

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS

St. John's Episcopal Church, Ithaca NY  
December 15, 2019 10:30 AM

### PRELUDE

*Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* (Savior of the Nations, Come)

J. S. Bach (1685-1750) and J. Pachelbel (1653-1706)

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN** Lo, he comes with clouds descending (Helmsley)

**HYMNAL #57**

### \* THE BIDDING PRAYER

Beloved in Christ, in this season of Advent, let it be our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, to see the Babe lying in a manger. Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by his holy Child; and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise. But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this city. And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless; the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love. Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one. *Amen.*

### FIRST LESSON

Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of Eden

**GENESIS 3:1-15**

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,  
cursed are you among all animals  
and among all wild creatures;  
upon your belly you shall go,  
and dust you shall eat  
all the days of your life.  
I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and hers;  
he will strike your head,  
and you will strike his heel."

The Word of the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God*

**ANTHEM**

Lord, we beseech Thee

Adrian Batten (c.1591-c.1637)

*Lord, we beseech thee, give ear unto our prayers, and by thy gracious visitation lighten the darkness of our hearts,  
by our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.*

[Book of Common Prayer, Collect for Advent III, 1549]

**SECOND LESSON**

Salvation is at hand

**BARUCH 4:36-5:9**

Look toward the east, O Jerusalem, and see the joy that is coming to you from God. Look, your children are coming, whom you sent away; they are coming, gathered from east and west, at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing in the glory of God.

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

The Word of the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God*

**ANTHEM**

Arise, shine, for thy light is come

George Elvey (1816-1893)

*Arise, shine for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.  
For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people;  
but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee,  
And the gentiles shall come to thy light And kings to the brightness of thy rising.*

[Isaiah 60: 1-3]

**THIRD LESSON****ISAIAH 7: 10-15**

God promises that a child shall be conceived who will be known as "God with us."

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God*

**\*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** The Word whom earth and sea adore (Song 34) **HYMNAL #264**

**FOURTH LESSON**

A new covenant is promised

**JEREMIAH 31: 31-34**

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt-- a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD.

But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more."

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God*

**ANTHEM**

Thou shalt know Him when He comes

Paul Lohman, 2010

*In the stillness is the Word: bearing promise and comfort and hope for which we wait, but how long this time of waiting for the One who's coming soon, for the dawning, the knowing, the Light, the Way, the Word?*

*Thou shalt know Him when he comes, not by any din of drums, not his manners nor his airs, nor by anything he wears. Thou shalt know him when he comes, not by his crown or by his gown, but his coming known shall be by the holy harmony which his coming makes in thee.*

*But how long this time of waiting for the One who's coming soon, for the dawning, the knowing. Thou shalt know him not by crown, thou shalt know him, not by gown, but his coming known shall be by the holy harmony which his coming makes in thee.*

[Anonymous, 15th C.]

**FIFTH LESSON**

The prophet proclaims that God will come and save us

**ISAIAH 35: 1-10**

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;  
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,  
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.  
They shall see the glory of the LORD,  
the majesty of our God.  
Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble knees.  
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
"Be strong, do not fear!  
Here is your God.  
He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.  
He will come and save you."

The Word of the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God*

\* **CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** Hark a thrilling voice is sounding (Merton)

**HYMNAL #59**

**SIXTH LESSON** The one who is to rule Israel will be born in the village of Bethlehem **MICAH 5: 2-4**

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.  
Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has brought forth;  
then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.  
And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth.

The Word of the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God*

**ANTHEM**

And the glory of the Lord

George F. Handel (1685-1759)

*And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together:  
for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it." [Isaiah 50:5]*

**PRAYER**

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

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Born a Stranger

Crawford R. Thoburn, 2016

*Before the paling of the stars, before the winter morn,  
Before the earliest cock crow, Jesus Christ was born:  
Born in a stable, cradled in a manger,  
In the world his hands had made - born a stranger.*

*Priest and king lay fast asleep in Jerusalem;  
Young and old lay fast asleep in crowded Bethlehem;  
Saint and angel, ox and ass, kept a watch together  
Before the Christmas daybreak in the winter weather.*

*Jesus on his mother's breast in the stable cold,  
Spotless lamb of God was he, shepherd of the fold:  
Let us kneel with Mary maid, with Joseph bent and hoary,  
With saint and angel, ox and ass, to hail the King of Glory.*

*Born in a stable, cradled in a manger,  
In the world his hands had made - born a stranger.* [Christina Rossetti, 1830-1894]

### PRESENTATION HYMN

Let all mortal flesh keep silence (Picardy)

HYMNAL #324

### \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B

Expansive Language Booklet

### SANCTUS

HYMNAL #S-114

### AGNUS DEI

HYMNAL #S-158

### THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*All people are invited to the Lord's Table. Traditionally, people are baptized before they receive communion for the first time. If you would like to be baptized, please talk to Mtr. Megan. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.*

COMMUNION HYMN O come, O come Emmanuel (Veni, veni, Emmanuel) HYMNAL #56 vs. 6-8

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

### BLESSING

### \* RECESSIONAL HYMN

Rejoice, rejoice believers (Llangloffan)

HYMNAL #68

### POSTLUDE

*Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* (Savior of the Nations, Come) Samuel Scheidt (1587-1654)

**GREETERS** Margaret Johnson

**ACOLYTES** Amber Massa Crowley, Matthew Stedinger

**LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS** Gwen Freeman, Pam Talbott

**READERS** Jerome Fung, Catherine Kondi, Jennifer Amburg, Mike Roman, Ben Dean,  
and The Rev. Megan Castellan

*Today's altar flowers are given in memory of Rose Calloway by her son, Robert Saulsbury.*

*We remember Rose Calloway, mother of Robert Saulsbury,  
in whose memory the Eucharistic and Aumbry candles are given this month.*

Please keep the following in your prayers this week:

Sandy	Joan	Susan	Wes	Nathan	Julio	Cardona
Dhara	Lorraine	Edith	Carol	Edwin	Lisa	Cymbaline
Julee	Suzy	Paul	Mark	Jean	Jesse	Virginia
Jimmy	Pat	Bill	Ann	Billy	Christopher	
John	Jimmy	CeCe	Benji	Jean	John	

**St. John's extends a warm welcome to visitors!**

**May you experience the Lord's presence during worship. Please fill out a visitor card and place it in the offering plate and stay for coffee in the parish hall after the service.**

**Birthdays December 15-21, 2019**

Beverly Beer, Susan Shell

**ITHACA KITCHEN CUPBOARD SUPPLY NEEDS**

January 5, 2020	Non Perishable food items
December 15	Personal Hygiene items

**IN PREPARATION FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING ON JANUARY 19, 2020** please take note that qualified voters are defined by NYS law and the canons of the Diocese as follows: persons of full age belonging to the parish, who have been baptized and are in regular attendance at its worship and contributors to its support for at least twelve months prior (i.e., since January 2019).

If you have any question about your membership at St. John's, please contact AnnMarie in the office for clarification. If you are new to St John's since February 2019, and have not yet transferred your membership in writing, please contact the office so that you will be eligible to vote in 2020. If you have not been a regular contributor (i.e. made and fulfilled a pledge or been a regular contributor of record), please contact the Treasurer (Mary Arlin) to rectify this before December 31.

Anyone standing for election as a vestry member must meet these same qualifications. Wardens and delegates must also be confirmed members of The Episcopal Church.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS** Please see the green forms at the front and back of the church if you would like to contribute to the Christmas Flowers fund in memory of a loved one.

**2020 STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES** are on the back table in alphabetical order. If you don't see yours, please contact the office.

**GIVING TREE GIFTS** Please be sure to bring your wrapped (tag on the OUTSIDE) gifts back by Tuesday!

**GREENING OF THE CHURCH Sunday, December 24th** Join us after the 10:30 service in the church sanctuary *What To Bring:* Work gloves, wire cutters, screw drivers, scissors, pruning shears and dress for a mess! The Altar Guild supplies the greens, fir trees, bows and candles. There will be warm cider and some sweet treats! Everyone is welcome! You don't have to be an interior designer to help; every pair of hands is welcome. Children are welcome to attend and help with their families since there will be no childcare provided. We'll set up the sanctuary trees and nativity scene, too. It will be more fun if you come! *Come join the fun and be amazed at how beautiful our sanctuary looks when we are done!*

#### ADVENT/ CHRISTMAS SERVICE SCHEDULE

**ADVENT IV** Sunday, December 22

8:00 A.M. Rite 1 Holy Eucharist, 10:30 A.M. Rite 2 Holy (Choral) Eucharist

**CHRISTMAS EVE** Monday, December 24

**4:00 P. M.** Holy Communion with Carols and Organ, Prelude by Balcony Bells

**9:30 P. M.** Prelude with soprano soloist Nicole Wills - **Please Note New Time!**

**10:00 P. M.** Festive Choral Eucharist - **Please Note New Time!**

**CHRISTMAS DAY** Tuesday, December 25

10:30 A. M. Holy Eucharist with Carols; George Damp, guest organist



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**Office Hours** Monday- Thursday 9 AM- 1 PM, 1:30- 4:30 PM

**The Rev. Megan Castellan, Rector**

Pamela Talbott, Sr. Warden

AnnMarie Hautaniemi, Parish Administrator

Karen A. Hindenlang, Director of Music/Organist

Sara Van Looy, Jr. Warden

Chuck Merrill, Weekday Sexton

Crawford R. Thoburn, Assisting Conductor

Today            8:00 AM    Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
                      Between Services: 3rd Sunday Parish Breakfast/ Adult Forum  
                      10:30 AM    Lessons and Carols for Advent  
                      12:00 PM    Balcony Bells Rehearsal  
Tuesday            5:30 PM    Mid-week Eucharist  
                      6:00 PM    Education for Ministry/ Chapman Room  
Thursday            7:00 PM    Choir Rehearsal  
Sunday Dec 22    8:00 AM    Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
                      10:30 AM    Holy (Choral) Eucharist, Rite 2  
                      After the Service: The Greening of the Church