

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

20 December 2020



Trinity Episcopal Church
Watertown, New York



THE VOLUNTARY *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

arr. Gerald Near (b. 1942)

Sung by all.

THE OPENING HYMN

VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL



1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2. O come, thou Rod of Jes - se, free thine own from Sa - tan's
3. O come, thou Day - spring, come and cheer our spi - rits by thine
4. O come thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen wide our
5. O come, O come, thou Lord of Might, who to thy tribes on



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
ty - ran - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple save,
ad - vent here; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,
heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that leads on high,
Si - nai's height, in an - cient times did give the law



un - til the Son of God ap - pear: Re - jice! Re -
and give them vic - tory o'er the grave:
and death's dark sha - dows put to flight:
and close the path to mi - se - ry:
in cloud and ma - jes - ty and awe:



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

The people standing, the Celebrant begins

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Then the Celebrant says

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." Mark 12:29-31

The Celebrant then says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

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.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,
strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

Sung by all.

KYRIE *Lord, have mercy upon us*

Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena; Healey Willan

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

The Celebrant says to the people

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

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.*

The people sit.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

2 Samuel 7.1-11, 16

Lector A Reading from the Second Book of Samuel.

When the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The canticle is recited in unison.

CANTICLE 15 *Magnificat*

- 1 My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
- 2 From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.
- 3 He has mercy on those who fear him *

in every generation.

- 4 He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
5 He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
6 He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
7 He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
8 The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE EPISTLE

Romans 16.25-27

Lector A Reading from the Letter of Paul to Romans.

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sung by all.

THE SEQUENCE HYMN

GABRIEL'S MESSAGE

1. The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came, his
2. "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be, all
3. Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head, "To
4. Of her, Em-man - u - el, the Christ, was born in
wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame; "All
gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee, thy
me be as it pleas - eth God," she said, "my
Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn, and

hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry, most
 Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told, most
 soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name." Most
 Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say "Most
 high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - - - - ri - a!
 high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - - - - ri - a!
 high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - - - - ri - a!
 high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - - - - ri - a!

Then, all standing, the Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1.26-38

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people are seated.

THE SERMON

The Rev'd Molly Payne-Hardin

The people stand.

THE NICENE CREED

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.

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

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Form II*

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop, DeDe Duncan-Probe;
for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.
Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.
Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.
Pray for those in any need or trouble, Ian, Bob, Norma, Lisa, Rachel, Stephen, Sammy, and Tina.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.
Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

We pray for all who are serving in the Armed Forces, especially Ben Miller and Kyle Hesse during his deployment.

I invite your additional prayers and thanksgivings, either silently or aloud.

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

THE ANTHEM *For Unto Us a Child is Born* from *Messiah*, HWV56 George F. Handel (1685-1759)

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace (*Isaiah 9.6*)

*Sackets Harbor Vocal Arts Ensemble and Orchestra
from the 100th performance on the Trinity Concert Series, December 22, 2019*

Said by all.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy Name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

The Celebrant says

THE ADVENT BLESSING

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.*

Sung by all.

THE CLOSING HYMN

ST. GEORGE



1. Praise we the Lord this day, this day so long fore-told, whose
2. The pro-phet gave the sign for faith-ful folk to read: a
3. Ask not how this should be, but wor-ship and a-dore, like
4. She meek-ly bowed her head to hear the gra-cious word, Ma-
5. Most blest shall be her name in all the Church on earth, through



prom-ise shone with cheer-ing ray on wait-ing saints of old.
vir-gin born of Da-vid's line shall bear the prom-ised seed.
her whom hea-ven's Ma-jes-ty came down to sha-dow o'er.
ry, the pure and low-ly maid, the fa-vored of the Lord.
whom that won-drous mer-cy came, the in-car-nate Sa-rior's birth.

THE VOLUNTARY *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The mission of Trinity Episcopal Church is to celebrate Christ through steadfast worship, inclusive hospitality and service to all.

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