

ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

in the heart of the Historic Stockade District

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS I - 28 DECEMBER 2025

SUNG MASS - RITE I, 10AM

The Reverend Thomas J. Pettigrew, *Rector*
The Reverend Abigail Bee, *Parish Deacon*
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 OPENING 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 the Cantor & Choir

Whenas all the world was in profoundest quiet; and night was in the midst of her swift course: thine almighty word O Lord leaped down from heaven, out of thy royal throne. Ps. The Lord is King; and hath put on glorious apparel: the Lord hath put on his apparel, and girded himself with strength. 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.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast poured upon us the new light of thine incarnate Word: Grant that the same light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; 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.**

THE LESSON

Isaiah 61.10-62.3

A READING from the Book of Isaiah

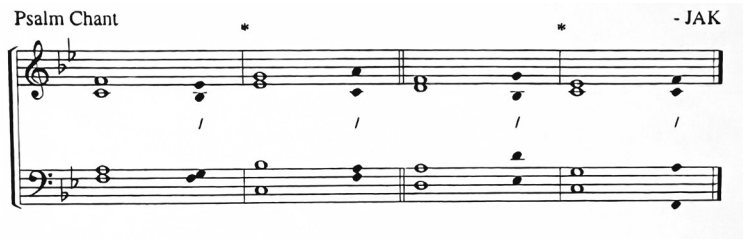
I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

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

THE GRADUAL

Sung by all

Psalm 147.13-21



- 13 Worship the LORD O Je-**rusalem**; * praise your God O **Zion**;
 14 For he has strengthened the bars of your **gates**; * he has blessed your children with-**in you**.
 15 He has established peace on your **borders**; * he satisfies you with the finest **wheat**.
 16 He sends out his command to the **earth**, * and his word runs very **swiftly**.
 17 He gives snow like **wool**; * he scatters hoarfrost like **ashes**.
 18 He scatters his hail like **bread crumbs**; * who can stand against his **cold**?
 19 He sends forth his word and **melts them**; * he blows with his wind and the waters **flow**.
 20 He declares his word to **Jacob**, * his statutes and his judgments to **Israel**.
 21 He has not done so to any other **nation**; * to them he has not revealed his judgments. Halle-**lujah**!

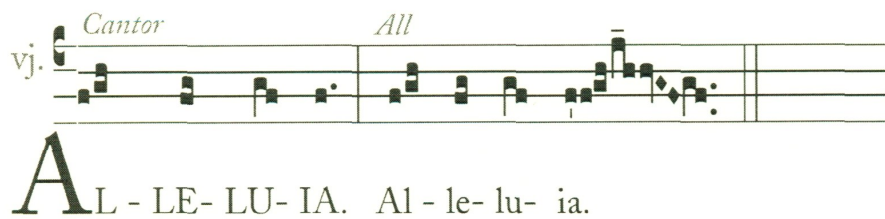
THE EPISTLE

Galatians 3.23-25; 4.4-7

A READING from the Letter of Paul to the Galatians

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

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



Alleluia. **Alleluia.** The Lord is King; and hath put on glorious apparel: the Lord hath put on his apparel and girded himself with strength. **Alleluia.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 1.1-18

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

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

The Prayer for the Whole State of Christ's Church, The Book of Common Prayer, page 328

THE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Deacon: 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

(people stand)

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Sung by the Cantor & Choir

(people sit)

God hath made the round world so sure that it cannot be moved: ever since the world began thy seat O God hath been prepared; thou art from everlasting.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Gesu Bambino

Pietro Yon (1886-1943)

THE OFFERTORY, HYMN 82

Of the Father's love begotten

(people stand)

Divinum mysterium

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical notation for the Great Thanksgiving consists of four staves. The first staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics "The Lord be with you. And with thy spi - rit." The second staff is for the People, with the lyrics "Lift up your hearts. We lift them up un - to the Lord." The third staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics "Let us give thanks un - to our Lord God." The fourth staff is for the People, with the lyrics "It is meet and right so to do."

The Celebrant sings the Proper Preface

THE SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS QUI VENIT, HYMNAL S-114

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

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-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 the Cantor & Choir

They shall be satisfied with the plenteousness of thy house: and thou shalt give them drink of thy pleasures; as out of the river.

THE COMMUNION, HYMN 78

O little town of Bethlehem

Forest Green

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

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE RETIRING PROCESSION HYMN 100

Joy to the world! The Lord is come

Antioch

CLOSING VOLUNTARY:

In dulci jubilo

Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau (1663-1712)

MINISTERS OF TODAY'S LITURGY

Celebrant & Preacher:	The Reverend Thomas J. Pettigrew, Rector
Deacon:	The Reverend Abigail Bee
Master of Ceremonies:	David Kennison
Organist & Cantor:	Dr. Brian J. Taylor
Soloist:	Jonathan Ewbank
Thurifer:	Kevin Decker
Boat Boy:	Aidan Bassant
Crucifer:	Eric Bassant
Acolytes:	Daniel Miess, J. J. Moran
Greeters:	Gloria Kishton, Kim Polner
Lector:	David Kennison
Counters:	Paul Smigelski, Jonathan Ewbank
Altar Guild:	Wendy Madelone
Sacristans:	David & Anne Kennison

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:

The Sick and those in need: Jamie, Pat, Gabriella Rose, Katie, Chase, Pedro, Isabella, Dan Bornt, Dinorah Jimenez, Lula Fite, Nancy, Karen Perretta, K. C. Hersey, Sharon A. Wemtle, Lorna, Mike T., Richard, Abigail, Suzanne, Ann, Josh, Den, Sherrie, Ann-Marie, Lynn Paska, Larry, Robbie, Aubrey, Tamara, Sean, Mtr. Lisa Schoonmaker, Anne, Fred, Anna, James, Suzie

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: Paul Hasler (30), Elizabeth Burges, Dr. Nancy Fitzroy (1), John Edward Moran (2)

Birthdays: Amy Machold (30), Ralph Pumbo, Pattie Wareh (31), Kassandra Hurtado (3)

Baptismal Anniversaries:

Wedding Anniversaries: Grant & Rosemarie Jaquith (31)

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 28 — 10:00 a.m. — Solemn High Mass – Christmas I — High Altar
Coffee Hour follows in the Great Hall.

Monday, December 29 — 9:00 a.m. — Low Mass — Holy Innocents — Lady Chapel

Tuesday, December 30 — 8:30 a.m. — Morning Prayer — Christmas feria — Lady Chapel

Wednesday, December 31 — 9:00 a.m. — Low Mass — Vigil of the Holy Name — Lady Chapel

Thursday, January 1 — NO MASS THIS NIGHT. HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Friday, January 2 — 12:00 p.m. — Low Mass — Christmas feria — Lady Chapel

Sunday, January 4 — 10:00 a.m. — Solemn High Mass – Christmas II — High Altar

5:00 p.m. — A Feast of Lights for Epiphany — High Altar

Tuesday, January 6 — 7:00 p.m. — Solemn High Mass – Epiphany Day — High Altar

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

A FEAST OF LIGHTS FOR THE EPIPHANY — Next Sunday, January 4th, we will offer 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 a 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.

SOLEMN HIGH MASS FOR EPIPHANY — January 6th is the Feast of the Epiphany is one of the seven principal feasts of the year. We will mark this feast with a Solemn High Mass this Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH — There will be two weeks from today after our Sunday Mass. We will elect new members to the Vestry and hear reports about the activities and state of the parish. Lunch for all will be offered as we do business. Please plan to stay for this important meeting in the life of our parish.

Parish Outreach

"LITTLE RED WAGON SUNDAY" — Our next ingathering of non-perishable food for the Sycamore Collaborative Food Pantry will be two weeks from today, Sunday, January 11th. Please bring your contributions to the back of the church at any time between now and then.

LOAVES AND FISHES is the feeding ministry at St. Francis Mission in Albany. St. George's Church takes its turn serving meals to those in need at St. Francis on the fifth Saturday of the month. The next opportunity to participate in this ministry is Saturday, January 31st. A sign-up sheet is at the back of the church for those who wish to volunteer.

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

ONLINE GIVING — If you would prefer to make a donation or your regular offering electronically, please use the QR code provided. You will also find a link to PayPal on our parish website, www.StGeorgesSchenectady.com. St. George's is currently considering other means for online and electronic giving. We would like to hear your feedback about having this as an additional option for giving to St. George's Church. Please send your thoughts to Rector@StGeorgesSchenectady.org

