

ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

in the heart of the Historic Stockade District

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS 2C - 5 JANUARY 2025

SUNG MASS - RITE I, 10AM

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

MASS SETTING

Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Pastorale on *Divinum mysterium*

Anthony St. Pierre (b. 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, HYMN 93

Angels from the realms of glory

Regent Square

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 INTROIT

Sung by Cantor & Choir

O give thanks unto the Lord for he is gracious: and his mercy endureth for ever. Ps. For he hath gathered them out of the lands: from the east and from the west; from the north and from the south. 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 KYRIE ELEISON, HYMNAL S-91

Sung by all

(people kneel)

Lord, have mercy upon us. (3x)

Christ, have mercy upon us. (3x)

Lord, have mercy upon us. (3x)

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS, HYMNAL S-202

Sung by all

(people stand)

Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee,

we worship thee,

we glorify thee,

we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sins of the world,

have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the
Father,

have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy;

thou only art the Lord;

thou only, O Christ,

with the Holy Ghost,

✠ art most high in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O GOD, who didst wonderfully create, and yet more wonderfully restore, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, One God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

THE LESSON

Jeremiah 31.7-14

A READING from the first Book of Jeremiah

Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

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

THE GRADUAL

Sung by the Choir and Congregation

Psalm 84.1-8

O how | amiable are thy dwellings thou | Lord of hosts!

My | soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice | in the living God.

Yea the | sparrow hath found her an house, and the swallow a nest where she may | lay her young:

Ev-|en thy altars O Lord of hosts, my | King and my God.

Blessed | are they that dwell | in thy house: They | will be | always praising thee.

Blessed | is the man whose strength | is in thee: In | whose | heart are thy ways.

Who go-|ing through the vale of misery use it | for a well: And | the | pools are filled with water.

They will | go from | strength to strength: And | unto the God of gods appeareth every | one of them in Zion.

O Lord | God of hosts hear my prayer; hearken O God | of Jacob:

Be-|hold O God our defender; and look upon the | face of thine a-nointed.

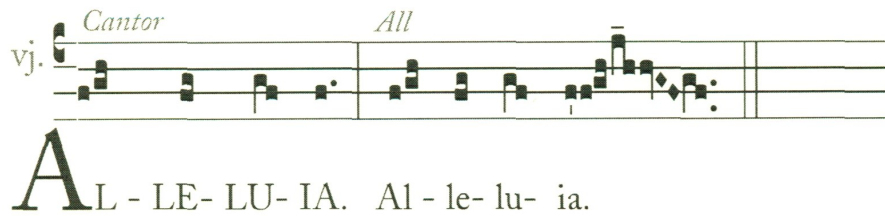
THE EPISTLE

Ephesians 1.3-6, 15-19

A READING from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

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



ALLELUIA. **ALLELUIA.** God is our hope and strength: a very present help
in trouble. **ALLELUIA.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 2.13-15, 19-23

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

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

After the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

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 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.

THE FRACTION

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

THE AGNUS DEI, HYMNAL S-158

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 Cantor & Choir

Take the young Child and his mother; and go into the land of Israel: For they are dead which sought the young Child's life.

THE COMMUNION ANTHEM

Torches

John Joubert (1927-2019)

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 107

Good Christian friends, rejoice

In dulci jubilo

CLOSING VOLUNTARY:

Toccatà in F

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

MINISTERS OF TODAY'S LITURGY

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|-----------------------|--|
| Celebrant & Preacher: | The Reverend Thomas J. Pettigrew, Rector |
| Master of Ceremonies: | Kevin Decker |
| Organist | Dr. Brian J. Taylor |
| Cantor: | Tarik Wareh |
| Thurifer: | Christopher Henry |
| Boat Boy: | James Smigelski |
| Crucifer: | Paul Smigelski |
| Acolytes: | Anne Kennison, J. J. Moran |
| Lector: | Meredith Ewbank |
| Greeters: | Jean Greenspan, Robert Lemmerman |
| Counters: | Jonathan Ewbank, Jerry Trant |
| Altar Guild: | Anne Kennison |
| 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, 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

The Departed: William Schultz (5), Grace Peretta (6) & Don Ingram who died in this past week.

Birthdays: James Wingate (5), Jonah Thiessen (11)

Baptismal Anniversaries: Trevor Weakley, Daniel Harkenrider (9)

Wedding Anniversaries:

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 5 — 10:00 a.m. — Sung Mass — The Second Sunday after Christmas

Coffee Hour follows in the Great Hall

5:00 p.m. — Epiphany Feast of Lights — Eve of the Epiphany

Reception follows in the Great Hall

Monday, January 6 — 7:00 p.m. — Sung Mass — The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Tuesday, January 7 — 8:30 a.m. — Morning Prayer

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

Wednesday, January 8 — 9:00 a.m. — Low Mass

Thursday, January 9 — 6:00 p.m. The Holy Eucharist, Rite I, with Healing

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

Friday, January 10 — 12:00 p.m. — Low Mass

Sunday, January 12 — 10:00 a.m. — Sung Mass — The Second 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.com.

COFFEE HOUR Please join us for coffee hour after Mass in the Great Hall. Snacks, along with hot and cold drinks are available during this time of fellowship.

Parish Life and Beyond

EPIPHANY FEAST OF LIGHTS — TONIGHT at 5:00 p.m. 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. A Twelfth Night Party follows in the Great Hall

EPIPHANY DAY is tomorrow evening, Monday, January 6th. We will offer a Sung Mass at 7:00 p.m. at the High Altar.

LITTLE RED WAGON SUNDAY — Next Sunday, January 12th, is our monthly ingathering of non-perishable food for the Sycamore Collaborative. Please bring your contributions to the back of the church any time between now and then.

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

BOOK CLUB TO HOST LOCAL HISTORIAN!—How did they “call the midwife” before telephones? It's a good question, and one that might best be answered by Anne Clothier! An historical reenacting colleague of Fr. Tom's, Anne has chosen maternal health in the Colonial era as her area of focus. When she learned that several St. George's parishioners are reading “Frozen River,” Anne eagerly volunteered to attend the discussion and share insights on the life of Martha Moore Ballard, an American midwife and the heroine of the historical novel. **All are invited to sit in on the session, January 19 after worship, even if you have not read “Frozen River.”** It's a great opportunity to make Anne's acquaintance and learn more about the challenges our 18th century predecessors faced.

Looking Ahead

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 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 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

