

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Third Sunday of Advent

~ GAUDETE SUNDAY

December 17, 2023

Service Program for the 10:30 a.m. Sung Mass
Bulletin Insert from the Episcopal Church
Grace Notes
This Week at Grace

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We are a diverse community united by our commitment to Jesus Christ and our desire to live the Christian life. Our prayers and the Sacraments help us find Christ in church and in the world. Seeing Christ in each other and in the faces of strangers, we are inspired to reach out in love and service.

The Rev. Rowena J. Kemp, *Rector*
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The Rev. Canon Robert G. Carroon, *Associate Priest*
The Rev. Canon Annika Warren, *Associate Priest*
The Rev. Joseph L. Pace, *Associate Priest*
Mr. Kyle Swann, *Choirmaster and Organist*

The Vestry
Douglas Bowman, *Senior Warden*; Thomas Phillips, *Junior Warden*
Katharine Rovetti, *Parish Clerk*
Mark Lacedonia, *Treasurer*; Barbara Galbreath, *Assistant Treasurer*
Adrienne Brown, Josephine Dominguez, Pamela Glasner,
Claudia Gwardyak, Nadia Holmes, Sandra Morgan



WELCOME to all who are joining with us virtually as we celebrate *THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT*. We hope you feel at home with us and that you find the love, peace, inspiration, and strength to meet the challenges of your daily life.

We hope that you will take part in our worship by making the Peoples' responses as indicated and joining in the hymn-singing.

If you would like more information about Grace Church, or the Episcopal Church, please communicate with our Rector, The Rev. Rowena Kemp, or make an appointment with her to discuss any questions you have.

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Third Sunday of Advent ~ Gaudete Sunday

December 17, 2023

Sung Mass, 10:30 A.M.

Propers of Year B

Mass Setting: *Missa Advenio*

Plainsong, 10th c.

This setting of the Ordinary of the Mass is for congregational singing.

Voluntary: *Veni Emmanuel*, from Three Short Preludes

Edward Bairstow (d. 1946)

Entrance Rite and The Liturgy of the Word

Introit (*choir*) *Gaudete*

Mode I

[*Antiphon*] REJOICE YE in the Lord alway: and again I say, rejoice ye. Let your moderation be known unto all people: for the Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing, nor troubled, but in all things by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God. [*Psalm*] Thou hast been gracious to thy land, O Lord, thou hast restored the good fortune of Jacob. Glory to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. [*Repeat antiphon.*]

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, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Summary of the Law

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

THOU shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Kyrie eleison (*sung by all*)

Missa Advenio

The musical notation consists of three staves of music in a single system, all in treble clef and G-clef. The first staff begins with a *Cantor* part, followed by an *All* part, and ends with another *Cantor* part. The lyrics are: (3x)Ky ri - e e le - i - son. (3x)Christe. The second staff begins with an *All* part, followed by a *Cantor* part, and ends with an *All* part. The lyrics are: e - - - le - i - son. (2x)Ky ri - e e - - - le - i - son. The third staff begins with a *Cantor* part, followed by an *All* part. The lyrics are: (1x)Ky - ri - e e - - - le - i - son.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

STIR up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-II [NRSV]

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

THE spirit of the LORD GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the LORD'S favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion — to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the LORD GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

The Word of the Lord.

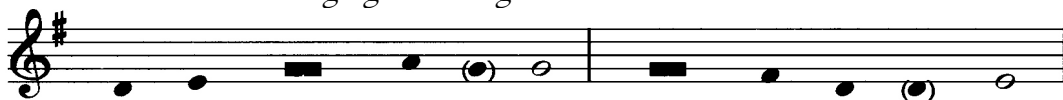
People's Response: Thanks be to God.

The Gradual: Psalm 126

In convertendo

Tone II.I

Congregation sings the italicized verses.



- 1 WHEN THE LORD turned again the captivity of | Sion,
* *then were we like unto | them that dream.*
- 2 *Then was our mouth fill'd with | laughter,*
* *and our | tongue with joy.*
- 3 Then said they among the | heathen,
* The LORD hath done great | things for them.
- 4 *Yea the LORD hath done great things for us al- | ready;*
* *whereof | we rejoice.*
- 5 Turn our captivity O | Lord,
* as the rivers | in the south.
- 6 *They that sow in | tears*
* *shall | reap in joy.*
- 7 He that now goeth on his way weeping†, and beareth forth good | seed,
* *shall doubtless come again with joy, and bring his | sheaves with him.*

The Epistle: I Thessalonians 5: 16-24 [NRSV]

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

REJOICE always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

People's Response: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia *Excita, Domine*

Tone VI; v. harm. Healey Willan (d. 1968)

Cantor: Al- le- lu- ia.

People: Al- le- lu- ia.

Choir: Stir up thy strength, O Lord: and come and help us.

People: Al- le- lu- ia.

Sequence Hymn 59 (*sung by all*) "Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding"

Merton

1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, comes with par-don down from heaven;
4 so when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

1 "Cast a - way the works of dark-ness, O ye child-ren of the day."
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn-ing skies.
3 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for-given;
4 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
5 with the ev - er - last-ing Spi - rit while un - end-ing a - ges run.

The Holy Gospel: St. John I: 6-8, 19-28 [RSV]

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People's response: ✠ Glory be to thee, O Lord.

THERE was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light.

And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed, he did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" And he answered, "No."

They said to him then, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water; but among you stands one whom you do not know, even he who comes after me, the thong of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." This took place in Bethany beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People's Response: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

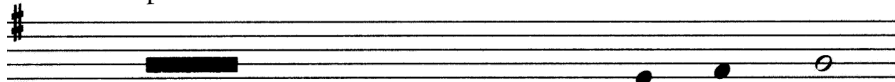
Mr. Aldon Hynes

The Nicene Creed (*sung by all*)

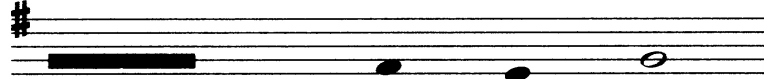
I be-lieve in one God, the Fa-ther Al-might-y, Ma-ker of hea-ven and earth;
and of all things vi-si-ble and in-vi-si-ble; and in one Lord Je-sus Christ,
the on-ly- be-got-ten Son of God, be- got-ten of his Fa-ther be-fore all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, ve-ry God of ve-ry God, be- got-ten, not made,
be- ing of one sub-stance with the Fa-ther; by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our sal-va-tion came down from hea-ven,
(kneel) and was in-car-nate by the Ho-ly Ghost of the Virgin Ma-ry, and was made man;

(stand) and was cru- ci- fi- ed al- so for us un- der Pon- tius Pi- late;
 he suf- fer- ed and was bu- ri- ed; and the third day he rose a- gain
 ac- cor- ding to the Scrip- tures, and as- cend- ed in- to hea- ven, and sit- teth on the
 right hand of the Fa- ther; and he shall come a- gain, with glo- ry, to judge both
 the quick and the dead; whose king- dom shall have no end. And I be- lieve in the
 Ho- ly Ghost the Lord, and Gi- ver of Life, who pro- ceed- eth from the Fa- ther and the Son;
 who with the Fa- ther and the Son to- ge- ther is wor- shipp' d and glo- ri- fi- ed;
 who spake by the Pro- phets. And I be- lieve one ho- ly Cath- o- lic and A- po- sto-
 lic Church; I ac- know- ledge one Bap- tism for the re- mis- sion of sins: and I look for
 the re- sur- rec- tion of the dead,* and the life of the world to come. A- - - men.

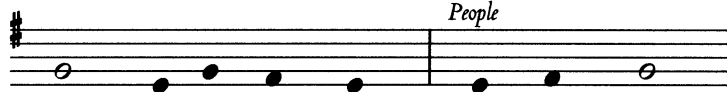




Leader: Let us pray for the Church and | for the world.



Grant almighty God, that all who confess thy Name may be united in thy truth, live together in thy love, and reveal thy glory / in the world. (*Silence*)



Lord, in thy mer - cy *hear our prayer.* (*Sung after every intercession*)

Leader: Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the / common good. (*Silence*)
Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer.*

Leader: Give us all a reverence for the earth as thine own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to thy hon-/or and glory. (*Silence*)
Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer.*

Leader: Watch over thy child *Josh*, O Lord, as his days increase; bless and guide him wherever he may be. Strengthen him when he stands; comfort him when discouraged or sorrowful; raise him up if he falls; and in his heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days / of his life. (*Silence*)
Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer.*

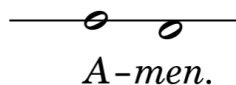
Leader: We pray for an increase in the membership of this parish; that we may have the hands and hearts to carry / out thy will. (*Silence*)
Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer.*

Leader: We commend to thy gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad [*especially N.*]. Defend them day by day with thy heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of thine abiding presence wherever / they may be. (*Silence*)
Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer.*

Leader: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit (*pause*); give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of / thy salvation. (*Silence*)
Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer.*

Leader: We commend to thy mercy all who have died, that thy will for them may be fulfilled (*pause*); and we pray that we may share with all thy saints in thine e-/ternal kingdom. (*Silence*)
Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer.*

Celebrant: Lord, hear the prayers of thy people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *People*



Confession of Sin and Absolution

Deacon: Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

People: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

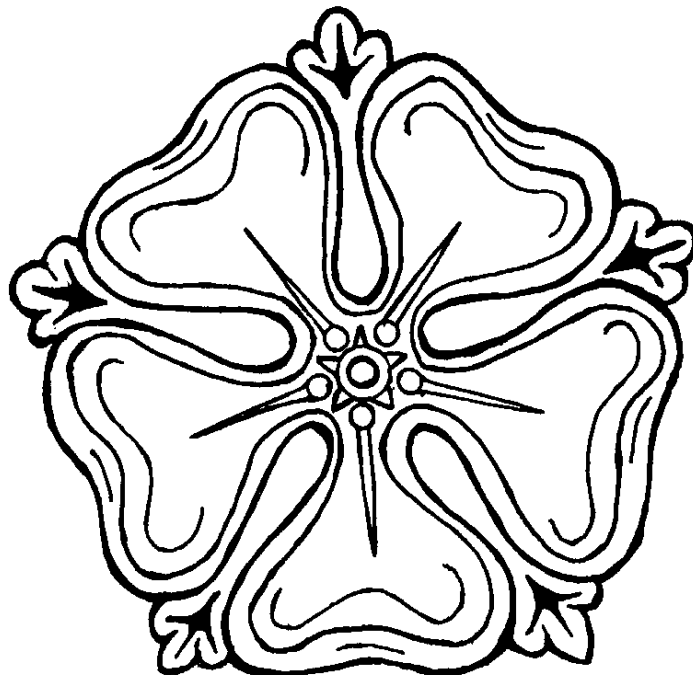
Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11: 28*
God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3: 16*

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

The Ministers and People greet one another in the Name of the Lord.



The Holy Communion

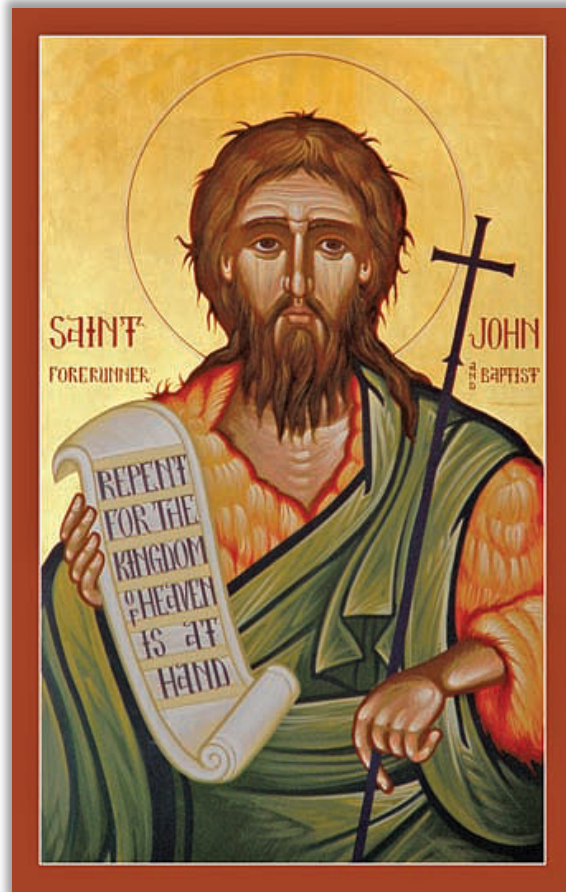
Offertory Sentence

Celebrant: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good thy vows unto the Most High. *Psalm 50: 14*

Offertory (*choir*) *Benedixisti*

Mode IV

THOU hast been gracious, O Lord, unto thy land, thou hast restored the good fortune of Jacob; thou hast forgiven the iniquity of thy people.



Motet (*choir*)

Orlando Gibbons (d. 1625)

THIS is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who art thou?” And he confessed, and denied not, and said plainly, “I am not the Christ.” And they asked him, “What art thou then? Art thou Elias?” And he said, “I am not.” “Art thou the prophet?” And he answered, “No.” Then said they unto him, “What art thou? that we may give an answer unto them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself?” And he said, “I am the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness: Make straight the way of the Lord.” John I: 19-23

Presentation of the alms and oblations

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord,

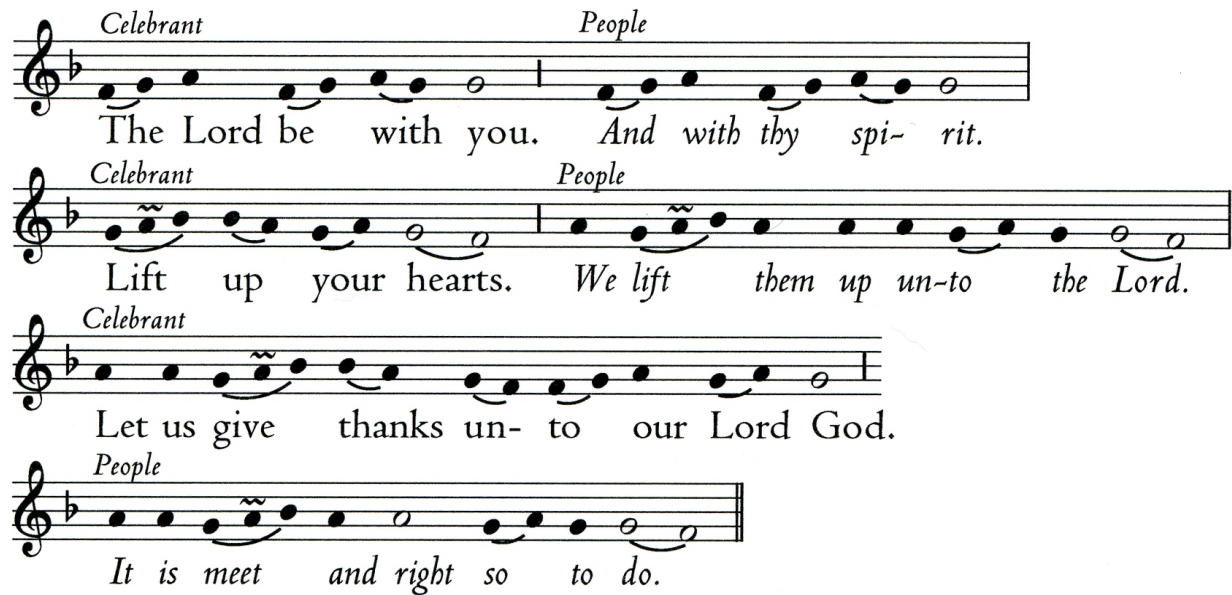
People: And of thine own have we given thee.

Orate

Celebrant: Pray that this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving may be acceptable to God the Father Almighty.

People: May the Lord receive this sacrifice at thy hands, to the praise and glory of his holy Name, both to our benefit and that of all his holy Church.

Sursum corda



Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And with thy spi- rit.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up un-to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks un- to our Lord God.

People
It is meet and right so to do.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant says,

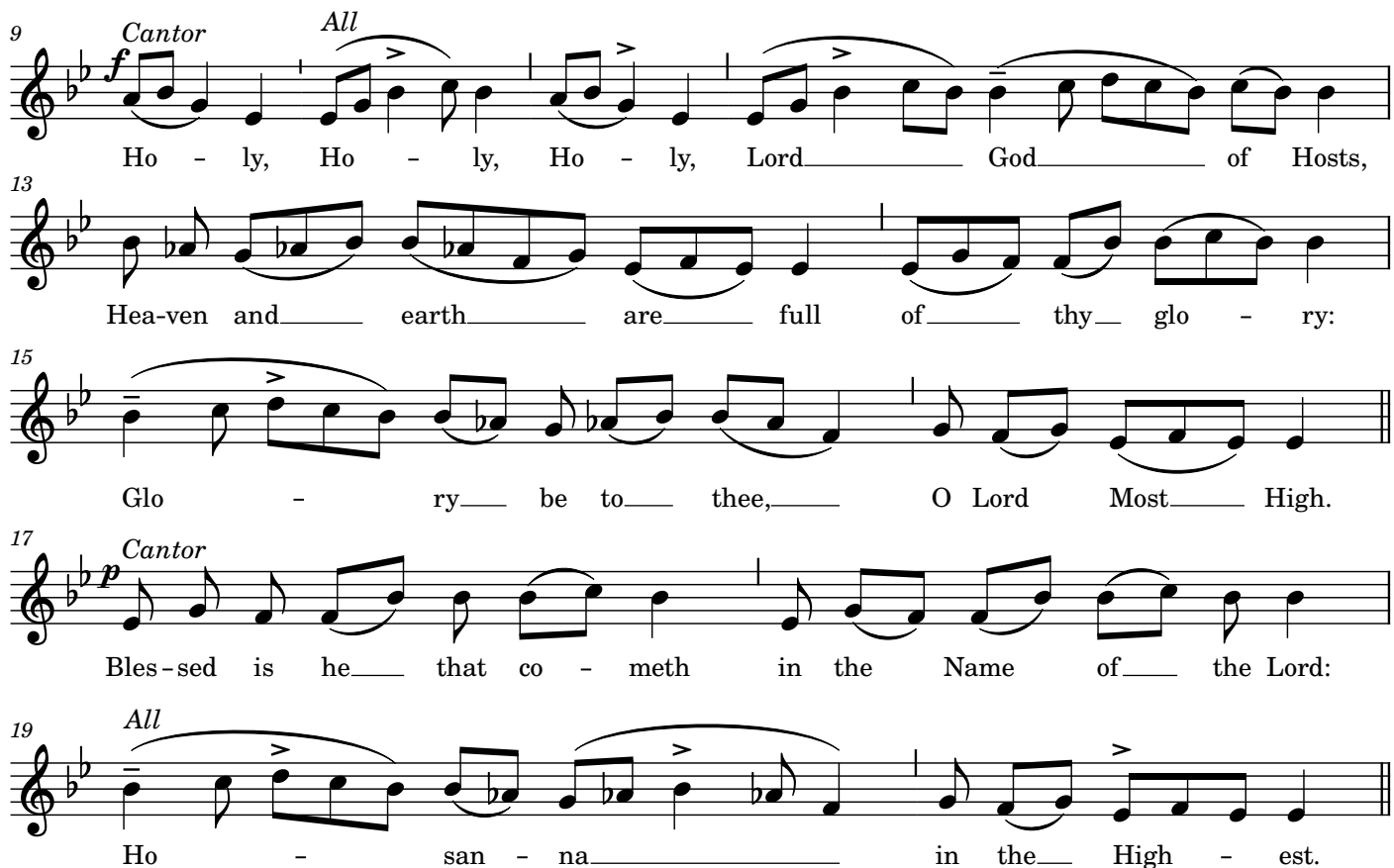
It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

BECAUSE thou didst send thy 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 with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Sanctus and Benedictus (*sung by all*)

Missa Advenio



9 *Cantor* *All*
f Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts,

13
Hea-ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry:

15
Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord Most High.

17 *Cantor*
p Bles-sed is he that co - meth in the Name of the Lord:

19 *All*
Ho - san - na in the High - est.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

ALL glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender Mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ✠

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me." ✠

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, ✠ be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

BY whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

People

—•—○—○—
A- men.

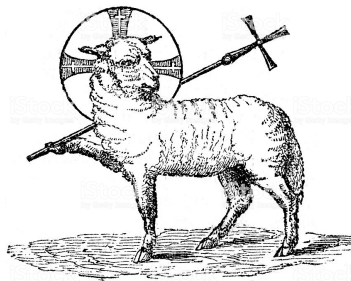
The Lord's Prayer (*sung by all*)

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Fa-ther, who art in hea-ven, hal-low-ed be thy Name,
 thy king-dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in hea-ven.
 Give us this day our dai-ly bread. And for-give us our tres-pas-ses,
 as we for-give those who tres-pass a- gainst us. And lead us not in-to
 temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from e- vil. For thine is the king-dom,
 and the power, and the glo- ry, for ev-er and ev- er. A- men.

The Fraction

Celebrant
 Al-le- lu-ia. Christ our Pass-o-ver is sac-ri- ficed for us.
People
 There- fore let us keep the feast. Al- le- lu- ia.



Agnus Dei (*sung by all*)

Missa Advenio

²¹ *Cantor* *All*
 (2x)O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy up-on us.
²⁴ *Cantor* *All*
 (1x)O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a-way the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Prayer of Humble Access (*said by all*)

Celebrant: Let us pray.

WE do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Invitation to Communion

Celebrant: 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.

People: Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof; but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.

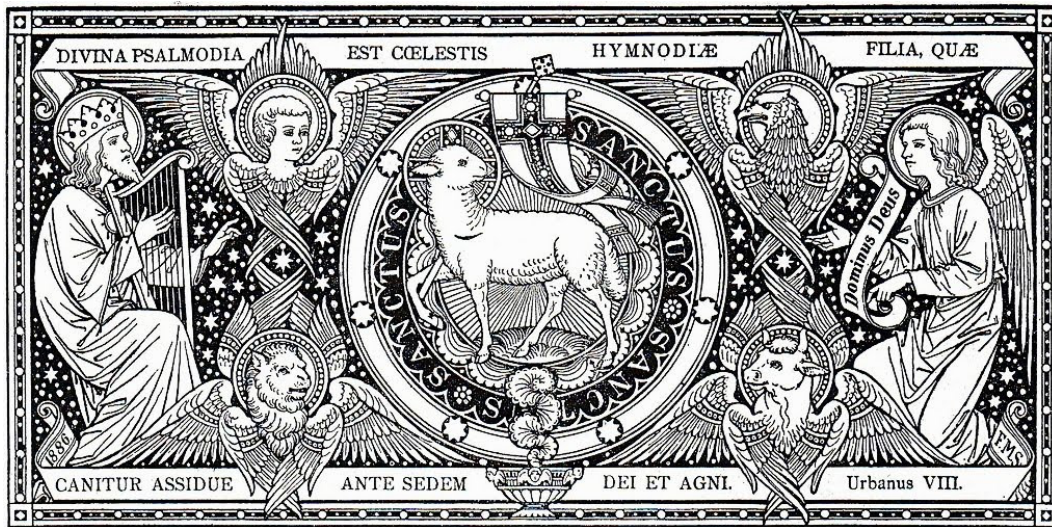
Communion (*choir*) *Dicite pusillanimes*

Mode VII

SAY to them that are of a fearful heart: "Be strong and fear not! Behold, here is our God, he comes to save you."

Prayer of Spiritual Communion (*said by those worshipping virtually*)

IN UNION, O Dear Lord, with the faithful at every Altar of Thy Church, where Thy blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer Thee praise and thanksgiving. I present to Thee my soul and body, with the earnest wish that I may ever be united to Thee. And since I cannot now receive Thee sacramentally, I beseech Thee to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to Thee, and embrace Thee with all the affections of my soul. O let nothing ever separate me from Thee. Let me live and die in Thy love. Amen.



The Great Antiphons (*choir*)

Come and save us.

○ Wisdom, breath of the Most High, pervading and permeating all creation:
Come and save us.

○ Lord of lords and Leader of the house of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the burning bush and gave him the law on Sinai:

○ Root of Jesse, standing as a signal to the nations, before whom all kings are mute, to whom the nations will do homage:

○ Key of David and Ruler of the house of Israel, who opens and no one can close, who closes and no one can open:

○ radiant Dawn, Splendor of eternal light and Sun of justice to those who live in darkness and in the shadow of death:

○ King of the nations, the Ruler they long for, the Cornerstone bringing all peoples together:

○ Emmanuel, our King and our Law-giver, the Anointed of the nations and their Savior:
Come and save us.

Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion

Celebrant: Let us pray.

People: Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these Holy Mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical Body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Advent Blessing and Dismissal

MAY Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. *Amen.* May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. *Amen.*

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

The People respond: Thanks be to God.



The Last Gospel

St. John I:I-I4

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: The Beginning of the holy Gospel according to John.

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

IN THE BEGINNING was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him: and without Him was not anything made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men: and the light shineth in the darkness, and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that light, but was sent to bear witness of that light. That was the true light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. (*Here genuflect*) And the Word was made flesh, (*Here rise*) and dwelt among us: and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the Only-begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

People: Thanks be to God.

ALMA Redemptóris Mater, quæ pèrvia cæli porta manes, et stella maris, succúrre cadénti, Ásúrgere qui curat pópulo: Tu quæ genuísti, natúra miránte, tuum sanctum Genitórem, Virgo prius ac postérius, Gabriélis ab ore Sumens illud Ave, peccatórum miserére.

[Loving mother of the Redeemer, gate of heaven, star of the sea, assist your people who have fallen yet strive to rise again, to the wonderment of nature you bore your Creator, yet remained a virgin after as before, You who received Gabriel's joyful greeting, have pity on us poor sinners.]



The Angelus

Celebrant: The Angel of the Lord announced unto Mary.

People: And she conceived by the Holy Ghost.

Celebrant: Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

People: Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Celebrant: Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

People: Be it unto me according to thy word.

Celebrant: Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

People: Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

(Here genuflect) Celebrant: And the Word was made flesh.

(Here rise) People: And dwelt among us.

Celebrant: Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

People: Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Celebrant: Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

People: That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

WE beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts, that, as we have known the Incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by his Passion we may be brought unto the glory of his resurrection, through the same Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



1 Blessed be the God of Is - rael, who comes to set us free;
 2 He from the house of Da - vid a child of grace has given;
 3 On pri - son - ers of dark-ness the sun be - gins to rise,



he vis - its and re - deems us, he grants us lib - er - ty.
 a Sa - vior comes a - mong us to raise us up to heaven.
 the dawn - ing of for - give - ness up - on the sin - ner's eyes.



The pro - phets spoke of mer - cy, of free - dom and re - lease;
 Be - fore him goes his her - ald, fore - run - ner in the way,
 He guides the feet of pil - grims a - long the paths of peace.

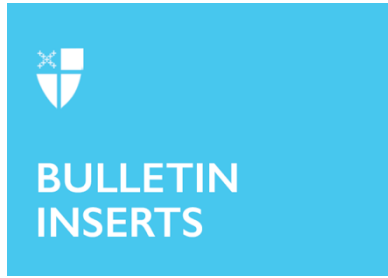


God shall ful - fill his prom - ise and bring his peo - ple peace.____
 the pro - phet of sal - va - tion, the har - bin - ger of Day.____
 O bless our God and Sa - vior, with songs that nev - er cease.____

Voluntary: Prelude in E minor, BuxWV 143

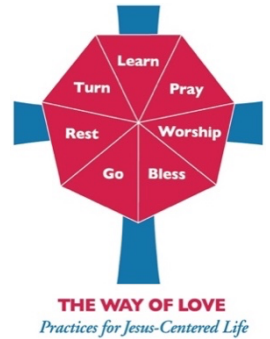
Dieterich Buxtehude (d. 1707)





December 17, 2022 – Advent 3 (B)
Third Week of Advent: Journeying with Community

As we continue our Advent walk, we invite you to see the Way of Love as a journey that includes the community. The witness of Zechariah and Elizabeth who bring infant John to the Temple to be circumcised reminds us of the importance of our faith community to sustaining the Way of Love. Just as the community did for John’s family, communities provide a place for discernment, sometimes challenging us and other times affirming us. Communities celebrate and mark important moments along the journey. For more Advent resources related to the Way of Love, visit episcopalchurch.org/wayoflove. There, you’ll find links to the full Advent curriculum *Journeying the Way of Love*, as well as *Living the Way of Love in Community*, a nine-session curriculum for use anytime.



Sunday, December 17
WORSHIP

Imagine the faces you’d like to see at church — an all-star list of folks you want to worship with. This could be people you know from summer camp when you were a kid, people who might have already died, people you work with — all your favorites. Commit to pray for those folks this week. And make a commitment to ask one of your all-stars to come to church with you in the next month.

Monday, December 18
TURN

Do you have amends or apologies or adjustments you need to make? Ask God to open your heart and mind to those opportunities for reconciliation and growth. Thank God for the gifts of mercy and love, and the courage to make the changes necessary. And then do your best, with God’s help, to make those changes.

Tuesday, December 19
LEARN

Read Luke 1:59-80. When Zechariah’s speech returns, he praises God. If you lost the power to speak for nine months like Zechariah did, what would be your first word of praise? Share this with your family, friends, and on social media.

Wednesday, December 20
PRAY

Pray along with the Collect for Advent 3, found on page 212 in *The Book of Common Prayer*. How will prayer guide you through the rest of the week? Set aside special

time today to focus your intentions on stirring up peace and spreading joy.

Thursday, December 21
BLESS

We know that angels are God’s special messengers to us, and that Gabriel spent intentional time with Mary, helping her to understand her part in God’s story. Who has shared an important lesson or their presence with you this week? Thank them today with a call or note.

Friday, December 22
GO

Go out into your neighborhood today. Where is God at work? Ask God to show you how you can celebrate that good work and name God’s presence in your community.

Saturday, December 23
REST

Set aside 30 minutes to spend in silence with your best friend today. Sure, it may feel a little weird to be silent on the phone or while sitting next to each other on the couch or across the table. Just give it a try. Make sure to set aside time after your silence to pray for each other and to say thanks for the time of rest.

Sunday, December 24
REST

The conventional wisdom is that new parents should rest when the baby is resting. Make sure you take some time out to rest with Baby Jesus — and marvel in the wonder of a fresh, new, clean, shiny, tiny, precious start. Take a nap and thank God for the gift of Jesus and for peace at Christmas.

GRACE NOTES

December 17 *The Third Sunday of Advent ~ Gaudete Sunday*

FOR PASTORAL ASSISTANCE

THE REV. ROWENA KEMP welcomes hearing from you. Please don't hesitate to contact her if there's something you'd like to discuss, and please contact her immediately, should there be an illness, hospitalization, or any other pastoral emergency that she should know about. [For such emergencies, please note Rev. Rowena's cell phone number: 203-209-4178.]

PEOPLE AND PLACES TO KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

A reminder: Tori Burns manages this list for us, and prayer requests need to be renewed after 2 weeks. Please communicate all prayer requests & updates with her (860-539-8790); (tburns@gracehartford.org).

- *Bishops and Clergy:* Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, Presiding Bishop; Jeffrey and Laura, Bishops of ECCT; and Rowena, Jerry, Annika, and Joseph, our priests.
- *Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:* **We pray for an increase in the membership of this parish, that we may have the hands and hearts to carry out thy will;** for the Episcopal Church in CT & the Anglican Communion; St. Stephen's, Bloomfield; St. George's, Bolton; Trinity, Branford; Calvary St. George's, Bridgeport; and those who advocate at the local, state, national, or global level for the poor, the lonely, and the oppressed. *The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea.*
- *World & Community Concerns:* For peace throughout the world, especially between Israel and Gaza and in the Middle East; in Sudan; and between Russia and Ukraine; for Christians being persecuted around the world, particularly in China and Palestine; for those who are suffering because of extreme climate; for the hungry and poor in our midst; and the volunteers who serve *A Place of Grace* food pantry.
- *Serving Our Country in the Military (especially those associated with Grace Church):* Brian, Spencer, Bradley, Curtis, Jordan, John, Carrington, William, Noel, James, Ryan, Michael, Karl, Alec, Jeff, David, Tom, Michael, and Charles.
- *Thanksgiving and Celebrations:* We give thanks and ask for thy blessings upon Josh Rowland (Sun.), whose birthday we celebrate this week.
- *Sick or in need:* Richard; Adrienne & Ken; Pamela & Bob; Tom & Elaine; Josephine, Melissa & Jaden; Sally; Jerry; Bonnie & the Burns Family; Errol, Norma & the Kemp Family; Ellen; Barbara; Nigel, Kraig & Deidre; Dick, Leanne, Aldon, Kim & Fiona; Carmen & Félix; Mary; Monica; Antoinette; Julia, Mike, André & Maria; Linda & the Galarza Family; Leonard; Joy; David; Maureen & the Blake Family; Chazmin; Miguelina & Family, Anthony & Gail, Cori and the Mackey Family; Brad, Mary, Leslie, Melissa; Joe; Margaret; Judy; Peter; Doug; Jane; Bill, Carolyn & Susan; Lynn; McJohn; Doreen; Karen; Terra; Ted; Kanata; Betty & John; Mary & Lou; Nelda Sue; Nazra; Diane; Nina; Ellen and Jim; Lauren, Alexandra & Anna; Mark & Diane; Jean; and all victims of natural and man-made disasters.
- *The Deceased:* We pray for the repose of Leonie McCartney, John Donnelly, Priest, Richard Beattie, Priest, all soldiers and civilians killed in war or civil strife, and in memory of Fred Morhardt, Sr., Eugene Michaud, Wallace Aitcheson, Kathleen Phillips, and Daphne Ross.

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE REV. ROWENA J. KEMP, RECTOR

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Rector's cell phone: 203-209-4178 Rector's email: RevRowena@gracehartford.org

Church e-mail: church@gracehartford.org Website: www.gracehartford.org



Visit "Grace Episcopal Church, Hartford, CT" on FACEBOOK.
Please join and help us spread the good news online!



THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Sunday, December 17 *The Third Sunday of Advent ~ Gaudete Sunday*

STEWARDSHIP IN-GATHERING

8:00 a.m.: Low Mass

10:30 a.m.: Sung Mass (*also on Facebook Live*)

Tuesday, December 19 *Advent Feria*

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS DEADLINE

10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.: Office Hours

5:00 p.m.: Vestry Meeting in Nason Hall

Wednesday, December 20 *Advent Feria*

9:15 a.m.: Low Mass (*also on Facebook Live*), followed by breakfast at Effie's

10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.: Office Hours

7:00 p.m.: Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 21 *SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE*

10:00 a.m.: "A Place of Grace" food pantry distribution

Friday, December 22 *Advent Feria*

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.: Office Hours

Sunday, December 24 *The Fourth Sunday of Advent*

8:00 a.m.: Low Mass

10:30 a.m.: Sung Mass (*also on Facebook Live*)

✧CHRISTMAS EVE✧

THE VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY

8:00 p.m. Musical Prelude with Carols of the Season for Choir and Congregation
(*also on Facebook Live*)

8:30 p.m. Solemn High Mass (*also on Facebook Live*), followed by reception

Monday, December 25 *THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST*

✧CHRISTMAS DAY✧

10:00 a.m.: Low Mass with Hymns (*also on Facebook Live*)



Visit "[Grace Episcopal Church, Hartford CT](#)" on FACEBOOK

Please join, and help us spread the good news online!



The Holy Innocents

Evensong by Haven

December 28th, 6:00 P.M.

at Grace Episcopal Church

