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St. Timothy's Episcopal Church Lake Jackson, Texas

Our Vision

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we experience the love of Jesus Christ and share it with others.

HOLY EUCHARIST – RITE II THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 10, 2023 – 10:30 a.m.

Welcome to St. Timothy's! You are invited to participate fully in today's worship service. This bulletin contains all the prayers and responses said by the People. If you wish to use the Book of Common Prayer [BCP], the page numbers are given in brackets. Music not printed here may be found in the Blue Hymnal 1982 on the rack in front of you.

Why Advent? The Latin word translates "coming". Advent marks the beginning season of the church year in which we prepare, simplify, make space for Christ's coming both in the past, present and future. Each Sunday in Advent reminds us of the gifts in which we receive from Christ's coming: HOPE, PEACE, JOY, and LOVE. Each week we will light an advent candle as a way of remembering and marking time. We will read a scripture related to how Jesus brought this gift to the world uniquely and then say a prayer. You can do this at home as well.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

THE WORD OF GOD

Processional Hymn (all sing) Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding Hymn 59

Second Sunday of Advent

Member: Today we light the first and second candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE.

The candle is lit.

Scripture: Colossians 3:15 – Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace.

Prayer: Almighty God, you offer rest for our hearts, and peace for our souls. Give us grace to seek peace in our lives, peace in this community, and peace in the world. Through Jesus Christ, the prince of peace. Amen.

Opening Acclamation

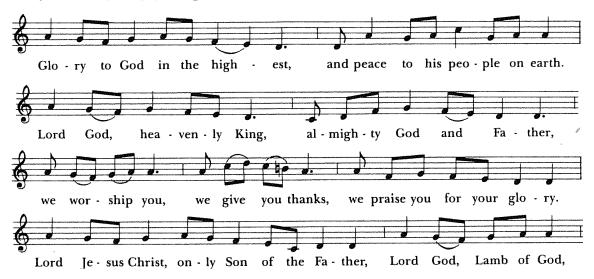
[BCP 355]

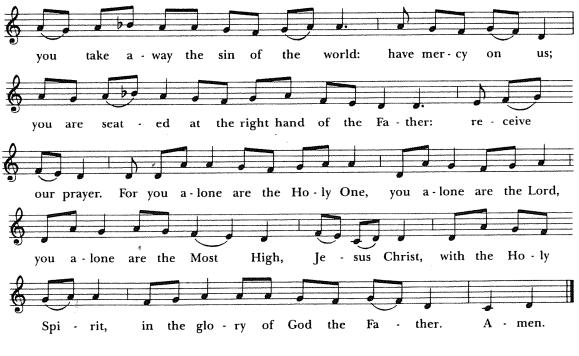
Priest Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;*People* His mercy endures forever.

Collect for Purity

Priest and People 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.*

Glory to God (S273) (all sing)





The Collect

[BCP 211]

Priest The Lord be with you.*People* And also with you.*Priest* Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-11(sit)

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Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
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that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

After the reading

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 (sung by the cantor)



- 1 You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, * you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people * and blotted out all their sins.

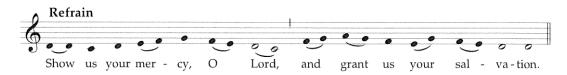
Refrain

- 8 I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, * for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, * that his glory may dwell in our land.

Refrain

- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; * righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, * and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

Refrain



- 12 The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, * and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him, * and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

Refrain

The Epistle: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

After the reading

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

The Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

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

The Gospel passage is read.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,""

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.

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

The Sermon (sit)

The Reverend Robin Reeves-Kautz

The Nicene Creed (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

[BCP 358]

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 worshipped 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

Intercessor Let us pray that the good news of salvation may inspire the Church and all the world. As you have given the message of hope and comfort to your people in all ages, fill the Church with zeal to proclaim the Gospel of Christ.

People Make your people, sealed by baptism and the Holy Spirit, to be one in your Kingdom.

Intercessor Make straight the crooked places of the world and lead the nations into the way of peace.

People Reveal your glory so that all people shall see it and become your own.

Intercessor Bless us, our families and friends, that we may seek the good and avoid the evil.

People Save us from the judgment of having neglected your word.

Intercessor Be close to those who do your work in obscurity and poverty.

People Give them the comfort of your presence and shield them from danger and persecution.

Intercessor We pray for those who have come out of the wilderness into new life.

People Look upon them with the eyes of mercy, counting them righteous not for their merit but through the love of Christ.

Intercessor We join our voices with all those which speak of the Gospel of Christ.

Silence

We pray for the special needs, concerns, and thanksgivings of this congregation and community. (Intercessor waits a minute or two so people can add prayers aloud or silently.)

Silence

We pray especially for members: Tony, Jim and James, Suzy, The Collins family, Lorna, John and Gayle, Mary, James, Jake, Denis and Judi, Bill, Kurt, Jessey, David, Steve, Michael, Robert, Kay and Roy, Donna and Larry, and Linda.

Thank you for the privilege to pray on behalf of friends and families: Rose, Norman and family, Tay and William Petermann's family, Kayla, Addie, Natalla and family, Melissa, Weldon, Earlene, Brennan, Pam, Annette, Liam and family, James, Holly, Crystal and Billie, Jane, Kim, Nancy and Bill, Carmen, Kristi, Terri, Marie, Stephanie, Lane, Jaycie, Cody, Leisa, Mita, Jay, Alexander, Dustin, Kristi, Hannah, John, Margaret, Grace, Tate, Douglas, Steve, Jean, Rebecca, Kellye, Liz, Loorie, Derek, Mary, Eric, Judy, Kelly, Jocelyn, Cheryl, Terry, Matt, Kevin, Claire, Mary, Ken, and Amy.

For our men and women serving in the Armed Forces: Jordan, Brad, Lucas, Annie, Justin, Joseph, Caleb, Ed, Brett, Thea, Jaycob, and Joshua.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal Kingdom.

For the diocesan cycle of prayer: Hope in Houston, San Mateo in Bellaire, San Romero in Houston, and the Diocese of Peshawar.

Concluding Prayer

Priest O Lord, without whom our labor is lost: We beseech you to prosper all works in your Church undertaken according to your holy will. Grant to your workers a pure intention, a patient faith, sufficient success on earth, and the blessedness of serving you in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Confession and Absolution

[BCP 360]

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

Silence may be kept.

Priest and People 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.*

Priest 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 (stand)

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

- Godly Play returns to sanctuary.

Members of St. Timothy's healing prayer team are available in the side chapel to pray with anyone who desires healing for themselves or others. Simply go to the side chapel after taking communion.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Sentence: But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *Hebrews 13:15, 16*

Note: As Episcopalians, we believe in some mysterious way the whole Host of Heaven is present with us at communion. This can be a comfort to those whose loved ones have already died.

The Offertory

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Handbell Choir

(The gifts are brought forward by members)

Doxology (*The people stand*) (all sing)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Priest:	All things come from thee, O Lord.
People:	And of thine own have we given thee.

The Great Thanksgiving (stand)

Eucharistic Prayer B

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

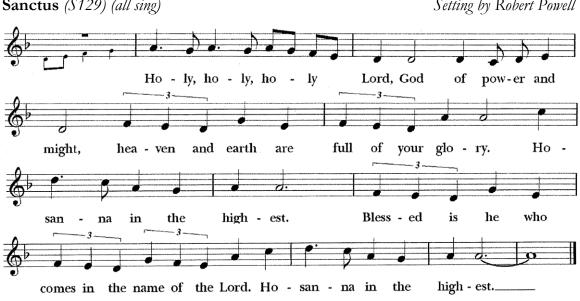
Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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

Hymn 380, vs. 3

[BCP 367]

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 (S129) (all sing)

Setting by Robert Powell

The people stand or kneel.

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 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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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,

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

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 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**.

The Lord's Prayer

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

Priest 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, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

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

Facing the people, the priest says the following invitation

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 Ministration of Communion

All baptized Christians are welcome to come to the Lord's Table and receive the bread and wine of communion. Others are invited to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please tell the priest just before you receive communion.

Communion Hymns

- Hymn 341 (all sing)
- Hymn 67 (all sing)

For The Bread Which You Have Broken Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Post Communion Prayer (stand or kneel)

[BCP 366]

Priest Let us pray.

Priest and People 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.

When a Eucharistic Visitor is sent out:

Priest	N., in the name of Jesus Christ and of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts,
People	that those to whom you go may share in the Communion of Christ's Body and Blood.
All	We who are many, are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn	(all sing)	On Jordan's Bank The Baptist's Cry	Hymn 76
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The Dismissal

PriestLet us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.PeopleThanks be to God.

Postlude

Parish Announcements

Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 10 – 9:30 a.m. Formation Class: Journeying in the Ways of Love for Advent, led by Pastor Robin (back of the Parish Hall)
Living Nativity, 7:00 & 7: 45 p.m., and the St. John's Bible, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Saturday, December 16 – Youth Cookie Bake, in the kitchen, 10:00 a.m. – 12 noon (for Sodalis Senior Living residents and some to eat and take home)
Sunday, December 24 – 10:30 a.m. Advent IV Service, Morning Prayer 5:30 p.m. Family Service with No Rehearsal Christmas play (come early to get a costume on) 10:00 p.m. Candlelight Service with Chancel Choir
Monday, December 31 – 10:30 a.m. Festival of Lessons and Carols



Sunday, December 10, Living Nativity (7:00 & 7:45 p.m.) and the St. John's Bible (5:30-8:30 p.m.) - Invite your family and friends! Kick off your holiday with the CHRISTMAS STORY in live action that will bring the birth of Christ to life on the lawn of St. Timothy's.

Afterward, come inside to see the beautiful, illuminated manuscript of the St. John's Bible, hand-written and illustrated volumes that you can see and touch. A hands-on experience for the whole family! Contact 979-297-6003.

Christmas Music/Flowers Donation – The envelopes in today's bulletin should be familiar to all of you who have been at St. Timothy's through a Christmas or Easter past. Your memories and/or thanksgivings are listed in the bulletins for Christmas Eve, and your donations help with the cost of our wonderful music and decorations. This year's **deadline is December 17**th for your requests to be listed in the bulletin. Please put envelopes in the offering plate or bring them to the office. Thank you.

Living Well Through Advent: *Practicing Wonder with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind.* Please pick up a copy of this daily devotional in the Narthex or Parish Hall. If you would like to follow this daily devotional on-line, you can sign up

for daily updates via email or a PDF download on the Daily Compass website, <u>https://www.livingcompass.org/advent</u>.



St. Timothy's Angel Tree Program began November 26 - The Angel Tree program is a national organization that allows parents in prison to strengthen their connection with their children by providing gifts with a personal message from the parent. Each child receives a toy gift, a

clothing gift, and an age-appropriate religious book. No gift should exceed \$25.00

Each October the church receives a list of children who live in the Clute-Lake Jackson area codes. The caregivers are contacted for sizes and gift suggestions. These gift ideas are written on the paper angels placed on the Angel Tree. The "tree" will be in the narthex starting Sunday, **November 26**. A donor selects an angel, purchases the gift, wraps it, attaches the top part of the angel to the package, and brings it to the church. The gifts are delivered the week before Christmas.

Your participation is needed and we will be happy to deliver "Angels" to you and pick up gifts if you are unable to get to the church. Call or text Nancy Carter at 979-285-4831.

The wrapped gifts should be returned no later than **December 15**. Donations of money for books can be put in the stocking on the tree or given to Nancy Carter. Checks should be written to St. Timothy's with a notation of "for Angel Tree".

Have you thought about having your child baptized? January 7th, The Epiphany of Our Lord, is an ideal day! Bishop Suffragan Kathryn M. Ryan will be with us on Sunday, January 7th.

As Episcopalians, we believe in baptism for infants and young children. Parents may decide on behalf of their child to have them baptized. As teens, they can reaffirm this decision with confirmation.

If you are interested in having your child baptized during the bishop's visit on January 7, you will need to please let Pastor Robin know by December 14th. She will be meeting with families up to that date by appointment. Please contact her at 832-922-7022 to schedule an appointment.

A New Class for Children During Worship - Godly Play for Children -Attention: parents of children 3-10 years old - Children will gather at 10:30, (before the start of the worship service,) in Room 370, at the end of the hallway.

Godly Play is a Montessori-based program that uses story, wonder, and play. The lesson lasts 45 minutes, so your kids will be back in time for communion.

The class leaders are Jane Power and Maria Niswander. Please contact Jane Power for more information or if you are interested in helping.

Sunday, December 10, 2023

7:30 a.m. - Brotherhood of St. Andrew Breakfast and Study, Parish Hall

8:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite I

9:30 a.m. – Coffee Hour, Parish Hall

9:30 a.m. – Formation Class, Journeying in the Way of Love for Advent, back of the Parish Hall

10:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite II

11:45 a.m. - Fellowship in the Welcome Center

5:30-8:30 p.m.– St. John's Bible, front hallway

7:00 & 7:45 p.m. - Living Nativity, front lawn

Monday, December 11, 2023

Tuesday, December 12, 2023

6:30 p.m. – Finance Committee, Blue Roon

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

8:30 a.m. - Army of Retired Men (ARM), All are welcome

11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. - Silent Prayer (Chapel)

6:00 p.m. – Handbell Choir Rehearsal

7:00 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal

8:00 p.m. – Compline (Facebook Live)

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Friday, December 15, 2023

10:00 a.m. – Healing Prayer Group (in the Welcome Center) 6:00-10:00 p.m. - Gulf Coast Duplicate Bridge Group, Blue Room

Saturday, December 16, 2023

10:00 a.m. – Youth Cookie Bake, Parish Hall Kitchen 2:00-4:00 p.m. – Tabitha's Sewing Guild, Room 250

Sunday, December 17, 2023

8:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite I

9:30 a.m. – Coffee Hour, Parish Hall

9:30 a.m. – Formation Class, *Journeying in the Way of Love for Advent*, back of the Parish Hall

10:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite II

11:45 a.m. - Fellowship in the Welcome Center

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church <u>Altar Party</u>

Acolytes:

Chalicer/Intercessor: Angela McCabe Lector: Bunny Schockmel Usher: Denis and Judi James Healing Prayer: Char Aslakson and Benjamin Dodson Rector: The Reverend Robin Reeves-Kautz Director of Music: Andrea Hutchison Organist: Bonnie McDaniel

St. Timothy's Vestry

Gary Jones – Sr. Warden Mark Lehnhoff – Jr. Warden Kerry Cormier Margaret Dodson Colinda Friehauf Keith Frank, Treasurer Alexa Kincannon, Finance Chair

Fran Hammond Dave Mayberry Angela McCabe Ron Weeks Ed White Tony Janeshek, Stewardship Chair

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

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The text of the service of worship contained in this program is taken from the Book of Common Prayer 1979. The Book of Common Prayer alone is of authority in the worship of the Episcopal Church. This program is provided for convenience of use on this occasion.

The Episcopal Diocese of Texas does not permit any person, including clergy, staff, students, volunteers, and visitors, to carry a weapon in our churches or schools. This prohibition applies even if the person is licensed to carry a concealed weapon under Texas law. Section 3.6 Clergy Manual.