

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

St. John's Episcopal Church, Ithaca NY

November 28, 2021 Year C

10:30 AM

* Indicates please stand

Prelude Sleepers, Wake! (*Wachet auf*), BWV 645 J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

***Hymn** Sleepers, wake! (*Wachet auf*) **Hymnal # 61 vs. 1 & 2**

***Opening Acclamation**

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen

***Collect for Purity**

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.*

***Kyrie**

Hymnal # S-91

***The Collect of The Day**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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 Lesson

Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to
shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in
their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O Lord, *
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and
love, *
for they are from everlasting.

- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and
my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness,
O Lord.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the Lord are love and
faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his
testimonies.

The Epistle Reading

1 Thessalonians 3:9–13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***The Gospel Reading**

Luke 21:25–36

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole

earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Megan Castellan

*The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

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.

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.

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 Lord will come and will not keep silent, gathering us into the kingdom of his love. In anticipation of the one who saves, we offer our prayers, responding to each petition by saying, "Come, Lord Jesus."

+ Architect of creation, channel our vision, that the perplexities and distresses of this age may call forth our creative response as we await the age to come; for this we pray.

Come, Lord Jesus.

+ Physician of the sick, assist those who suffer from diseases that ravage body and soul, enlighten the understandings of research scientists, and guide us into models of effective health care for all people; for this we pray.

Come, Lord Jesus.

+ Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, that we may be signs of hope to the hungry, the homeless, and all who live with unrelenting fear and anxiety; for this we pray.

Come, Lord Jesus.

+ Eternal Wisdom, pour upon the leaders of Church and state the wise judgment needed in these challenging times, and awaken them to the truth and power of your word; for this we pray.

Come, Lord Jesus.

+ Holy Lord, keep us awake to the signs that are placed before us, strengthen us in our life of prayer and devotion, and give us the integrity to stand firm in your presence; for this we pray.

Come, Lord Jesus.

+ Gracious God, be with those who have died in the faith, and welcome them into your eternal rest; for this we pray.

Come, Lord Jesus.

+ God of earthly rhythms, arouse us to the movements of the natural order and to the spiritual voices of this Advent season, instilling within us a deep longing for the birth of Christ within our hearts; for this we pray.

Come, Lord Jesus.

In confidence that the turmoil of the present age will usher in the new order of God's reign and dominion, let us continue our prayers, either silently or aloud.

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

Dave	Cindy	Felice	Theodore	Pat
Amelia	Dan	Edith	Margaret	Lorraine
Dani	Wes	Elaine	Elaine	Tina
Mary	Jean	Joan	Sara	Carl
Tom	Vivian	Cathey	John	Jennifer
Giovanni	Sarah	Laurie	Judy	Ovie

For those celebrating the anniversary of their birth this week.:

Mattison Oakes, Nancy Leeming, Richard Smith

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*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.*

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**

Please remain in your pew. Wave!

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Announcements & Welcome

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Anthem *Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God* - G. F. Handel (1685-1750), arr. H. Hopson

Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God, come: thy truth unseal, thy love reveal. Lord, hear thou in mercy our prayer to thee. For thee we long, hear thou our prayer. To thee be glory now and evermore.

***Offertory Hymn** *Come, thou long expected Jesus (Stuttgart)* **Hymnal # 66**

*The Great Thanksgiving

Expanded Language Prayer A

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 our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: *continuing:* 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:

Holy, holy, holy (Sanctus)

Hymnal # S-114

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had fallen into sin and became subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, Sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, He gave it to them, and said "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died

Christ is risen

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day, bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Fraction Anthem **Lamb of God** (*Agnus Dei*)

Hymnal # S-158

The Communion of the People

All people are invited to the Lord's Table. Eucharist will be distributed in the form of the bread with wine available for intincture. Please come forward in a single line in the center aisle to receive. Wait to remove your mask until you return to your seat, and then replace it after consuming the Sacrament.

Post Communion Prayer

*Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Blessing

***Hymn** Lo! he comes with clouds descending (*Helmsley*)

Hymnal # 57 vs. 1 & 4

Dismissal

Postlude Sleepers, Wake! (*Wachet auf*)

Charles Callahan, 2006

Liturgical Ministers: Beverly Way, Peg Coleman, Susie Backstrom

The Eucharistic and Aumbry candles this month are Given to the Glory of God in memory of Patricia and Walter Talbott by Pamela Talbott.

Choral Music Sung by the St. John's Cyber Choir

***-HYMNS for the First Sunday in Advent**
28 November 2021

Processional: Sleepers, wake!
Hymnal # 61

1 “Sleepers, wake!” A voice astounds us.
The shout of rampart guards surrounds us:
“Awake, Jerusalem, arise!”
Midnight’s peace their cry has broken,
their urgent summons clearly spoken:
“The time has come, O maidens wise!
Rise up, and give us light.
The Bridegroom is in sight.
Alleluia!
Your lamps prepare and hasten there,
that you the wedding feast may share.”

2 When we hear the heralds singing,
and in our hearts new joy is springing;
we wake, and rise up from our gloom;
for our Friend comes down all-glorious,
the strong in grace, in truth victorious;
our Star is risen, our Light is come!
Now come, O blessed One,
God's own beloved Son,
Alleluia!
Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
and follow to the banquet hall!

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Presentation: Come, thou long expected
Jesus
Hymnal # 66

1 Come, thou long expected Jesus
born to set Thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in Thee.

2 Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

3 Born thy people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

4 By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Recessional: Lo! he comes with clouds
descending
Hymnal #57

1 Lo! he comes with clouds descending,
once for favored sinners slain;
thousand, thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

God appears on earth to reign.
4 Now Redemption, long expected,
see in solemn pomp appear!
All his saints, by man rejected,
now shall meet him in the air.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
See the day of God appear!



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"Like" us on facebook @ Saint John's Episcopal Church

Office Hours Monday thru Thursday 10-3

The Rev. Megan Castellan, Rector

Matthew Sanaker, Sr. Warden

Parish Administrator

Karen A. Hindenlang, Director of Music/Organist

Lynne Walton, Intern

Cora Yao, Jr. Warden

Chuck Merrill, Weekday Sexton

Crawford R. Thoburn, Assisting Conductor

George E. Damp, Guest Organist

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.

If you would like to contribute to our ministries, you may make a secure donation at <https://stjohnsithaca.org/donate/>. Thank you!

Sign up for our weekly newsletter The Fledgling by contacting the church office.

Cyber Choir continues this Advent and welcomes new participants. For info, see our Director of Music/Organist Karen Hindenlang after the service or contact her through the church office.

Forward Day by Day for November, December, January is available on the table in the rear of the church.

CHRISTMAS ALTAR FLOWERS

Anyone wishing to donate toward the Christmas flowers and wreaths that adorn the nave during Christmas may do so by placing a check in the offering plate, noted Christmas Flowers; or you can mail a check to the church. If you wish the flowers to be in memory of a loved one, please note that name below, tear off, and return this slip with your check. **All names must be received by December 22nd at the latest to insure inclusion in the bulletin.**

Christmas flowers Donated by _____ in memory of _____

Please Join Us:

Coffee Hour today in the Parish Hall. Please continue to wear your mask when you are not actively eating or drinking.

Join us for Morning Prayer weekdays at 9:30 on FaceBook & YouTube.

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