



ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

in the heart of the historic Stockade District

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ADVENT II-C - 8 DECEMBER 2024

SUNG MASS - RITE I, 10AM

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

MASS SETTING

First Communion Service

John Merbecke (1505-1585)

OPENING VOLUNTARY Liturgical Improvisation no. 2

George Oldroyd (1887-1956)

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 59

Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding

Merton

INTROIT

Sung by the Choir

O people of Sion; behold the Lord is nigh at hand to redeem the nations: and in the gladness of your heart; the Lord shall cause his glorious voice to be heard. Ps. Hear O thou Shepherd of Israel: thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep. Glory be.

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.

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**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Advent 2

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

MERCIFUL GOD, who sent thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

ALmighty 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.**

A READING from the Book of the Prophet Malachi

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

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

THE GRADUAL: THE BENEDICTUS*Sung by the Choir and Congregation**Luke 1.68-79*

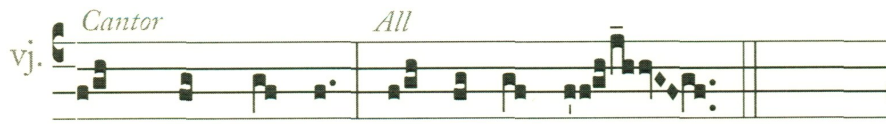
Bless-ed | be the Lord God of | Israel: For | he hath visited | and redeemed his people.
 And hath | raised up a mighty salva- | tion for us: In | the house | of his servant David.
 As he | spake by the mouth of his ho- | ly prophets: Which | have been | since the world began.
 That we | should be saved from our | enemies: And | from the hand of | all that hate us.
 To per- | form the mercy promised to our | forefathers: And | to remember his ho- | ly covenant.
 To per- | form the oath which he sware to our forefather | Abraham: That | he would give us.
 That we | being delivered out of the hand of our | enemies: Might | serve | him without fear.
 In ho- | liness and righteousness | before him: All | the | days of our life.
 And thou | child shalt be called the prophet of | the Highest:
 For | thou shalt go before the face of the Lord | to prepare his ways.
 To give | knowledge of salvation unto | his people: For | the re- | mission of their sins.
 Through the | tender mercy | of our God: Where- | by the dayspring from on high hath | visited us.
 To give | light to them that sit in darkness and in the sha- | dow of death:
 And | to guide our feet into | the way of peace.

THE EPISTLE READING*Philippians 1.3-11*

A READING from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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



AL - LE- LU- IA. Al - le- lu- ia.

Alleluia. **Alleluia.** I was glad when they said unto me: we will go into the house of the Lord. **Alleluia.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 3.1-6

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

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As Announced



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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Sung by All

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.

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 (MERBECKE)

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

Jersusalem haste thee and stand on high: and behold the joy and gladness that cometh unto thee from God thy Savior

COMMUNION ANTHEM Creator of the stars of night

Plainsong, Mode 4

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 72

Hark! The glad sound

Richmond

CLOSING VOLUNTARY: Improvisation on "Winchester New"

MINISTERS OF TODAY'S LITURGY

Celebrant & Preacher:	The Reverend Thomas J. Pettigrew, Rector
Master of Ceremonies:	David G. Kennison
Organist:	Dr. Brian J. Taylor
Cantor:	Joan Pearson
Thurifer:	Chris Henry
Crucifer:	Daniel Miess
Acolytes:	Anne Kennison, J. J. Moran
Greeters:	Bob Lemmerman, Barb Wengrovius
Lector:	Jon Pearson
Counters:	Jon Pearson, Gloria Kishton
Altar Guild:	Lea Crow
Sacristans:	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

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

The Departed: Mary Bartlet (11), Thaddeus Ogonowski (13)

Birthdays: Fr. Marshall Vang, Barbara Wengrovius, Beverly Noxon (8)

Baptismal Anniversaries: Virginia Manning (13)

Wedding Anniversaries: Jerry and Sharon Trant (10)

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 8 — 10 a.m.— Sung Mass— The Second Sunday of Advent
Luncheon follows in the Great Hall

Tuesday, December 10 — 8:30 a.m.— Morning Prayer

Lectionary Study Group follows in Cranmer House at 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, December 11 — 9:00 a.m.— Low Mass — Advent feria

Thursday, December 12 — 6:00 p.m. — The Holy Eucharist, Rite I, with Healing —
Francis de Sales & Jane De Chantal

Theological Reading Group follows in Cranmer House at 6:45 p.m.

Friday, December 13 — Noon—Low Mass— St. Lucy

Sunday, December 15 —10 a.m. — Sung Mass —The Third Sunday of Advent

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.

AFTER CHURCH LUNCHEON In honor of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, the Society of Mary is providing a luncheon after Mass in the Great Hall. Everyone is welcome to come to this luncheon which is free of charge.

SUNDAY SCHOOL — Children in 1st through 6th grades are invited to go to Sunday School at the end of Mass. After coming to the rail for communion or a blessing children may go directly to the back of the church where their teacher, Mrs. Sharon Trant, will walk them over to the Shaw Lounge for their class.

Parish Outreach

SALVATION ARMY BELLRINGERS — Saturday, December 14th, is when St. George's Church takes its turn as Salvation Army bellringers at the Market 32 on Eastern Avenue here in Schenectady. A sign-up sheet is in the back for those who wish to volunteer, or one can go to the link on our church's website and sign up there. For more information speak with Jon Pearson.

Parish Life & Beyond...

ROSARY — Next Sunday the Society of Mary will gather to pray the Rosary in the Lady Chapel at 9:15 a.m. just before Mass. All are invited to join in this devotion in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

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 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. Please send your names and make your contributions by Thursday, December 19th.

CHRISTMAS GREENS — Also, those planning to trim evergreens on their home or property are asked that if they could, to time it so that the trimmings may be used for decorating the church for Christmas. For more information contact Kevin Decker, 518.569.6766

GREENING OF THE CHURCH — On Sunday, December 22nd, 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.

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.

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

CHRISTMAS SERVICES — As you begin to make your plans for celebrating the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, here are the principal liturgies for Christmastide.

Tuesday, December 24th — Family Christmas Service: Low Mass with carols — 4:00 p.m. Lady Chapel

Tuesday, December 24th — Solemn Mass for Christmas Eve — 10:00 p.m. High Altar

Carol Concert precedes the Mass at 9:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 25th — Sung Mass for Christmas Day — 11:00 a.m. High Altar

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

Around the Diocese

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS — Tomorrow evening, December 9th, the Bishop King Society will offer a Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary at the Cathedral of All Saints beginning at 7:00 p.m. Our own Brian Taylor will be the organist for this Mass.