



ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

in the heart of the historic Stockade District

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ADVENT II-A - 7 DECEMBER 2024

SOLEMN HIGH 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

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 66

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Stuttgart

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

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 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.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 11.1-10

A READING from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

V. The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

THE GRADUAL:

Sung by the Choir and Congregation

Psalms 72.1-7, 18-19



- 1 Give the King your justice O **God**, * and your righteousness to the King's **Son**;
- 2 That he may rule your people **righteously** * and the poor with **justice**;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the **people**, * and the little hills bring **righteousness**.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the **people**; * he shall rescue the poor and crush the op-**pressor**.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon en-**dure**, * from one generation to an-**other**.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown **field**, * like showers that water the **earth**.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous **flourish**; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no **more**.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord GOD the God of **Israel**, * who alone does wondrous **deeds**!
- 19 And blessed be his glorious Name for **ever**! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. A-**men**.

THE EPISTLE READING

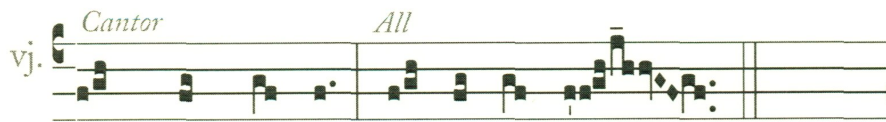
Romans 15.4-13

A READING from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

Matthew 3.1-12

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

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. "I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

V. The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE SERMON

Deacon Abby

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

Prayers of the People, Form I, The Book of Common Prayer, page 383

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

Wilt not thou turn again O God and quicken us: that thy people may rejoice in thee? Show us thy mercy O Lord: and grant us thy salvation.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Creator of the stars of night

Plainsong, Mode 4

OFFERTORY HYMN, HYMN 67

Comfort, comfort ye my people

Psalms 42

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

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 HYMN, HYMN 72

Hark! the glad sound!

Richmond

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 73

The King shall come when morning dawns

St. Stephen

CLOSING VOLUNTARY:

Improvisation on "Richmond"

MINISTERS OF TODAY'S LITURGY

Celebrant:	The Reverend Thomas J. Pettigrew, Rector
Deacon & Preacher:	The Reverend Abigail Bee, Parish Deacon
Subdeacon:	Chris Henry
Master of Ceremonies:	David Kennison
Organist:	Dr. Brian J. Taylor
Cantor:	Jonathan Ewbank
Thurifer:	Paul Smigelski
Boat Boy:	James Smigelski
Crucifer:	Daniel Miess
Acolytes:	Eric Bassant, J. J. Moran
Greeters:	Jonathan Pearson, Meg Hughes
Lector:	Wendy Madelone
Counters:	Rich Unger, Kim Polner
Altar Guild:	Natasha Bassant
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, Vernon-Frederic Decker, 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: Ruby Wilkins (9), Adelaide Dana Parker (10), Mary Bartlet, Donald DeFar (11), Thaddeus Ogonowski, John Wesley Rose, Mary MacMillan, Marshall Ribe (13)

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

Baptismal Anniversaries: Virginia Manning (13)

Wedding Anniversaries: Jerry and Sharon Trant (10)

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SERVICES THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 7 — 10 a.m. — Solemn Mass — The Second Sunday of Advent
Coffee Hour follows in the Great Hall

11:30 a.m. — Last Confirmation Class — Cranmer House

Tuesday, December 9 — 8:30 a.m. — Morning Prayer — Advent feria
Lectionary Study Group follows in Cranmer House at 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, December 10 — 9:00 a.m. — Low Mass — Advent feria

Thursday, December 11 — 6:00 p.m. — The Holy Eucharist, Rite I, with Healing — Advent feria

Friday, December 12 — Noon — Low Mass — Francis de Sales & Jane De Chantal

Sunday, December 14 — 10 a.m. — Solemn High Pontifical Mass — The Third Sunday of Advent
Luncheon provided by the Society of Mary follows in the Great Hall

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.

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

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 secretary@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 18th.

BISHOP'S VISITATION — The Rt. Rev'd Jeremiah Williamson, Bishop of the Diocese of Albany, will make his formal visitation to St. George's Church next Sunday, December 14th at 10:00 a.m.. He will preach, confirm and receive new members, and celebrate the Mass on this day. Following the Mass the Society of Mary will offer a luncheon for all in the Great Hall.

Parish Outreach

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING — As is our annual custom St. George's Church will take its turn ringing the bell at the collection cauldron at Market 32 on Eastern Avenue and McClellan Street on Saturday, December 13th from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. A sign-up Genius will be sent around to members who wish to help with this collection, or you may sign up using the sheet at the back of the church. For more information speak with Jon Pearson.

YWCA INGATHERING — The next quarterly ingathering for the YWCA Women's Shelter will next Sunday, December 14th. The shelter is in need of hygiene and sanitary products as well as NEW children's underwear in any size. Contributions may be left at the back of the church.

"LITTLE RED WAGON" SUNDAY — The next monthly ingathering of food for the Sycamore Collaborative Food Pantry will also be next Sunday, December 14th. Non-perishable food may be brought to the back of the church any time between now and then.

Around the Diocese

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE — For some, the holiday time is not a happy or joyful time but one which brings back difficult memories such as the loss of a loved one or traumatic incident. St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Schenectady will be offering a "Blue Christmas Service" on Wednesday, December 17th, at 7:30 p.m. for those who would like to mark the holiday in a different way, addressing the pain that may be highlighted during this time. All are welcome to attend this service.

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.

Wednesday, December 24th — Family Christmas Service: Low Mass with carols — 4:00 p.m. High Altar

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

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

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

Sunday, January 4th — A Feast of Lights for the Eve of the Epiphany — 5:00 p.m. High Altar

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