

# THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

St. John's Episcopal Church, Ithaca NY

November 27, 2022 Year A

**10:30 AM**

\* Indicates please stand

**Prelude** Nun komm der Heiden Heiland BWV 659

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

**\*Processional Hymn** The King shall come when morning dawn (*St Stephen*)

**Hymnal #73**

**\*Opening Acclamation**

**BCP 355**

**\*Collect For Purity**

**\*Gloria**

**Hymnal #S-277**

## The Collect of the Day

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

**Isaiah**

**2:1-5**

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

O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the Lord!

**The Word of the Lord.**

*Thanks be to God.*

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 Jerusalem.  
 3 Jerusalem is built as a city \*  
 that is at unity with itself;  
 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 Jerusalem: \*  
 "May they prosper who love you.  
 7 Peace be within your walls \*  
 and quietness within your towers.  
 8 For my brethren and companions'  
 sake, \*  
 I pray for your prosperity.  
 9 Because of the house of the Lord our  
 God, \*  
 I will seek to do you good."

**The Epistle Reading**

**Romans 13:11-14**

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.

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

**Sequence** Savior of the nations, come! (*Nun komm der Heiden Heiland*)

**Hymnal #54**

**\*The Gospel Reading**

**Matthew 24:36-44**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according Matthew  
*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."

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.

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

Let us offer our prayers to God, who clothes us in the armor of light and offers us the gift of immortal life, responding, "O come, O come, Emmanuel."

+ For peace throughout the world, that swords of destruction may become tools for industry, and spears of war the word that pierces every heart with the light of hope; let us pray.

*O come, O come, Emmanuel.*

+ For the grace to choose the path that leads to eternal life, generously giving toward the relief of poverty and despair, homelessness and fear, so that through our actions the saving love of Christ may be revealed; let us pray.

*O come, O come, Emmanuel.*

+ For the leaders of the nations of the world, that power be tempered by wisdom, and the quest for money be seen as a false strength; let us pray.

*O come, O come, Emmanuel.*

+ For Christians throughout the world, especially those who endure religious persecution and the prejudice of unfriendly governments, that our prayers may empower them in their time of need; let us pray.

*O come, O come, Emmanuel.*

+ That we may hunger for the teachings of the Lord, seeking opportunities for education, bible study, and fellowship with those who follow the way of Jesus; let us pray.

*O come, O come, Emmanuel.*

+ In thanksgiving for those who stay awake in the dark corners of human experience, abiding faithfully with those whose faith is shallow and whose fears are great; let us pray.

*O come, O come, Emmanuel.*

+ In thanksgiving for the life-giving gifts of those who have died, leaving us a harvest of love from which to eat for years to come; let us pray.

*O come, O come, Emmanuel.*

In anticipation of Jesus' dwelling amongst us, let us continue the offering of our prayers.

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

Theodore	Sara	Lorraine	Mary	Chris
Carol	Linda	Charlie	Sue	James
Lorraine	Park	Kathryn	Deborah	Harry
John	Mark	Richard	Theresa	
Loraine	Debra	Katie	Jan	
Edith	Shirley	Jason	Linda	
Stanley	Janice	Michele	Jack	
Dave	Anne	Cale	Julianne	
Joan	Cece	Emily	Maggi	

For those celebrating the anniversary of their birth this week:

Cameron Park-Miller, Mattison Oakes

### **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 pews. Wave!*

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

**Announcements & Welcome**

**Offertory Sentence**

**Anthem** This is the truth sent from above

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

**\*Presentation Hymn** Hark! A thrilling vice is sounding (*Merton*)

**Hymnal #59**

**\*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-124**

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-161**

### **The Communion of the People**

*All people are invited to the Lord's Table.*

*Eucharist will be distributed in the center aisle. Please come forward in a single line to receive.*

*You may either intinct your wafer in the small chalice, or you may drink from the larger common chalice after consuming the wafer.*

*Please replace your mask after receiving the sacrament.*

*Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

### **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**

**\*Recessional** Lo! He comes with clouds descending (*St. Thomas*)

**Hymnal #58**

### **Dismissal**

**Postlude** Nun komm der Heiden Heiland BWV 661

J.S. Bach

**Liturgical Ministers:** Jeffrey Bowen, Michael Roman, Margaret Johnson

**Virtual Vergers** Matthew Sanaker, Mike Roman

**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.**

**LARGE PRINT EDITIONS OF THE SERVICE ARE AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX**

## **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 20nd at the latest to insure inclusion in the bulletin.**

Christmas flowers Donated by \_\_\_\_\_ in memory of

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St. John's Church

210 North Cayuga Street

Ithaca, NY

(607)-273-6532

[www.stjohnsithaca.org](http://www.stjohnsithaca.org)

Office email: [office@stjohnsithaca.org](mailto:office@stjohnsithaca.org)

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

**Office Hours** Monday thru Thursday 10–3

**The Rev. Megan Castellan, Rector**

Cora Yao, Senior Warden

Parish Administrator, Cathy Wagner

Director of Music/Organist, Anna Stepler

Gwen Freeman, Junior Warden

Chuck Merrill, Weekday Sexton

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](mailto: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.

**Please Join Us:**

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

Morning Prayer Monday – Thursday at 9:30 on Facebook and YouTube.

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

**2023 PLEDGE ENVELOPES**, for those who use them, are on the table in the back of the nave. They are sorted alphabetically by last name. Please pick up your envelopes and take them home with you at your earliest convenience. If you do not find your envelopes, or have never had envelopes and wish to begin using them, please contact the parish office: (607) 273-6532 or [office@stjohnsithaca.org](mailto:office@stjohnsithaca.org).