

*A Church on a Mission
to Know God in Jesus Christ
and to Make Christ Known to Others*



THE WAY OF LOVE

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

9:15 A.M. IN THE CHAPEL

December 13, 2020

Presider — The Rev. Elizabeth W. Colton

Preacher — The Rev. W. Frank Allen

Music Director/Organist— Dr. Clair Rozier

Associate Director/Organist— Dr. Elaine Sonnenberg Whitelock

ST. DAVID'S CLERGY

The Rev. W. Frank Allen, Rector	Ext. 217
The Rev. Elizabeth W. Colton, Associate	Ext. 218
The Rev. Maurice A. Dyer, II, Associate	Ext. 303
The Rev. Emily Zimbrick-Rogers, Assistant	Ext. 302
The Rev. Dr. Alexander McCurdy, III, Associate	Ext. 334
The Rev. William H. Wood, III, Associate	Ext. 334
The Rev. E. Edward Shiley, Associate	Ext. 214
The Rev. Ken McCaslin, Deacon	Ext. 203

Voluntary

Prelude on "Savior of the Nations, Come"

Craig Phillips

THE WORD OF GOD

BCP page 355

Hymn 65

Prepare the Way, O Zion

Beredan väg för Herran



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



Refrain
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847); tr. composite; adapt. Charles P. Price (b. 1920) Copyright ©1982, Charles P. Price. Music: *Bereden väg för Svenska Kyrkan*, 1939, alt. Copyright ©1930 by permission of Augsburg Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

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Presider Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

The Presider and People continue

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.

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

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The Collect of the Day

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Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the readings and the psalm.

The First Reading

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.
They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.
For I the LORD love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.
I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 15

The Song of Mary *Magnificat*

Luke 1:46-55

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.
From this day all generations will call me blessed:
 the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him
 in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm,
 he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
 and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things,
 and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel,
 for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers,
 to Abraham and his children for ever.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. **Amen.**

The Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

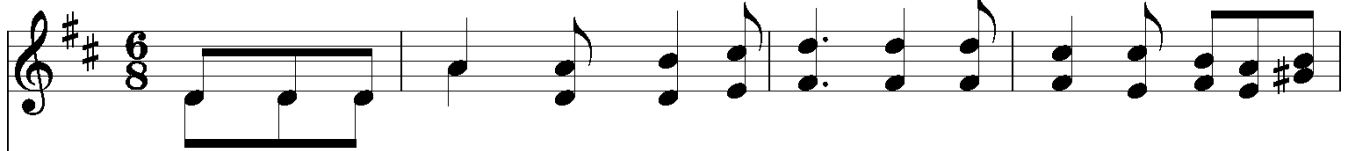
May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

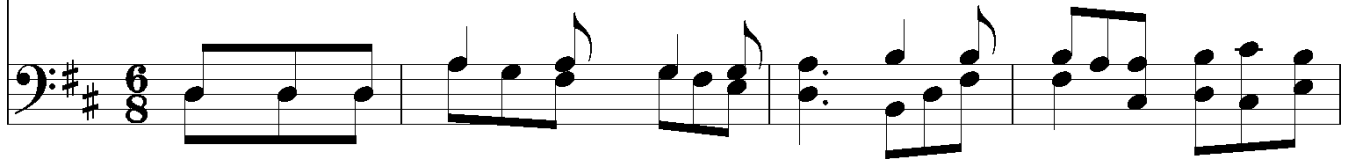
Hymn WLP 724

People. Look East

Besançon Carol



1. Peo - ple, look East. The time is near of the crown-ing of the
 2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is plant - ed
 3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be
 4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall
 5. An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to



1. year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble, trim the hearth and set the
 2. there: give up your strength the seed to nour - ish, that in course the flow'r may
 3. filled. E - ven the hour when wings are fro - zen God for fledg - ling time has
 4. brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er, bright as sun and moon to -
 5. earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum - ming with the word, the Lord is



1. ta - ble. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the guest is on the way.
 2. flour-ish. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the rose is on the way.
 3. cho - sen. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the bird is on the way.
 4. geth - er. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the star is on the way.
 5. com - ing. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the Lord is on the way.



The Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Gospel

John 1:6-8,19-28

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.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

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

The Sermon

Please stand as you are able for the Creed.

The Nicene Creed

Read in unison

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**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.**

Prayers of the People

Lord God, as we await the annual celebration of your greatest gift of Love; Divinity dwelling with humanity; give us your guidance as we seek to show that Love in becoming a Beloved Community here at St. David's and then to spread that Love with our outreach partners in Philadelphia, Norristown, Ardmore, Wayne, Guatemala, Uganda and Cuba and now in this Advent season of waiting, let us open our hearts in anticipation and stillness.

Generous God, pour forth the gifts of wisdom and strength on your Body, the Church. We pray especially for, Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Daniel, our Bishop, our clergy here at St. David's, and our whole congregation as we strive to become the Beloved Community, guided by Love.

Come, thou long expected Jesus;
Born to set thy people free;

Governing God, show the leaders of our country and of the world how to lead with grace and compassion, especially Donald, our President, Tom, our Governor, our Legislature, the Supreme Court, our local leaders and Joe, our President-elect. Let peace and the common good be their guiding light.

From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in thee;

Compassionate God, our country needs your help as we try to heal from sickness, brokenness and ill will. Part of our call to be a community of Love is to be reconcilers. Lead us gently but firmly into this task as we seek to do your will.

Israel's strength and consolation;
Hope of all the earth thou art;

Loving God, spread your wings of protection on all who are in danger, especially those who live in places of violence or extreme poverty. We pray for those who put themselves at risk for us by tending to those who are ill with covid-19, for acting as first responders or being in military service. Keep them and their families close to you.

Dear desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart;

Healing God, your people are hurting. Help us to heal from the ravages of fear, hunger, prejudice, anger, judgment, and mental or physical illness. We pray for your healing touch with *Allyson, Allison, Barbara, Bert, Bill, Bob, Byron, Carlton, Carolyn, Chris, Colby, Danielle, Debbie, Dick, Elissa, Frank, Gail, Gregorio, Jack, Jackqueline, Jane, Jay, Jim, John, Luke, Lynne, Marjorie, Maureen, Melissa, Missy, Nancy, Pam, Pamela, Pat, Penny, Ray III, Rob, Robin, Sally, Scarlett, Susan, Susie, Terry and Tripp.*

Born thy people to deliver;
Born a child and yet a king;

Caring God, we rejoice that our loved ones who have died, *Grace Russell Renner*, are now in your warm embrace. Comfort those who mourn.

Born to reign in us forever;
Now thy gracious kingdom bring;

Gracious God, the Supreme Giver of Gifts, we thank you for making us stewards of our precious planet. We thank you for the children and youth of our parish, and the students and teachers at St David's Episcopal Day School. Above all, we thank you for the Gift which is already here and still to come, Emmanuel, God with us. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Absolution

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.*

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

Ave, Ave the Angel Sang

Robert Lau

*O lowly maiden, O blessed woman, You have been chosen to bring us the king.
Peace be with you, O fairest holy one, Mary, mother, child of God.
Ave, ave, ave Maria. Ave, ave the angel sang.
Ave, ave, ave Maria. Ave, ave the angel sang.
Fair one so gentle, filled with the Spirit, You will bear Jesus, the savior for all.
Don't be afraid now, God's love surrounds you, Mary, mother, child of God.
What will you call him, O lovely maiden? Rulers and nations will bow at his name.
Let all creation give thanks for the holy one: Jesus, Savior, child of God.*

St. David's Youth Choir

All Things Are Thine

Gardiner

1 All things are thine; no gift have we, Lord of all
gifts, to offer thee; And hence with grate - ful hearts to -
day Thine own be - fore thy feet we lay. A - men.

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Presider The Lord be with you.

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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 Him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing; therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

S-114**Sanctus****Healey Willan**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of

Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -

- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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Then the Presider 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 the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, 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 Lord 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 he 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 Father,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord 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 to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, 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 St. David and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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. ***Amen.***

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 Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.

Presider Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore, let us keep the feast.

S-158

Agnus Dei

Healey Willan

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -
way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
on us. O Lamb of God, that
ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have
mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of
God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
world, grant us thy peace.

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The Presider faces the people and says

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Communion

Silence for a time of reflection in the Presence of Christ.

Post-communion Prayer during this Time of Separation

Lord of the Feast, we thank you for gathering us as your people. We call to remembrance the many times we have been fed at your table and we lament our distance now. Be present Lord Jesus as you were present with your disciples, be known to us in the breaking of the bread, and may your Holy Spirit sustain us and all your Church until we can gather together again. We ask this for the sake of your love. Amen.

The Blessing

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

Hymn 539 vss. 1, 3 & 4 O Zion, Haste, Thy Mission High Fulfilling *Tidings*

O Zi - on, haste, thy mis - sion high ful - fill - ing,
Send her - alds forth to bear the mes - sage glo - rious;
He comes a - gain! O Zi - on, ere thou meet him,

to tell to all the world that God is Light;
give of thy wealth to speed them on their way;
make known to ev - ery heart his sav - ing grace;

that he who made all na - tions is not will - ing
pour out thy soul for them in prayer vic - to - rious
let none whom he hath ran - somed fail to greet him,

one soul should fail to know his love and might.
till God shall bring his king - dom's joy - ful day.
through thy ne - glect, un - fit to see his face.

Refrain

Pub - lish glad ti - dings: ti - dings of peace,

ti - dings of Je - sus, re - demp - tion and re - lease.

Words: Mary Ann Thomson (1834-1923), alt. Music: *Tidings*, James Walch (1837-1901)

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The Sending

Clergy Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

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People **Thanks be to God!**

Voluntary Prelude and Fugue in G Minor, BWV 553 J. S. Bach (spurious)

~MEMORIALS~

Greens in the chapel are given to the glory of God and in memory of

Robert Patton Lisle

Fannie Hollingworth Lisle

Robert Clifton Lisle

Marian Neall Brown 1927-2014

John Thomas Swope, 1960-2009

Hank Belber

~LAY ASSISTANT~

HELEN MARTIN, READER

Events & Announcements

<p>Pledge Online Today: http://stdavidchurch.org/giving</p>	
<p><u>Weekly Bible Studies</u></p> <p>*Tuesdays - Rector's Bible Study, 6:20am</p> <p>*Wednesdays – Women's Bible Study, 9:30am</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">*Wednesday Bible Study, 12:30pm</p> <p>*Fridays - Men's Bible Study, 7:00am</p> <p>*Sundays - Lectionary Bible Study, 11:15am</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Fellowship</u></p> <p>Lighting Up the Church Drive Thru Thursdays-Sundays through January 5</p> <p>Submit Your Christmas Photos Online! http://stdavidchurch.org/christmas</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Pastoral Care</u></p> <p>Longest Night Livestream Monday, December 21, 7:00pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Outreach</u></p> <p>Gift Shop & Art Gallery Online Store-Shop Small! http://giftshop.givesmart.com</p> <p>SDEDS Open Enrollment Accepting applications for 2020-21. Apply online - www.sded.org</p> <p>Now Accepting Grant Applications! http://stdavidchurch.org/outreach/grants</p> <p>World Gifts: Give to a Child in Need http://stdavidchurch.org/outreach/world-gifts</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Family Ministries</u></p> <p>Godly Play & Children's Sermon New videos available online each week: http://www.stdavidchurch.org/live-stream</p> <p>A Service of Lessons & Carols – Livestream (No In-Person) Sunday, December 13, 5:00pm</p> <p>St. David's Christmas Pageant Broadcast Sunday, December 20, 11:15am & 5:00pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Worship & Music</u></p> <p>Weekly Worship Services Sundays, Livestream – 9:15am (No In-person)</p> <p>Advent Musical Meditations Broadcast Wednesdays in Advent, 6:30pm</p> <p>Christmas Eve Worship Broadcasts Chapel: 3:00pm & 6:00pm Church: 8:00pm</p> <p>Christmas Day Worship Broadcast Church: 10:00am</p>
<p><u>Discipleship</u></p> <p>*Mindfulness Meditation Tuesdays & Fridays, 9:00am</p> <p>*Praying in the Way of Love through Advent Sundays in Advent, 10:30-11:15am</p> <p>*Dwelling in the Dark Together Series Wednesdays in Advent, 7:30-8:30pm</p> <p>*C.S. Lewis Book Group Tuesday, December 22, 6:00pm</p>	
<p>More Information on Christmas Events: http://stdavidchurch.org/christmas</p>	

*To view all of our events, please visit our website at <http://www.stdavidchurch.org/about/events>.
Events will be held on Zoom until further notice.