

### Parish Life & Beyond...

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AND GREENS MEMORIALS/THANKSGIVINGS** — Each year we decorate the church with poinsettias and Christmas greenery for the Christmas season. You are invited to make a contribution in memory or thanksgiving of someone to offset the costs of these decorations. Please send your memorial/thanksgiving names to the church office at [office@stgeorgesschenectady.org](mailto:office@stgeorgesschenectady.org) and then either place a check in the collection plate or send a check to the church. Memorials and Thanksgivings will be listed in the bulletins for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. A sign-up sheet is also in the back of the church for memorial/thanksgiving names. In order for a name or names to be included in the Christmas bulletin we need to have all names by the end of today.

**CHRISTMAS EVE RECEPTION** — After our “Midnight Mass” on Christmas Eve we have a festive reception in the Great Hall. A sign-up sheet is in the back of the church for reception food. We need both sweet and savory items. We encourage all who will be coming to the Christ-Mass to bring something to share. Items should be plated and ready to serve.

**EPIPHANY FEAST OF LIGHTS** — On Sunday evening, January 5th, we will offer a new service, A Feast of Lights for Epiphany. This service celebrates in lessons and music the light of Christ come into the world, being made manifest through the appearance of the Wise Men, Jesus’ Baptism in the River Jordan, and his first miracle at the wedding in Cana. Much of it is done by candlelight as we prepare to carry the light of Christ into the world. This is a family-friendly service and also one to which we can invite friends and neighbors. Pre-service music begins at 4:45 p.m. The service begins at 5:00 p.m.

**THE ANNUAL MEETING** of St. George’s Church will be held on Sunday, January 12th, after Sunday Mass at 11:30 a.m. A brunch will be served during the meeting.

**ALL ON THE SAME PAGE** — St. George’s Book Club will meet after church on January 19th to discuss *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon. It is both a suspenseful murder mystery and historical fiction, based on the life of a midwife in 18th century Maine. Please see Meg Hughes with any questions.

### Looking Ahead

*Sunday, January 5th* — A Feast of Lights for Epiphany — 5:00 p.m. High Altar

*Pre-service organ music begins at 4:45 p.m.*

*Sunday, February 2nd* — Candlemas Procession and Solemn High Choral Mass — 10:00 a.m. High Altar

*Sunday, February 23rd* — Choral Evensong — 5:00 p.m. High Altar

*Pre-service organ music begins at 4:45 p.m.*

**PRAYER LIST** — If you have a name that you would like added to the prayer list please email the church office at [office@StGeorgesSchenectady.org](mailto:office@StGeorgesSchenectady.org) and we will insure that this person will be remembered in the prayers.

**PARISH MINISTRY SCHEDULES POSTED ONLINE** — The most recent schedule of greeters, lectors, counters, and altar guild is published online. If you are interested in serving as a lector, greeter, counter, or acolyte, please speak to Fr. Pettigrew or email him at [rector@StGeorgesSchenectady.org](mailto:rector@StGeorgesSchenectady.org) for more information.

**SHAPE NOTE SINGING:** All are welcome to experience the joy of singing together the beautiful a cappella harmonies and stirring songs of the Sacred Harp, a tune book and hymnal published in Georgia in 1844 and used in community singing throughout the world. We sing in the Great Hall on Saturday afternoons from 1-3:30pm. For schedule updates or more information, please contact Tarik Wareh or visit [www.albanysacredharp.org](http://www.albanysacredharp.org)



## ST. GEORGE’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*in the heart of the historic Stockade District*

### THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ADVENT IV-C - 22 DECEMBER 2024

SUNG MASS - RITE I, 10AM

The Reverend Thomas J. Pettigrew, *Rector*  
Dr. Brian J. Taylor, AAGO, *Director of Music*

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**MASS SETTING** First Communion Service *John Merbecke (1505-1585)*

**OPENING VOLUNTARY** Savior of the nation, come *Andreas Nikolaus Vetter (1666-1734)*

**THE PREPARATION OF SACRED MINISTERS IN THE LADY CHAPEL**  
*The Sacred Ministers, Servers & Choir offer Preparatory Prayers prior to the Entrance Procession*

**THE ENTRANCE,** HYMN 57 Lo! He comes, with clouds descending *Helmsley*

**THE COLLECT FOR PURITY** *(people kneel)*  
Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**INTROIT** *Sung by the Choir*  
Drop down ye heavens from above; and let the skies pour down righteousness: let the earth open and bring forth a Saviour. Ps. The heavens declare the glory of God: and the firmament showeth his handiwork. Glory be.

**THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW**  
Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

**THE TRISAGION,** HYMNAL S-102 *Sung by all, repeated x3* *(people kneel)*

**Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.**

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**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY** *Advent 4*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
**People** **And with thy spirit.**  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**W**E BESEECH THEE, ALMIGHTY GOD, to purify our consciences by thy daily visitation, that when thy Son our Lord cometh he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**A**LMIGHTY GOD, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy 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 quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT READING***Micah 5.2-5*

A READING from the Book of Micah

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; and he shall be the one of peace.

V. The Word of the Lord      **R. Thanks be to God****FOR THE GRADUAL: THE MAGNIFICAT** - THE HYMNAL S-185*Sung by all**Luke 1.46-55***THE EPISTLE READING***Hebrews 10.5-10*

A READING from the Letter to the Hebrews

When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

V. The Word of the Lord      **R. Thanks be to God****MINISTERS OF TODAY'S LITURGY**

Celebrant & Preacher:	The Reverend Thomas J. Pettigrew, Rector
Master of Ceremonies:	David Kennison
Organist:	Dr. Brian J. Taylor
Cantor:	Jeff Wengrovius
Thurifer:	Steve Hartz
Crucifer:	Daniel Miess
Acolytes:	Anne Kennison, Eric Bassant
Greeters:	Jim Wingate, Ann Duff
Lector:	Diane Reed
Counters:	Jeff Wengrovius, Mike Todt
Altar Guild:	Wendy Madelone
Sacristan:	David & Anne Kennison

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:**

**The Sick and those in need:** Gabriella Rose, Katie, Fr. Michael Webber, Bishop Michael Curry, Father Charles King, Jane Ruzicka Pennacchia, Marianne Perez, John, Tai, Ruth S., Rachel, Doug, Ruth A., Francis C., Don Ingram, Suzy, Richard, Abby, Luca Taylor, Destiny & Chris Taylor, Stephanie Barr, Hooter Zimmerman, Eric, Pam, Sally, Linda S., Scott G., Sondra Lee, Robert, Linda, Michael, Jim, Crystal, Salli V., Mary Catherine, Susan, Kathleen Rose, Gwen, Alex, Alan, Doug, Ruth Nevells, Pedro, Isabella, Sarah Bringham, Monica Lusman & her unborn child, Lilly Griffiths, Josh

*The prayer list will be reset every 3 months. Did we miss an important date for our birthday and faithful departed intentions? If you would like a name included on the prayer list or on the annual rota of intentions, send an email to [rector@stgeorgesschenectady.org](mailto:rector@stgeorgesschenectady.org)*

**The Departed:** Gloria Erickson (22)**Birthdays:** Stephen Hartz (23), Isabelle Jaquith (27)**Baptismal Anniversaries:****Wedding Anniversaries:****SERVICES THIS WEEK**

*Note that this schedule is in lieu of our regularly scheduled weekday services.*

**Sunday, December 22** — 10:00 a.m. — Sung Mass — The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Greening of the Church follows, with food and drink available in the Great Hall

**Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24** — 4:00 p.m. — Low Mass with Carols

**Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24** — 9:30 p.m. — Carol Concert followed immediately by...

**Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24** — 10:00 p.m. — THE CHRIST MASS: Solemn High Choral Mass

Festival reception follows in the Great Hall

**Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25** — 11:00 a.m. — Sung Mass

**Thursday, December 26** — 10:00 a.m. — Low Mass — St. Stephen

**Friday, December 27** — 10:00 a.m. — Low Mass — St. John

**Saturday, December 28** — 10:00 a.m. — Low Mass — Holy Innocents

**Sunday, December 29** — 10:00 a.m. — Sung Mass — The First Sunday after Christmas

**WELCOME VISITORS!** We'd like to extend a warm welcome to our visitors today. Whether you live in our area and decided to worship with us today or if you are visiting from out of town, we offer you a warm Georgian welcome! There are visitor cards in most of the pews and we ask that you fill one out and give it to the Greeters at the door or simply drop it in the offering plate. We'd love to see you again. Our website, [www.stgeorgesschenectady.org](http://www.stgeorgesschenectady.org).

**GREENING OF THE CHURCH** — TODAY after Mass we will decorate the church for Christmas. We invite all to stay after Mass to help place the flowers and greens as well as set up the Nativity display. This is a wonderful afternoon of work and fellowship and usually takes about one hour. Snacks and refreshments will be available in the Great Hall to provide sustenance for our work.

**THE FRACTION**

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**People** **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

**THE AGNUS DEI**, HYMNAL S-157*Sung by All**(people kneel)*

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.**  
**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.**  
**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.**

**THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS***Said by All**(people kneel)*

**WE DO NOT PRESUME to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

**THE INVITATION**

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

**THE ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION**

*All baptized Christians may receive communion. If you wish to not receive, you are invited to come forward and cross your arms, indicating that you wish to receive a blessing. Gluten-free hosts are available.*

**THE COMMUNION SENTENCE***Sung by the Cantor & Choir*

Behold a Virgin shall conceive and bear a Son: and his Name shall be called Emmanuel.

**COMMUNION ANTHEM** Savior of the nations, come!Melody from *Erfurt Enchiridia* (ca. 1524)**THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER***Said by All**(people kneel)*

**Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

**THE BLESSING***(people kneel)*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

**THE DISMISSAL**

*Celebrant:* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**THE RETIRING PROCESSION**, HYMN 56

O come, O come, Emmanuel

*Veni, veni, Emmanuel***CLOSING VOLUNTARY:** Savior of the nations, come (BWV 599)*Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)*

**A**L - LE - LU - IA. Al - le - lu - ia.

**A**lleluia. **Alleluia.** Come, O Lord and tarry not:  
 forgive the misdeeds of thy people. **Alleluia.**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL***Luke 1.39-45*

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO SAINT LUKE

**R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

V. The Gospel of the Lord.

**R. Praise be to thee, O Christ.****THE SERMON***The Rector***THE NICENE CREED***(people stand)*

**I BELIEVE IN ONE GOD, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to Judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father (and the Son); who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church; I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead ✠ and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & GREETINGS****THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE***As Announced*

## THE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

*Celebrant:* Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and take this Holy Sacrament to your comfort, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

**ALMIGHTY GOD, FATHER of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE ABSOLUTION

**ALMIGHTY GOD,** our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

R. **And with thy spirit.**

*(people stand)*

## THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*Sung by the Cantor & Choir*

Hail Mary full of grace; the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women; and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.

**THE OFFERTORY, HYMN 72** Hark! The glad sound! The Savior comes

*Richmond*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you. *People* And with thy spi - rit.

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts. *People* We lift them up un - to the Lord.

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks un - to our Lord God.

*People* It is meet and right so to do.

*The Celebrant sings the Proper Preface of Advent*

**THE SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS QUI VENIT, HYMNAL S-117 (MCGREGOR)** *Sung by All*

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:  
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**

✠ **Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

*(people kneel)*

**ALL GLORY BE TO THEE,** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ✠

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me." ✠

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy ✠ grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed  
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our  
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,  
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead  
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us  
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,  
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.