

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY

Service of Antecommunion

St. John's Episcopal Church

Ithaca, NY 14850

Date Year B

stjohnsithaca.org

Hymns can be found at the end of the bulletin.

Prelude *Pastorale on Adeste Fideles* - Devid Shelat, 2014

Hymn: Angels from the Realms of Glory

Hymnal # 93 vs. 1, 2, & 4

Opening Acclamation

BCP 355

Gloria

Hymn # 96 vs. 1 & 3

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Lesson

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

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.
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the Lord will give.
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

- 13 Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;
- 14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
he has blessed your children within you.
- 15 He has established peace on your borders; *
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.
- 16 He sends out his command to the earth, *
and his word runs very swiftly.
- 17 He gives snow like wool; *
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
- 18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against his cold?
- 19 He sends forth his word and melts them; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
- 20 He declares his word to Jacob, *
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.
- 21 He has not done so to any other nation; *
to them he has not revealed his judgments.
Hallelujah!

Epistle

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

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem : A Virgin Most Pure

English Carol, arr. C. R. Thoburn, 2014

A virgin most pure, as the Prophets do tell,
Hath brought forth a baby, as it hath befell,
To be our Redeemer from death, hell and sin,
Which Adam's transgression had wrapped us in.

Then God sent an Angel from Heaven so high,
To certain poor Shepherds in fields where they lye,
And bade them no longer in sorrow to stay,
Because that our Saviour was born on this day.

Then presently after the Shepherds did spy
A number of Angels that stood in the sky;
Who joyfully talkèd and sweetly did sing,
To God be all glory our Heavenly King.

To teach us Humility all this was done,
Then learn we from hence haughty pride for to shun;
A Manger's his Cradle, who came from above,
The Great God of Mercy, of Peace, and of Love.

Gospel

John 1:1-18

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

Sermon

The Rev. Megan Castellan

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

Prayers of the People: Form III

BCP 387

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

For the special needs and concerns of our congregation, and especially for:

Wes	Dhara	Theodore	Virginia	Joell	Alana
Jean	Julee	Paul	John	Linda	Josephine
Susan	Lorraine	Louis	Jimmy	James	Fred
Joan	Edith	Kay	Ruth	Lisa	Amy
CeCe	Libby	Joyce	June	Keith	Dick
Elizabeth	John	Sue	Mary	Jeanne	Karen
Richard	Kathleen	Skip	Clare	Sheila	

For those celebrating the anniversary of their birth this week: David D'Aprix, Elaine LaRocque, Michael Roman

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

Hymn: Once in Royal David's City

Hymnal # 102 vs. 1, 2 & 4

Peace

Dismissal

Postlude Festive Finale on *Joy to the World* - Mary Beth Bennett, 2014

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
 2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your
 4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in

all the earth; ye, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 flocks by night, God with you is now re - sid - ing:
 hope and fear, sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,

Refrain

now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 yon - der shines the in - fant Light: come and wor - ship,
 in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854), alt.
 Music: *Regent Square*, Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879)

87. 87. 87

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -

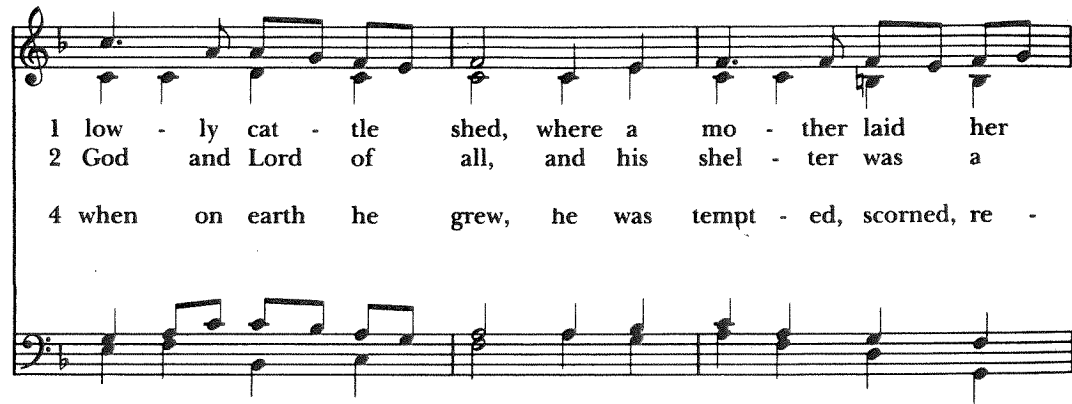
- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt.
Music: *Gloria*, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958)


77. 77 with Refrain



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's ci - ty stood a
 2 He came down to earth from hea - ven. who is
 4 For he is our life - long pat - tern; dai - ly,



1 low - ly cat - tle shed, where a mo - ther laid her
 2 God and Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a
 4 when on earth he grew, he was tempt - ed, scorned, re -



1 ba - by in a man - ger for his bed: Ma - ry
 2 sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall; with the
 4 ject - ed, tears and smiles like us he knew. Thus he

1 was that mo - ther mild, — Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child. —
2 poor, the scorned, the low - ly, lived on earth our Sa - vior ho - ly.
4 teels for all our sad - ness, and he shares in all our glad - ness.

Words: Sts. 1-2 and 4-6, Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895), alt.;
st. 3, James Waring McCrady (b. 1938)

Music: *Irby*, melody Henry John Gauntlett (1805-1876); harm. Arthur Henry Mann (1850-1929)

87. 87. 77



St. John's Church

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The Rev. Megan Castellan, Rector

Sara Van Looy, Sr. Warden

AnnMarie Hautaniemi, Parish Administrator

Karen A. Hindenlang, Director of Music/Organist

Matthew Sanaker, Jr. Warden

Chuck Merrill, Weekday Sexton

Crawford R. Thoburn, Assisting Conductor

Office Hours: M-W-F 1pm- 4pm, Tu- Thurs 10am-2pm

Although the office has limited hours* for the duration of the pandemic, e-mail, regular mail and phone messages will be monitored. If you need pastoral assistance, or just want to reach out to Mtr. Megan, please call her at 315-757-0251, or e-mail mtrmegan@stjohnsithaca.org.

MANY THANKS to our newest choral scholar Amelia Paulson for singing our hymns this morning!

CYBER CHOIR will be open to new members in late January. We'd welcome a few more fearless, fun-loving singers willing to lend their voices to our parish in worship, Contact Karen Hindenlang through the church office for more information, and ask any of our current participants for encouragement.

PHOTOS add a special dimension to Karen's prelude and postlude videos in worship. Please contribute local, seasonal, favorite images to this worthy cause by sending them to the church; thank you!

If you would like to contribute to our ministries, you may [make a secure donation here](#). Thank you!

Sign up for our weekly newsletter [The Fledgling](#) by contacting the church office.

Please Join Us

Coffee Hour, today at 11:30 on zoom <https://zoom.us/j/91221585167>

Join us for Morning Prayer weekdays at 9:30 on [FaceBook](#) & [YouTube](#).

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