



Order of Service for
The Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 18, 2022— 11:00am

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Reverend Judy Ferguson, Guest Celebrant
Brandon N. Beachamp, Organist & Choirmaster

130 First Avenue, Nyack, NY 10960

www.gracechurchnyack.org/parishoffice@gracechurchnyack.org/845-358-1297

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Celebrant: Our souls proclaim your greatness, O God.

People: *And our spirits rejoice in you.*

Celebrant: We will praise you as long as we live.

People: *We will sing praises to you our whole lives long.*

Celebrant: We will not trust in the powerful of this world,

People: *But will trust in you—Creator of heaven and earth, the One who gives food to the hungry, the One who enacts justice for the oppressed.*

Celebrant: Our souls proclaim your greatness, O God

People: *As we worship you in this place, As we light this candle in hope, peace, and joy. Amen*

Reader: A reading from Paul’s epistle to the Romans: Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God. (The Candle is lit.)*

Celebrant: Lord grant us your light that we may come to the true light which is Christ.

**HYMN IN PROCESSION
436**

Truro

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
 2 O blest the land, the ci - ty blest, where Christ the
 3 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
 *4 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to
 5 So come, my Sov - ereign; en - ter in! Let new and

(All Stand)

1 King of glo - ry waits! The King of kings is
 2 ru - ler is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and
 3 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
 4 thee: here, Lord, a - bide! Let me thy in - ner
 5 no - bler life be - gin; thy Ho - ly Spi - rit

1 draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the world is here.
 2 hap - py homes to whom this King of tri - umph comes!
 3 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
 4 pres - ence feel: thy grace and love in me re - veal.
 5 guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: Blessed are you, holy and living One. *People: You come to your people and set them free.*

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

KYRIE

Frank Boles



All:



COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: God be with you. *People: And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

SERVICE OF THE WORD *(Please be seated.)*

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 7:10-17

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted. The LORD will bring on you and on your people and on your ancestral house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah-- the king of Assyria."

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. *People: Thanks be to God.*

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 1:18-25

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: *Glory to you, O Christ.*

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, O Christ.*

THE SERMON *The Rev. Judy Ferguson (Please be seated.)*

NICENE CREED *(All stand)*

All: *We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again, in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

Subdeacon: Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray for ourselves and for our ministries, and for all of our parish family as we prepare to welcome our new rector.

Lord, you have called us to serve you. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Subdeacon: Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; That we may honor one another and serve the common good. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Subdeacon: Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Subdeacon: Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. *Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Subdeacon: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Subdeacon: We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

CONFESSION

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. ***Silence may be kept.***

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you. *People: And also with you.*

(The People are encouraged to exchange the greetings of peace with all around them.)

AT THE OFFERING *Sung by the Choir*

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum. Benedicta tu in mulieribus,

et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Iesus. Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,

ora pro nobis peccatoribus, nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and in the hour of our death. Amen.

Music: Jacob Arcadelt

**PRESENTATION
HYMN
265**

Gabriel's Message

Standing

1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came,
 2 "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be,
 3 Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head,
 4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born

his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;
 all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee,
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,
 in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,

"All hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,
 thy Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 "my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name."
 and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say—

most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!

THE HOLY COMMUNION

**THE GREAT
THANKSGIVING**

Celebrant *People*
 The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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

Celebrant
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
 It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

F. Boles

Cantor *All*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

All:

God of po-wer and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

- san - na in the high - est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Cantor

Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

All

Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

- san - na in the high - est. Ho -

- san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

The people stand or kneel.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All: We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.* And now, *as* our Savior taught us to pray,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 celebrant breaks the consecrated Host. All then sing:)

FRACTION ANTHEM

F. Boles

All:

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

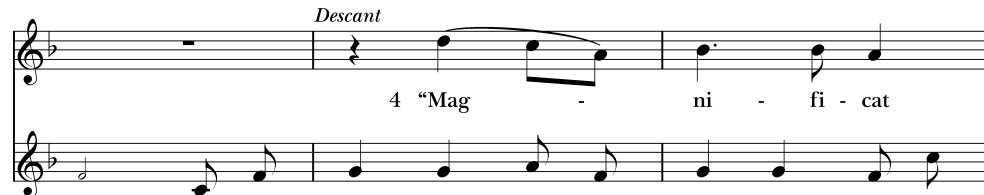
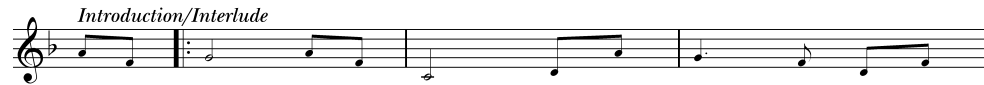
Celebrant: The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

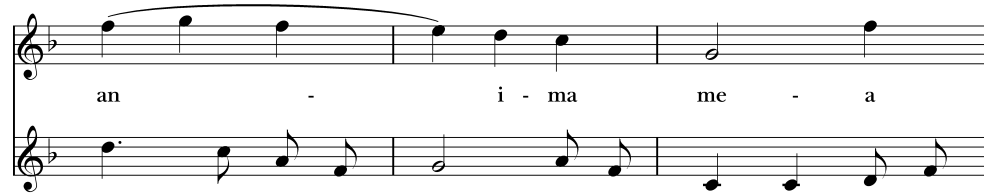
(All who seek God are welcome to receive communion or a blessing. The congregation comes forward to receive communion while the choir sings an anthem. The choir receives after the congregation. All join in singing the hymns.)

COMMUNION HYMN 268

Julion



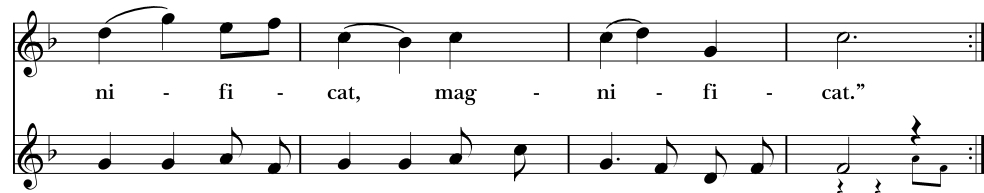
1 Ye who claim the faith of Je - sus, sing the
 2 Bless - ed were the cho - sen peo - ple out of
 3 There - fore let all faith - ful peo - ple sing the
 4 "Mag - ni - fy, my soul, God's great - ness; in my



won - ders that were done when the love of God the
 whom the Lord did come; bless - ed was the land of
 hon - or of her name; let the Church, in her fore -
 Sa - viour I re - joice; all the a - ges call me



Fa - ther o - ver sin the vic - tory won, when he
 prom - ise fa - shioned for his earth - ly home; but more
 shad - owed, part in her thanks - giv - ing claim; what Christ's
 bless - ed, in his praise I lift my voice; he has



made the Vir - gin Ma - ry mo - ther of his on - ly Son.
 bless - ed far the mo - ther, she who bore him in her womb.
 mo - ther sang in glad - ness let Christ's peo - ple sing the same:
 cast down all the might - y, and the low - ly are his choice."



Words: Sts. 1-3, Vincent Stuckey Stratton Coles (1845-1929), alt.; st. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984) metrical *Magnificat*.
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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(All Stand.)*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: *Eternal God, heavenly Father,*

you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.

Send us now into the world in peace and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Celebrant: May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. Amen.

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. Amen.

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen.

HYMN IN PROCESSION 56

*Veni, veni
Emmanuel*



(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
(Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
(Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
(Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from
(Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
(Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us
(Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the
(Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to
5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions
8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.
8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode I, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

VOLUNTARY Postlude on "Veni Emmanuel"

Robert Lau

DISMISSAL

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

People: Thanks be to God.

The Liturgy has now ended. Let the service begin.

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