

PARACLETE



DECEMBER 2019

HOLY SPIRIT | EPISCOPAL CHURCH

130 South 6th Street East • Missoula, MT 59801 • 406.542.2167 • E-mail: office@holyspiritmissoula.org • Website: www.holyspiritmissoula.org

A publication of Holy Spirit Episcopal Church



ADVENT III, December 15

8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
Holiday Market Bake Sale follows service

10:15 a.m., Holy Eucharist
Holiday Market Bake Sale follows service

ADVENT IV, December 22

10:15 a.m., Holy Eucharist
7 p.m., Festival Service of
Nine Lessons and Carols

Reception follows in parish hall

CHRISTMAS EVE,

Tuesday, December 24

4 p.m., Christmas Eucharist
with the children's Christmas
presentation

10 p.m., Christmas Choral
Eucharist

CHRISTMAS DAY,

Wednesday, December 25

No services

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS, December 29

8 a.m., Holy Eucharist

10:15 a.m., Holy Eucharist
*No Church School or Adult
Classes this Sunday*

Help us kick off the season of Advent with Advent Crafts & Soup

Don't miss our annual **Advent Crafts & Soup** event on Sunday December 1st. Join your church family on the first Sunday in Advent, immediately after the 10:15 service. We'll serve a simple soup and bread meal. Enjoy some hot cider and festive music. Take the time to enjoy conversation. Savor the smells of the first greens of the season and try your hand at any number of craft stations.

- Use the greens, a wreath base, ribbon and candles to make an Advent wreath to use during the four weeks leading up to

Christmas.

- Create a new character for your wooden nativity scene. Use wood burning tools to bring a shepherd, a camel, a king, to life.
- Make your own mini-Christmas tree out of a pinecone.
- Create an angel ornament or package topper.

Stay tuned for one other SURPRISE craft station!

The suggested donation for crafts is \$10 and for lunch is \$3.



OUR STAFF

Clergy:

The Rev. Terri Ann Grotzinger,
Rector

revterri@holyspiritmissoula.org

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NEWSLETTER

Paraclete, from the Greek meaning 'Holy Spirit,' is published monthly, September through May, by Holy Spirit Episcopal Church. All material is due by the fifteenth of the month preceding the month of publication.

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Our celebration begins on December 22

Join us for Lessons and Carols

The Festival Service of Nine Lessons and Carols will take place on Sunday evening, December 22, at 7 p.m. in the church. The choir and organ will be in splendid voice, and the beautiful carols and anthems will be the perfect introduction to the last days before Christmas.

The Festival Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, which began in England in the early 1900s, is now a part of Anglican and Episcopal worship throughout the world. The service is made up of lessons alternating with the singing of congregational and choral music. Beginning with the story of

Adam and Eve, the lessons trace the prophecies of the Nativity and end with the beautiful passage from John: "In the Beginning was the Word..."

I invite all of you to join the choir on the 22nd, and in the words of the beautiful opening prayer,

to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass...

A festive reception will follow in the parish hall.

— DR. NANCY COOPER

ORGANIST AND CHOIR DIRECTOR

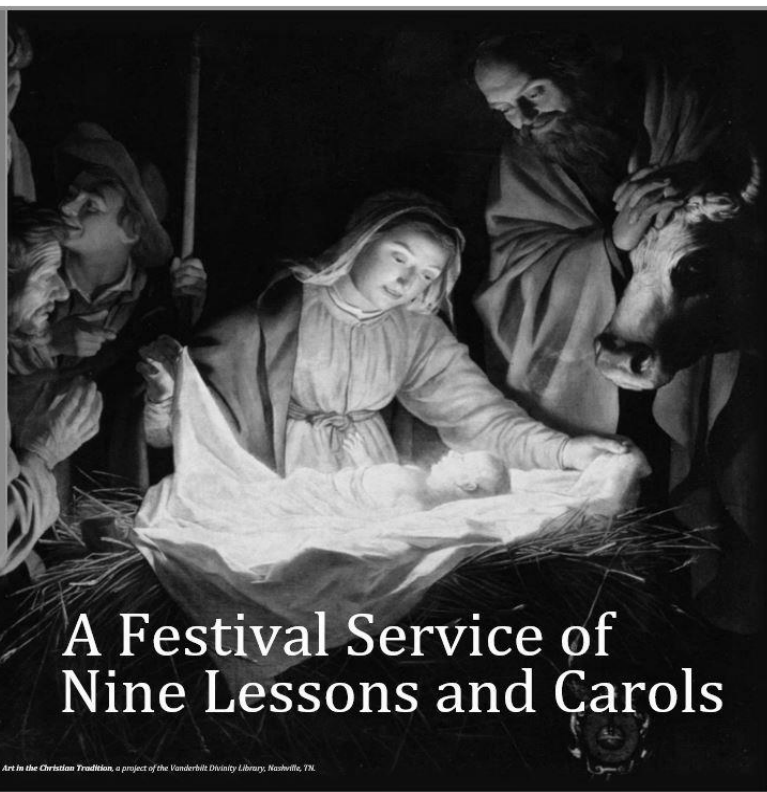
The
Christmas
Story in Word
and Song

Sunday,
December 22
7 p.m.

Reception follows in
parish hall

Holy Spirit Episcopal
Church
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Missoula, MT 59801
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A Festival Service of
Nine Lessons and Carols

Cover Art: Honebort, Gerrit van, 1590-1656, Nativity Scene, from Art In the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

Flower donors needed for Christmas

Your contributions for flowers during Advent are used for the special flowers at the Christmas celebration, and at that time, your prayers and memorials are noted once again in the Christmas bulletin. **Please let us know by noon on Monday, December 2, if you would like to have flowers listed in the Christmas bulletin.** Extra help with flower gifts is always appreciated at this time of year.

Church School

Join us for a special telling of the Nativity Story on Christmas Eve

Join us at the early service on Christmas Eve at 4:00 p.m. Our own Holy Spirit kids will lead us in remembering the Nativity Story. Any and all other children attending the service that night will be encouraged to participate. Halos and shepherd headdresses will be handed out at the door. Kids are welcome to wear the headgear during the service, and angels and shepherds will be invited to come up front and participate in the pageant as they so desire. Join us as we reenact this Holy Story. We pray for eyes and ears to truly take in the significance of Jesus's birth.

All Holy Spirit kids who plan to participate in the pageant on Christmas Eve:

- ✓ Must attend Church School on Sunday, December 22 for costume preparation.
- ✓ Must stay after the 10:15 worship service (on Dec. 22) for 30+ minutes to practice.
- ✓ Must arrive on December 24th by 3:30 p.m.

– THE REV. GRETCHEN STROHMAIER
DIRECTOR OF SPIRITUAL FORMATION



Random Acts of Kindness

The children continue to explore our theme, Family of God. During this first semester they have learned about caring for God's big family. They have learned that such care requires both direct service, like packing hygiene kits for clients at the Poverello Center, and advocacy, which requires us to learn about systems that don't work. They also spent time learning about prayer as a tool for tending God's family as they made prayer bracelets. As they continue to grow in the practice of their faith, the children have been challenged to share God's love and care with a broader range of people. They've learned about practicing random acts of kindness. Know that our kids have been challenged to intentionally spread kindness and spot kindness in the world around them. If you are a recipient of a kind act, please, by all means, pass that kindness onto another.

– THE REV. GRETCHEN STROHMAIER

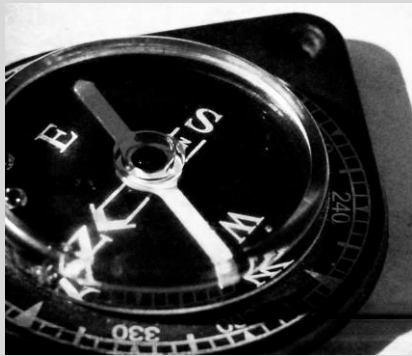
Church School December schedule

- Sunday, December 1** Joint worship. Parish-wide Advent celebration. Advent Crafts & Soup after church.
- Sunday, December 8** Children start downstairs for a lectionary-based Bible story, Romans 15: 4-13, *Jews and Gentiles*. Children join the second half of worship upstairs to participate in Eucharist.
- Sunday, December 15** Children start downstairs for a lectionary-based Bible story, Matthew 11:2-11, *Messiah*. Children join the second half of worship upstairs to participate in Eucharist.
- Sunday, December 22** Children spend all morning downstairs as they get ready for the Christmas pageant. After the 10:15 service the children practice in the nave for 30 minutes.
- Sunday, December 29** No Church School. The nursery will be open.



Youth Confirmation Classes begin in January

Attention youth and parents! We will be starting Confirmation classes in January! Confirmation will be open to any youth 6th grade and up. Classes will be after school on Thursdays, beginning January 23 and going until February 6. If you would like to register, please email PJ at PJ@holyspiritmissoula.org.



Explorations:

Opportunities to cultivate, challenge and live our faith

Class begins December 1 The Way of Love: Practices for Jesus-Centered Life

Join Jocelyn Siler and Jerry Fetz on Sunday mornings between services to learn about the Presiding Bishop's initiative, *The Way of Love*. More than a program or a curriculum, it's an intentional commitment to a set of practices—perfect for reflection during

the season of Advent. It's a commitment to follow Jesus: Turn, Learn, Pray, Worship, Bless, Go, Rest. Learn more at <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/way-of-love>. Class will meet December 1, 8, 15 at 9 a.m. in the Guild Room.



THE WAY OF LOVE *Practices for Jesus-Centered Life*

Compline meets on December 1 at 8 p.m. Begin your Advent vigil with Compline

Watch therefore for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning—lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. (Mark 13:35)

Begin your Advent vigil in the quiet darkness and candlelight of Compline at 8 p.m. on Sunday, December 1st. The Holy Spirit Compline Choir will begin by chanting an Advent Litany. The meditations for the evening will be drawn from the Celtic Daily Prayer Book. Please join us for this serene and simple beginning to the Advent season.

Our January service falls on January 5th. We will celebrate the season of Christmas with a service focused on Divine Love.

– KEITH KUHN, COMPLINE COORDINATOR



Coming in January: The Good Book Club

In the beginning was the Word...

Start 2020 with a renewed commitment to the Word of God. The Good Book Club returns for a third year with the Gospel of John. We'll read the compelling account—inspired by “the disciple whom Jesus loved”—during the time from Epiphany through Shrove Tuesday. We're excited for this journey through John. Make plans now to join Forward Movement and more than a dozen partner organizations from across the Episcopal Church to encounter the risen Lord through the signs and wonders, the beauty and revelation of John's Gospel. Start reading John's Gospel on January 6th.

Starting on January 13th Barbara Barmeyer and Betsy Holmquist will host the Good Book Club class on Sunday mornings between services to discuss the week's readings from the

book of John. Pick up a companion book, *A Journey with John*, from the church office for \$13. The book explores John with fifty days of scripture, meditations, and prayers written by dynamic spiritual leaders from across the United States and around the world.

Also in the New Year...consider taking a NEW look at the Old Testament through the eyes of Father Richard Rohr. Join Deacon Anita Rognas on Thursday evenings starting on January 16th from 6:30-8:00 p.m. for a book study of *The Great Themes of Scripture: Old Testament* by Richard Rohr and Joseph Martos. Order your own book and contact Anita about your interest in the class, 208-305-4022 (call or text) or email her at anita.rognas@gmail.com.

“Reading the Good Book with others brings so much more meaning and insight to what we read. This is a great way to make community!”

“A wonderful discipline for Epiphany.”

Baptism date announced

The next date for baptism will be Sunday, January 12, at the 10:15 a.m. service. If you are interested in baptism at that time, either for your child or for yourself, please call the church office at 542-2167 and ask to speak to Rev. Terri. **The deadline for the January 12 baptism date is December 8.**



#AdventWord – A Global Advent Calendar for Adults

AdventWord provides visual and written meditations during the liturgical season of Advent. Learn more at AdventWord.org. In 2019, Advent begins on Sunday, December 1. The written meditations will be provided in English, Spanish, Haitian Creole, and in American Sign Language on YouTube. Each morning during Advent the meditations are distributed on AdventWord.org, email, Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter.

Around the world, prayers ascend in response to the meditations. People post their reflections on their respective social media pages, tagging AdventWord on the platform. From there, AdventWord shares and reposts on each site, amplifying the prayers during this holy season. Find the social feed on our website, or on your favorite social media platform. Explore the different ways that people respond to the daily words, whether written meditations, drawings, photographs, or poems.

Advent resources for families. Visit <https://buildfaith.org/free-resources-for-advent/> to find a variety of simple and creative family-friendly ideas for honoring Advent. You'll find everything from downloadable Advent calendars, to paper nativity scenes to cut and decorate, to ideas for creating your own Advent playlist. Check it out!

And the winner is...

Holiday Market Raffle:

Apple Watch: Kathy Polzin
Christmas Quilt: Margaret Ann Payne

Journey through Missoula

Book: Beverley Sherman
Chocolate Basket & Chocolate

Truffle Cake: Marva Gallegos

Wine Hamper: Barb Hosier

Griz Bag/Throw: Nancy Tyrell

One Hour Massage (2):

Mary Donnelly
 Beverley Sherman

Book Exchange Gift

Certificates (2):

Allan Supak
 Caitlin Sherman

Dinner at Pearl and MCT

Tickets: Gretchen Strohmaier

Jewelry Collection: Molly Bowler

Dog Bed/Blanket: Vickie Fleischer

Children's Books: Kira Lee



Holiday Bake Sale – let's make it another great fundraiser this year!

Parishioners at Holy Spirit are not only known for their baking expertise, they're also pretty good at enjoying the fruits of that baking! December 15th is the day for this year's Holiday Bake Sale, and as usual it will be held after both the 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. services. It's a good time to do some of your Christmas baking, putting a couple of plates aside for the Sale, not to mention buying some goodies to add to your inventory!

If you have a specialty, we hope that you will contribute it to the sale. Some annual favorites are mini-pies, cakes, rolls, whole pies, muffins, jams or jellies. The goodies will amaze and delight you. The famous cookie table is always a mouth-watering sight to behold – irresistible! This enables you to make up your own assortments.

Your donations for the Sale may be brought to the church kitchen:

- Friday, December 13, before 4:30 p.m.
- Saturday, December 14, between 10 a.m. and 12 noon
- Sunday, December 15, before either service

Mark your calendars! You and your sweet tooth won't want to miss it! We will also be looking for helpers for both Sunday services. Please SIGN UP to help!

– LAURA TAYLOR AND THE HOLIDAY MARKET BAKE SALE COMMITTEE



Silent Auction Winners:

Thomas Christmas

Ornaments: Bob Brewer

Oregon Beach Condo: Barb Hosier

Vintage Quilt: Bob Brewer

Handcrafted Wooden Truck

Stop/Gas Station: Clem Work

Congratulations to all the winners and a HUGE thank you to the donors for the great prizes! We're very grateful for your generosity.



What a week!

A huge thank you to everyone involved in every way with this year's Holiday Market. Donators. Workers. Lunch providers. Musicians. Cleaner-uppers. Promoters. Bidders. Shoppers. We logged in 528 customers who walked through the doors on Friday and Saturday. Many because you suggested they visit the market. Many who "wouldn't miss it for the world." Many

who will never miss it again. The 2019 Holiday Market brought in over \$15,000 for the parish. And, easily 15,000 bits of good will. Silent auction and raffle numbers were over the top, too. To keep this momentum going, remember the Bake Sale coming in just a few weeks – baking and buying

Continued on page 7

Community Ministries

Preparing to listen to what is stirring us, breaking our hearts and moving us

Nearly four years...that is how long it's been since we worked with Missoula Interfaith Collaborative (MIC) colleagues to help us gather and train a group of listeners within our parish to reach out to 100+ among us. Over coffee, walks, and other time together, we learned about what stirs us, breaks our hearts, and moves us. From that season of engagement and listening, issues impacting children, youth, and families at risk rose up as a broad focus that could bind us together for community ministries. Your voices and helping hands have us working alongside The Parenting Place, Hellgate High School, and discerning topics for education and advocacy. Along with our fellow MIC congregations, we are now on the verge of another season of listening, preparing to reach out to you who are newer to the parish as well as those well-rooted here. We will need to recruit 10-12 core team members willing to learn how to lead us in listening and sharing what is learned, both within our parish and with our MIC sisters and brothers. For more information, contact Rev. Terri, Rev. Gretchen, Sr. Warden Jim Wiley, or me. Please consider this opportunity to connect across our parish and community.

– GRATEFUL TO AND FOR YOU,
THE REV. DORCIE DVARISHKIS
239-7655 ~ dorcied@gmail.com



What a week!

Continued from page 6

again are yours to enjoy. And, as you unpack this year's Christmas decorations, remember to set aside any you would like to donate to next year's Holiday Market. (No lights, please!) Mark your Christmas donations with

"Holiday Market 2020" in a closed-top box, and we'll store it until next year. Thank you all again so much. We couldn't have dreamed of a finer event.
– BETSY HOLMQUIST

WARM HANDS, warm feet!



Coming up – The Poverello Sock Drive

Making a list. Checking it twice: Socks, hats and gloves for residents of the Poverello Center. Watch for details in upcoming issues of the *Spirited Times!*



Stay connected with the Holy Spirit app

Keep up to date on upcoming events, access sermons, forms/registrations for events and other activities, see the latest newsletter or bulletin, or submit a prayer request – all that and so much more! This is also a convenient way to make electronic donations by ACH (bank account) or credit or debit cards in addition to making and managing recurring gifts.

WELCOME HOME

Text "HOLYSPIRITAPP" to 77977 to download our app



Get a link to download the app by texting **HOLYSPIRITAPP** to **77977**. Be sure to put your caps lock feature on; that will bypass the auto-correct feature on your phone and ensure that the code is entered correctly! You may also download the app directly in the Apple iTunes App Store or on Google Play.

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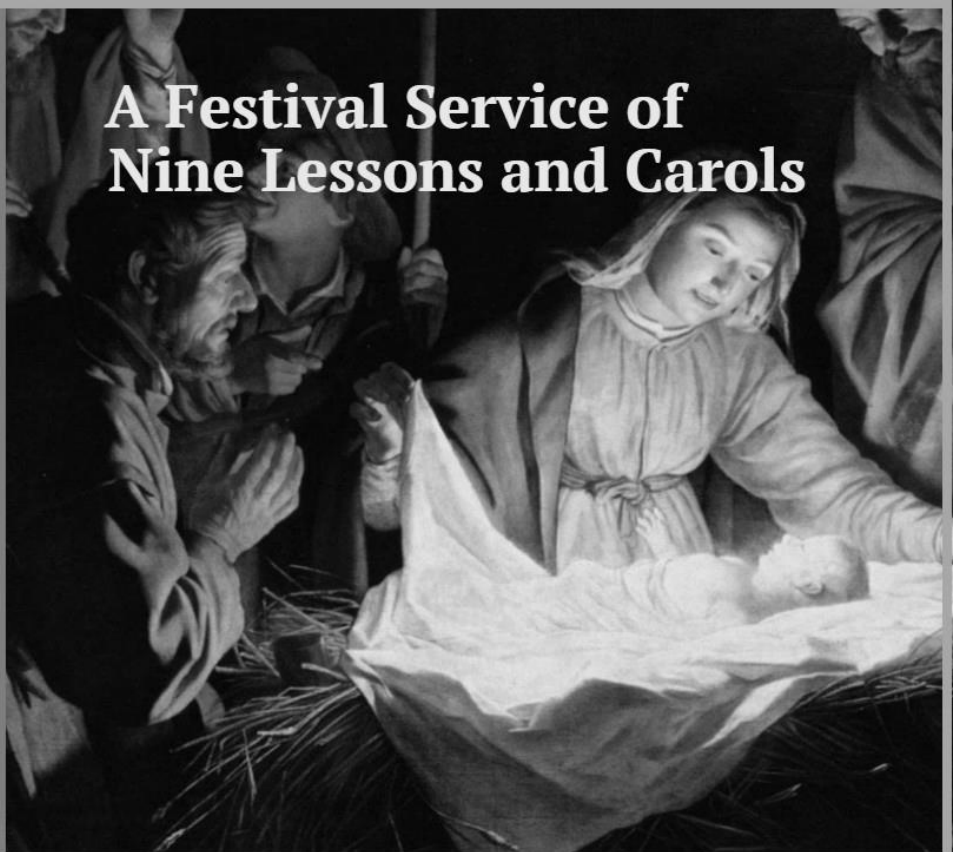
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



*The Christmas Story
in Word
and Song*

Sunday,
December 22
7 p.m.

*Reception follows in
parish hall*



**A Festival Service of
Nine Lessons and Carols**