

# St. Monica's Episcopal Church

7070 Immokalee Rd Naples, FL 34119 | 239.591.4550

Welcome to Saint Monica's Episcopal Church. We rejoice that you came to our church today, and we hope that you feel at home here.

As you consider what brought you here, perhaps seeking spiritual growth, looking for community, or responding to a simple invitation, please take a moment to look at the opportunities listed in the announcements included with this bulletin to find ways to grow in your faith and find a place of welcome. If you have any questions about how you can take part in the community of St. Monica's or about the Episcopal Church, please feel free to contact Fr. Jonathan Evans.

Again, we are glad you are here at Saint Monica's Episcopal Church where all are welcome.

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT SERVICE OF HOLY EUCHARIST

RITE II

Saturday, December 23, 2023 – 5:00 pm

### Rector

The Rev. Jonathan W. Evans

### Assisting Priest

The Rev. Sylvia R. Czarnetzky

### Lectors This Week

5 pm Nancy Snethen

### Greeters This Week

JoAnn Sarconi

### Ushers This Week

5 pm Mary Gentzle and Linda Duffy

### Acolytes This Week

Kathy Crevier

### Members of the Altar Guild

Lorraine Ciano, Linda Duffy, Linda Freund, Mary Gentzle, Sandra Kilmon,  
Donna Janosec-Luzzi, Stacey McCurdy, Theresa Miller, JoAnn Sarconi,  
Charles Shaw, Lisa Shaw, Ruthann Turley, Heather Williamson

### Flower Guild Team

Sharon Lapierre and Debbie Corey

**\*\* Please remember to silence your electronic devices during the service. \*\***

*Service begins with the Voluntary and the lighting of the candles. Please use this time for silent prayer and meditation.*

**Voluntary**

*Pastorale*

A. Quartero

## Welcome and Announcements

*Please stand as you are able*

**Hymn in Procession**

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

**Hymn 657**

## Opening Acclamation

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

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

## Collect for Purity

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.**

**Kyrie Eleison** Lord, have mercy. **Christ have mercy.** Lord I have mercy.

## Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The Word of God

*Please be seated*

### First Reading

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

When the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you." But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the

Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

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

**Psalm** *Spoken*

*Misericordias Domini*

Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

- 1    Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing; \*  
      from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
- 2    For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; \*  
      you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
- 3    “I have made a covenant with my chosen one; \*  
      I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
- 4    ‘I will establish your line for ever, \*  
      and preserve your throne for all generations.’”
- 19   You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people: \*  
      “I have set the crown upon a warrior and have exalted one chosen out of the people.
- 20   I have found David my servant; \*  
      with my holy oil have I anointed him.
- 21   My hand will hold him fast \*  
      and my arm will make him strong.
- 22   No enemy shall deceive him, \*  
      nor any wicked man bring him down.
- 23   I will crush his foes before him \*  
      and strike down those who hate him.
- 24   My faithfulness and love shall be with him, \*  
      and he shall be victorious through my Name.
- 25   I shall make his dominion extend \*  
      from the Great Sea to the River.
- 26   He will say to me, ‘You are my Father, \*  
      my God, and the rock of my salvation.’”

## **Second Reading**

Romans 16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith- to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen

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

**Gradual Hymn**

*The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*

**Hymn 265**

## The Gospel

Luke 1:26–38

**Celebrant** The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
**People** **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

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

## The Sermon

The Rev. Jonathan W. Evans

*Please stand as you are able*

### The Nicene Creed

Page 358, BCP

**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.***

*Please stand or kneel as you are able.*

### The Prayers of the People

Page 387, BCP

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest.  
**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence*

## Concluding Collect

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Confession and Absolution

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

*Silence may be observed.*

*All*              **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.**

Celebrant      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.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## The Peace

Celebrant      The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People*              **And also with you.**

## The Holy Communion

### Offertory Sentence

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

## Offertory

*Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*

Hymn 67

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Offertory Hymn

*The Doxology*  
stanzas 3 only

Hymn 380

## The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

Page 361, BCP

Celebrant     The Lord be with you.  
*People*       **And also with you.**  
Celebrant     Lift up your hearts.  
*People*       **We lift them to the Lord.**  
Celebrant     Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People*       **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant continues:*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where 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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## Sanctus and Benedictus

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord*

F. Schubert, S-130

*The Celebrant continues:*

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.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We 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. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. 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. **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.

## Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
People Therefore let us keep the feast.

## Fraction Anthem

*Jesus, Lamb of God*

Franz Schubert, S-164

Jesus, Lamb of God; have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world: give us your peace, give us your peace.

## Communion

*A Judean Hillside*

Roger C. Wilson

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen*

## The Blessing

Response: *Amen.*

## Hymn in Procession

*O Zion, Haste, Thy Mission High Fulfilling*  
stanzas 1 - 3 only

Hymn 539

## The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit  
People Thanks be to God.

## Voluntary

*Canzona*

George Blake

*Parishioners are invited to remain seated and listen to the final Voluntary or leave quietly to greet and converse with one another outside of the Church.*

### **Parish Staff**

239.591.4550

RECTOR	The Rev. Jonathan W. Evans	ext: 102	rector@stmonicasnaples.org
ASSISTING PRIEST (QUARTER TIME)	The Rev. Sylvia R. Czarnetzky	ext: 103	sylviac@stmonicasnaples.org
ADMINISTRATOR / BOOKKEEPER	Laura K. Stamper	ext: 101	administrator@stmonicasnaples.org
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GUEST ORGANISTS	Gordon Brown and Susan Beauregard		

### **Vestry**

Scott McCurdy – Sr. Warden    Ryan Smith-Landwehr – Jr. Warden  
Margaret Holt, Jenny Wise, Dick Rumpf, Kathy Connelly, Beth Moss, and JoAnn Sarconi