit.</p> |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                |