

**The Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
**A Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols**  
St. John's Episcopal Church, Ithaca NY  
18 December 2022 Year A  
10:30 AM

**Prelude** 'O' Antiphons Sequence: *O Oriens: O Emmanuel* Cecilia McDowall (b. 1951)

**\*Processional Hymn** O come, O come Emmanuel (*Veni, veni Emmanuel*) **Hymnal #56 vv 1-3, 7-8**

**\* THE BIDDING PRAYER**

Dear People of God: In the season of Advent, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, 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 justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this city.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore.

And now, to gather all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us, saying:

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name thy kingdom come thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.*

The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. *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** Jesus Christ the apple tree, Somerset folk song

arr. Alan Bullard (b. 1947)

*The tree of life my soul hath seen,  
Laden with fruit and always green:  
The trees of nature fruitless be  
Compared with Christ the apple tree.*

*His beauty doth all things excel:  
By faith I know, but ne'er can tell,  
The glory which I now can see  
In Jesus Christ the apple tree.*

*For happiness I long have sought,  
And pleasure dearly I have bought:*

*I missed of all; but now I see  
'Tis found in Christ the apple tree.*

*I'm weary with my former toil,  
Here I will sit and rest awhile:  
Under the shadow I will be  
Of Jesus Christ the apple tree.*

*This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,  
It keeps my dying faith alive;  
Which makes my soul in haste to be  
With Jesus Christ the apple tree.*

**Second Lesson** God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption **Isaiah 40:1–11**

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

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

\* **Congregational Hymn** Christ is the world's true Light (*St. Joan*)

**Hymnal #542**

**Third 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** Adam lay y bounden

Boris Ord (1897–1961)

*Adam lay y bounden, bounden in a bond  
Four thousand winter thought he not too long.*

*Ne had the apple taken been, the apple taken been  
Ne had never our lady a been heavene queene.*

*And all was for an apple, an apple that he took  
As clerkes finden written in their boke.*

*Blessed be the time that apple taken was  
Therefore we moun singen: Deo gracias.*

**Fourth Lesson** The Scribe Baruch urges the people to look East because 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*

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

**Isaiah 7:10–15**

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*

**Anthem** Come, Thou Redeemer of the earth

Michael Praetorius (1571–1621), arr. R. H. Haan

*Come, Thou Redeemer of the earth,  
And manifest Thy virgin birth.  
Let ev'ry age adoring fall;  
Such birth befits the God of all.*

*Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,  
And darkness breathe a newer light,  
Where endless faith shall shine serene,  
And twilight never intervene.*

*Begotten of no human will,  
But of the Spirit, Thou art still  
The Word of God in flesh arrayed,  
The promised fruit to man displayed.*

*All laud to God the Father be;  
All praise, eternal Son, to Thee;  
All glory, as is ever meet,  
To God the Holy Paraclete.  
Amen.*

**Sixth Lesson** God promises a new heaven and a new earth

**Isaiah 65:17–25**

For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed. They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord—and their descendants as well. Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent—its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God*

**\*Congregational Hymn** We're marching to Zion

**LEVAS #12**

**Seventh Lesson** The Angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will bear the Son of the Most High

**Luke 1:26–56**

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

And Mary said:

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly  
servant.

From this day on all generations will call me  
blessed:

the Almighty has done great things for me  
and holy is his name.

He has mercy on those who fear him,  
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm;

he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their  
thrones,  
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel,  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his children for ever."

Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell!*  
*This is the salutation of th'angel Gabriel!*

Tidings true there be come new,  
Sent from the Trinity  
By Gabriel to Nazareth,  
City of Galilee.  
“A clean maiden, a pure virgin,  
By her humility  
Shall now conceive the Person  
Second in deity.”

When he first presented was  
Before her fair visage,  
In most demure and goodly wise  
He did to her homage;  
And said, “Lady, from heav’n so high,  
That Lordes heritage,  
The which of thee born would be  
I am sent on message.”

“Hail, virgin celestial,  
The meek’st that ever was!

Hail, temple of the Deity!  
Hail, mirror of all grace!  
Hail, virgin pure! I thee ensure,  
Within a little space  
Thou shalt conceive, and him receive  
That shall bring great solace.”

Then bespake the maid again,  
And answered womanly,  
“Whate’er my Lord commandeth me  
I will obey truly.”  
With “*Ecce sum hummilima*  
*Ancilla Domini:*  
*Secundum verbum tuum,*”  
She said, “*Fiat mihi.*”

[“behold, I am the most humble servant of the  
Lord: according to your word,” she said “so let  
it be for me”]

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell Nowell!*  
*This is the salutation of th'angel Gabriel!*

### **The Collect of the Day**

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *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**

**\* Presentation 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-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**

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.*

**\* Recessional Hymn**      Hark! The glad sound! (*Bristol*)

**Hymnal #71**

**Postlude**      Fugue on the *Magnificat* BWV 733

J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

**Acolytes** Amber Massa, Sonja Sandstrom

**Virtual Vergers** Michael Roman, Sara VanLooy

**Readers** Sara VanLooy, Mary Beth James, Gwen Freeman, Matthew Sanaker, Jim Johnson, Margaret Johnson, Mike Roman

*Many thanks to all the members of our Chancel Choir for their contribution to this service.*

The Eucharistic and Aumbry candles this month are Given to the Glory of God by Jane Peck in memory of her parents, the Rev. Charles Briggs Shaver and Martha Bolles Shaver

**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 hour after the service in the parish hall.**

Birthdays December 18-24, 2022

Tim Schmidle, Alice Wagner, Phoebe Hain, Gabriel Hain

Please keep the following in your prayers this week:

Theodore	Lorraine	Loraine	Stanley	Joan	Linda
Carol	John	Edith	Dave	Sara	Park



Mark	Lorraine	Michele	Jan	James	George
Debra	Charlie	Cale	Linda	Lisa	Gloria
Shirley	Kathryn	Emily	Jack	Tracy	
Janice	Richard	Sue	Julianne	Denise	
Anne	Katie	Deborah	Maggi	Deb	
Cece	Jason	Theresa	Chris	Allison	

**2023 Stewardship Envelopes** are on the back table in alphabetical order. If you don't see yours, please contact the office.

**The Christmas Giving Tree Is Back!** Our traditional Giving Tree is here again, and we need your help in making the season brighter for some of the neediest members of our community. This year we have families from GIAC (families 1, 2, 3 & 4), and gift requests from Ithaca Welcomes Refugees. If you are purchasing gift cards, or giving a check or cash, please place these inside an envelope, seal it and tape the corresponding tag firmly so we know where your contribution goes. No need to wrap the envelopes. However, if you are purchasing gifts for the families, please wrap them, firmly tape the tag to each gift and return to the parish office no later than the morning of **MONDAY DECEMBER 19th**. We couldn't do this without the support of the entire parish! If you have any questions please contact Florianna at 607-592-3245 or [fgb29@cornell.edu](mailto:fgb29@cornell.edu).

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

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**Greening of the Church.** Join us after the 10:30 service in the church sanctuary The Altar Guild supplies the greens, fir trees, bows and candles. There will be warm cider and donut holes! 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. We'll set up the sanctuary trees too. It will be more fun if you come, and it's a great way to meet other parishioners!

***Come join the fun and be amazed at how beautiful our sanctuary looks when we are done!***

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## Hymns

### **O come, O come, Emmanuel (*Veni, veni Emmanuel*) Hymnal #56**

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

*Refrain:*

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to you thee, O Israel.

2 O come, O Wisdom from on high,  
who orderest all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show,  
and teach us in her ways to go. *Refrain*

3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might,  
who to your tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times didst give the law,  
in cloud and majesty and awe. *Refrain*

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
in one the hearts of all mankind;  
bid all our sad divisions cease  
and be thyself our King of Peace. *Refrain*

8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

### **Christ is the world's true Light. (*St. Joan*) Hymnal 542**

1 Christ is the world's true light,  
Its Captain of salvation,  
The Day-star clear and bright  
Of every race and nation;  
New life, new hope awakes,  
For all who own his sway;  
Freedom her bondage breaks,  
And night is turned to day.

2 In Christ all races meet,  
Their ancient feuds forgetting,  
The whole round world complete,  
From sunrise to its setting:  
When Christ is throned as Lord,  
Men shall forsake their fear,  
To ploughshare bear the sword,  
To pruning-hook the spear.

3 One Lord, in one great Name  
Unite us all who own thee;  
Cast out our pride and shame  
That hinder to enthrone thee;  
The world has waited long,  
Has travailed long in pain;  
To heal its ancient wrong,  
Come, Prince of Peace, and reign.

Words: By permission of Oxford University Press.

### **Sleepers wake (*Wachet auf*) 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!

3 All the heavens and earth adore you,  
and saints and angels sing before you,  
with harp and cymbal's clearest tone;  
gates of gleaming pearl before us  
resound as angels sing in chorus  
and lead us to your dazzling throne.  
No eye has seen that light,  
no ear the echoed might  
of your glory;  
but we rejoice and sing the song,  
Alleluia! through ages long.

Words: © 1982, Carl P Daw, Jr.

**We're marching to Zion**  
**LEVAS 312**

1 Come, we that love the lord,  
and let our joys be known,  
join in a song of sweet accord,  
join in a song of sweet accord,  
and thus surround the throne,  
and thus surround the throne.

*Refrain*

We're marching to Zion,  
beautiful, beautiful Zion,  
we're marching upward to Zion,  
the beautiful city of god.

2 Let those refuse to sing  
who never knew our god,  
but children of the heavenly king,  
but children of the heavenly king  
may speak their joys abroad,  
may speak their joys abroad.

*Refrain*

3 The hill of Zion yields  
a thousand sacred sweets  
before we reach the heavenly fields,  
before we reach the heavenly fields  
or walk the golden streets,  
or walk the golden streets.

*Refrain*

4 Then let our songs abound  
and every tear be dry;  
we're marching through Immanuel's ground,  
we're marching through Immanuel's ground  
to fairer worlds on high,  
to fairer worlds on high.

*Refrain*

**Come, thou long-expected Jesus (Stuttgart)**  
**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 for ever,  
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.

**Hark! the glad sound! The Savior comes (Bristol)**  
**Hymnal #71**

1 Hark, the glad sound! the Savior comes,  
the Savior promised long:  
let every heart prepare a throne,  
and every voice a song.

2 He comes, the prisoners to release  
in Satan's bondage held;  
the gates of brass before him burst,  
the iron fetters yield.

3 He comes, the broken heart to bind,  
the bleeding soul to cure;  
and with the treasures of his grace  
to enrich the humble poor.

4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
thy welcome shall proclaim;  
and heaven's eternal arches ring  
with thy beloved Name.



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"Like" us on facebook @ Saint John's Episcopal Church  
**Office Hours** Monday- Thursday 9 AM- 1 PM, 1:30- 4:30 PM

### **The Rev. Megan Castellan, Rector**

Cora Yao, Senior Warden  
Parish Administrator, Cathy Wagner  
Director of Music/Organist, Anna Steppler

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.

## **CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

### **CHRISTMAS EVE** Saturday, December 24

4:00 P.M. Holy Communion with Carols and Organ; blessing of the crèche

7:00 P.M. Holy Communion with Carols and Organ

11:00 P.M. Festive Choral Eucharist

### **CHRISTMAS DAY** Sunday, December 25

10:30 A. M. Holy Eucharist with Hymns