

The First Sunday of Advent
St. Gregory's Episcopal Church
November 27th, 2022

PRELUDE.....Ann Klein, Music Director

THE ANGELUS

The Angelus is a traditional Christian devotion offered before Holy Eucharist and Morning and Evening Prayer in honor of the Incarnation. It is usually accompanied by the ringing of the church bell (in three sets of three for each versicle, response, and Hail Mary, followed by one set of nine for the concluding prayer). You may pray it as the bell rings or use the silence to prepare for worship in your own way.

The first three bells



V. The angel of the Lord announced unto Mary,
R. *And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.*

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.
Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God
pray for us sinners, now,
and at the hour of our death.

The second three bells

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
R. *Be it unto me according to your word.*

Hail Mary, full of grace...

The third three bells

V. And the Word was made flesh.
R. *And dwelled among us.*

Hail Mary, full of grace...

The nine bells



V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,
R. *That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*

Pour your grace into our hearts, O Lord, that we who have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ, announced by an angel to the Virgin Mary, may by his cross and passion be brought to the glory of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

HYMN IN PROCESSION..... *O come Emmanuel*

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and move us
 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy

1 from this world - ly spell; our spir - its cry in ex - ile
 2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
 3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the

1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 2 show, and teach us in her ways to go. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.

Em - man - u - el for love is com - ing now to dwell!

The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Veni, Veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, *Processionale*, 15th cent.; adpt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937) Copyright ©1975, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Verse 8 and refrain adpt. Katherine HawkerSelf, liturgyoutside.net

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.
People **You come to your people and set them free.**

Celebrant 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**

SONG OF PRAISE

With-in our dark-est night, you kin - dle the fire that nev-er dies a -
way, nev-er dies a - way. With-in our dark-est night, you kin - dle the
fire that nev-er dies a - way, nev-er dies a - way. With-in our dark-est

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come
the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.
Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.
O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE (*chanted in unison*)

Psalm 122

- 1 I was glad when they | **said to me,** *
"Let us go to the house of the | **Lord.**"
- 2 Now our feet are | **standing** *
within your gates, O Je|**rusalem.**
- 3 Jerusalem is built as a | **city** *
that is at unity with it|**self;**
- 4 To which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the | **Lord,** *
the assembly of Israel,
to praise the Name of the | **Lord.**
- 5 For there are the thrones of | **judgment,** *
the thrones of the house of | **David.**
- 6 Pray for the peace of Je|**rusalem:** *
"May they prosper who | **love you.**
- 7 Peace be within your | **walls** *
and quietness within your | **towers.**
- 8 For my brethren and com|**panions' sake,** *
I pray for your pros|**perity.**
- 9 Because of the house of the Lord our | **God,** *
I will seek to do you | **good.**"

THE EPISTLE

Romans 13:11-14

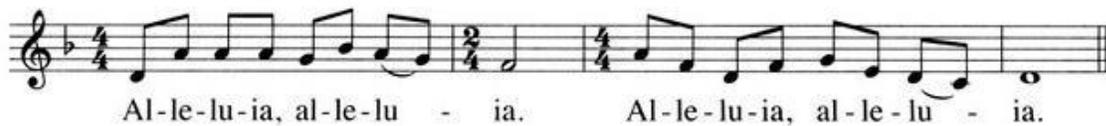
A Reading from the Letter of Paul to Romans.

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ALLELUIA

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Music: Based on VENI EMMANUEL, Stephen Pishner, © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 24:36-44

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

Jesus said to the disciples, “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Matthew Wright

THE NICENE CREED

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The leader introduces the prayers, saying

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Holy One, singing:

Come in your full - ness. We bring our long - ings.

Life - giv - ing Lord, hear our prayer. prayer.

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(the above refrain is then repeated after each petition)

For the peace of the world; for the welfare of this fragile earth, our island home; and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Holy One.

For the universal Church; for our Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement; for the Bishops of the Diocese of New York, Mary, Allen, and Andy; for Susan and Matthew, our priests, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Holy One.

For our local spiritual communities: the Woodstock Jewish Congregation, Christ's Lutheran, Zen Mountain Monastery, the Woodstock Reformed Church, KTD Monastery, Overlook Methodist, the Woodstock Christian Science Church, Mata Giri, the Way of the Rose, St. John's Roman Catholic Church, and any other communities we now name [*silent pause*], let us pray to the Holy One.

For our President, Joe; our Governor, Kathy; for our local town council, and for all who hold roles of servant leadership, that there may be peace and justice on the Earth, let us pray to the Holy One.

For the Earth we share, for this town of Woodstock, which sits on unceded Lanape territory, for the indigenous peoples of this land, and for all those touched by war, gun violence, and racism let us pray to the Holy One.

For those in any need or trouble, and especially for those on our parish prayer list: Jim, Steven, Ellen, Mary Lou, Belle, Linda, Elsie, Gail, Carol, Elissa, Bea, Paula, Lori, Ebro, Kirk, Alex & Kaela, Robert, Zach, Nat, Jeremy, Stephanie, Pat, Frances, Larry, Susie, Charlie, Deb, Anna and Emmett, Gini, Lorraine, Heather, Caleb Francis, Lynn, Tress, Charles & Doris, Ilfra, and any others we now name [*silent pause*], let us pray to the Holy One.

For all who have died, in sure and certain hope that no one and nothing can ever fall outside the love of God, let us pray to the Holy One.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

Minister 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.**

The Priest says

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

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

The people greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace. Parish announcements may be made.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM (*sung by choir*)

DOXOLOGY



If__ in your heart you make a man - ger for Love's birth, then__



God will once a - gain be - come a child on earth. If__ earth.__

Words: Angelus Silesius (17th century); Music: Ana Hernandez

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 God thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer.

...therefore, according to his command, O Holy One,

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

The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer.

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

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A brief silence follows. All then joining in singing

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.

If you are unable to physically participate in Communion, you may offer a Prayer of Spiritual Communion during this time.

A Prayer of Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you, and, since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself with you, and embrace you with all the love of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live in you, and may you live in me, both in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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

RECESSIONAL HYMN.....*Sleepers awake a voice astounds us*



1 "Sleep - ers, wake!" A voice a - stounds us, the
 2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing; her
 3 Lamb of God, the heavens a - dore you; let



shout of ram - part - guards sur - rounds us: "A -
 heart with joy - ful hope is spring - ing, she
 saints and an - gels sing be - fore you, as



wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!" Mid - night's peace their
 wakes and hur - ries through the night. Forth he comes, her
 harps and cym - bals swell the sound. Twelve great pearls, the



cry has bro - ken, their ur - gent sum - mons clear - ly spo -
 Bride-groom glo - rious in strength of grace, in truth vic - to -
 ci - ty's por - tals: through them we stream to join the im - mor -



ken: "The time has come, O maid - ens wise!
 rious: her star is risen, her light grows bright.
 tals as we with joy your throne sur - round.



Rise up, and give us light; the Bride - groom is in
 Now come, most wor - thy Lord, God's Son, In - car - nate
 No eye has known the sight, no ear heard such de -



sight. Al - le - lu - ia! Your lamps pre - pare and
 Word, Al - le - lu - ia! We fol - low all and
 light: Al - le - lu - ia! There - fore we sing to



has - ten there, that you the wed - ding feast may share."
 heed your call to come in - to the ban - quet hall.
 greet our King; for ev - er let our prais - es ring.

Celebrant Alleluia, alleluia. Let us bless the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**