



THE DECEMBER 2020

# TRUMPETER

*St. Christopher's Episcopal Church*

## ONLINE SERVICE SCHEDULE

### SUNDAYS

9 am - Sunday Morning Service via Facebook Live & Zoom  
*Zoom Gathering following*

### WEDNESDAYS

5:30 pm - Evening Prayer via Facebook Live  
6:00 pm - Zoom Bible Study

## CHRISTMAS FAMILIES

**The Time is Here!**

St Christopher Family,

FISH has given us a family to provide wishes at Christmas time. Six children need pajamas, mittens and a new toy. We will also take donations of hygiene products.

Please call or email Becky or Bobbie. We will give you more details. Don't hesitate, Christmas will be here before you know it.

*Give, and you will receive. -Luke 6:38*

*Becky Stermer*  
rebeccastermer@gmail.com

*Bobbie Walton*

bobbiewalton36@gmail.com



ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH

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STAFF

The Reverend Ann Grady  
*Priest in Charge*  
[RevAnn2709@gmail.com](mailto:RevAnn2709@gmail.com)

The Reverend Dr. Michael Carr,  
*Priest in Residence*  
[FrMike@stchrisgrandblanc.org](mailto:FrMike@stchrisgrandblanc.org)

The Reverend Elizabeth Morris Downie,  
*Associate Emeritus*

The Reverend Canon Michael Spencer,  
*Assistant to the Rector*  
[Michael@stchrisgrandblanc.org](mailto:Michael@stchrisgrandblanc.org)

Nada Radakovich, *Director of Music*  
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Dr. Greg Hassold, *Parish Organist*  
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Elizabeth Sailus, *Administrative Assistant*  
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Ashley Sweers, *Nursery Coordinator*  
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Joel Stoeklin, *Sexton*  
[sexton@stchrisgrandblanc.org](mailto:sexton@stchrisgrandblanc.org)

## A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER

Many of you have talked with me recently. I saw some of you at the November 14 Drive Thru at the church, where we traded greetings, handed out treats and conducted a gathering of pledges for the 2021 year at St. Christopher's. I spoke recently with some of you over the phone, when I called to give you an update on where I see us going in the coming year. Part of that conversation included talk of pledges, budgets, and our mission and plans for a new rector here at St. Christopher's. We talked of the streaming of a service from our nave this past Sunday. Everyone I spoke with loved it.

I was glad to hear your opinions, questions, and suggestions. I also heard some of your anxiety. I want to ease your anxiety, but I will also share with you my anxiety.

While I am anxious I am also hopeful. I am hopeful that our pledge income will result in the development of a balanced budget. I am hopeful that our new rector will find a productive and committed congregation. Your vestry and I are hopeful that you will help us and trust us to make both possible.

When Fr. Don Davidson was with us, he helped us perform a miracle. With hard work and the support of everyone, including our Diocese of Eastern Michigan, we started this year with a balanced budget. It was truly a product of your commitment and your faith. It was a great achievement.

This year has been difficult and frustrating. We have all tried hard to navigate our way through being together while not being able to gather in person. We have found meaningful ways to be church in the midst of our physical separation. I hope we have discovered that God is with us in this unprecedented time.

The Finance Committee and I need your faith-filled generosity now more than ever in order to present a balanced budget to the vestry in two weeks. We are hopeful that early 2021 will see the calling of a new rector, institution of regular live streaming of worship from the nave, and healthy finances for St. Christopher's.

Please think about your pledge to help us fund our work for Christ in the Grand Blanc area and in the world.

*Bobbie Walton*  
Treasurer

## SENIOR WARDEN REPORT

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“These are the times that try men’s souls...” and “It was the best of times, it was the worst of times...”. Two appropriate quotes from great literature that describes our Covid situation and where we find ourselves. The worst of times include not being able to be together in our church building or sharing fellowship with each other. The Best of times are our ability to worship and have fellowship together online and the opportunity to donate to our church online which many of you have used faithfully. More Good Times will include a new Rector and the chance to uplift our gifts of Time, Talent and Treasure in the year 2021. The Giving Tree project is another “best” for us to participate in.

We are a family that sticks together and we’ll be able to weather any hard times and turn them into Great ones!

Stay safe and Love Thy Neighbor.

*Jane Brewer*  
Senior Warden



ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

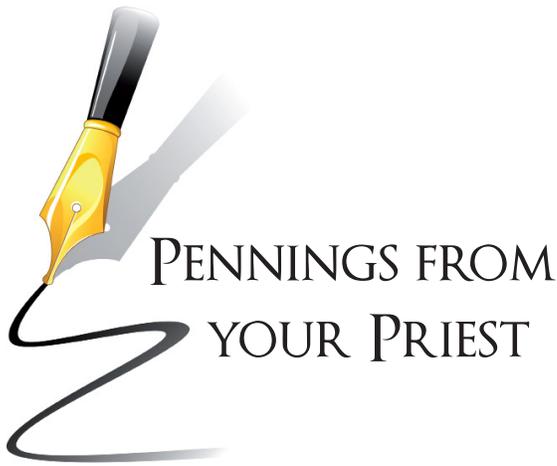
# CHRISTMAS SERVICES

VIA FACEBOOK LIVE & ZOOM

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Thursday, December 24 at 7 pm

Friday, December 25 at 9 am



Dear Friends,

I hope you are having a joyous Advent. You should have received an Advent box for your household. If, for some reason, you have not received a box please notify the church.

We hope the tokens and resources in the box are helpful to you and your household as we journey through Advent together, at a distance.

A big THANK YOU to Fr. Michael for curating the items included in the box. Among the items you will find are an Advent ring and set of candles. Feel free to embellish it with

greens, if you wish. I have placed a white candle in the middle of my Advent ring to serve as the Christ Candle.

The small bag with the nativity is just waiting to be colored. I may use mine to hold my tablet.

If there is something in the box that does not suit you feel free to pass it along to a family member or friend.

Waiting, expectation, and hope are all words associated with Advent. Each of us is more practiced in waiting than we wish we were.

We have waited – and are still waiting – for the coronavirus to go away. We want our lives to get back to “normal.”

We want to get back into our building so we can again worship together. Something we have not been able to do since March.

As Fr. Michael and I said in our letter included in the Advent box, “Everyone has been made to make sacrifices, some of which have been quite dear. The loss of connection and engagement with each other due to the closing of church buildings has created challenges for the sustenance of our spirits. We all share in some measure of sadness about this, even though we understand the reasons for it.”

We are in a “necessary exile.” As such, we can identify with the plight of Jerusalem in Isaiah 40. They have been in exile; their God is absent. Their hope is lost.

The people of Jerusalem are reminded that their God is with them. God is where they are.

So it is with us. God is where we are – in our exile. Even in that exile we can revel in the expectation and hope of the birth of a Savior who is Christ the Lord.



## UPCOMING LESSONS

### **December 13 -Advent 3**

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Canticle 15

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

John 1:6-8,19-28

### **December 20 - Advent 4**

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

Romans 16:25-27

Luke 1:26-38

### **December 27 - Christmas 1**

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Psalm 147 or 147:13-21

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

John 1:1-18

### **January 3 - Christmas 2**

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Psalm 84 or 84:1-8

Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a

Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

or Luke 2:41-52

or Matthew 2:1-12

### **January 10 - Epiphany 1**

Genesis 1:1-5

Psalm 29

Acts 19:1-7

Mark 1:4-11

**Find the readings every  
week on the church  
website or at  
[lectionarypage.net](http://lectionarypage.net)**

We can draw comfort (which means “strengthen more”) from the God who is with us. We can continue to find new ways of connecting with each other and new ways of supporting our faith. We can continue to be God’s heart and hands in the world.

We can continue to be the church.

A blessed Advent to you.

*Rev. Ann*

Priest-in-Charge

