



**Third Sunday of Advent  
December 17, 2023 11:00 am**

*Welcome Guests & Visitors! We are glad you are here.*

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**PRELUDE**

**OPENING ACCLAMATION**

Book of Common Prayer

*All stand*

*Officiant* O God, make speed to save us.

*People* ***O Lord, make haste to help us.***

*Officiant and People*

***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.***

***Alleluia.***

**Hymn**

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (verses, 1, 4, 5, 8)

Hymnal #56

***O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!***

***O come, thou Branch of Jesse's tree, free them from Satan's tyranny  
that trust thy mighty power to save, and give them victory o'er the grave.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!***

***O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!***

***O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!***

**BIDDING PRAYER**

**LESSON 1**

“The Spirit of the Lord will rest upon the Holy One”

Isaiah 11:1-9

Anthem

*O Magnum Mysterium*  
(Women)

Evan Ramos

**LESSON 2**

“The prophet proclaims good news to a people in exile”

Isaiah 40:1-11

Anthem

*A Song for Advent*  
St. Thomas Chancel Choir

Lowell Mason & Jon Paige

**LESSON 3**

“God promises that a child shall be conceived”

Isaiah 7:10-15

Hymn

*Of the Father’s Love Begotten*  
Congregation

*Of the Father’s love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,  
he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he,  
of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,  
evermore and evermore!*

*O that birth for ever blessed, when the Virgin, full of grace,  
by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race;  
and the Babe, the world’s Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face,  
evermore and evermore!*

Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-410?)

**LESSON 4**

“The angel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary”

Luke 1:26-38

Anthem

*The Angel Gabriel*  
Chancel Choir

Sabine Baring-Gould  
Joel Raney

**LESSON 5**

“St. Matthew tells of the coming birth of the Savior”

Matthew 1:18-23

Anthem

*Jesus Christ the Apple Tree*  
Quartet

Elizabeth Poston

OFFERTORY - *The collection is taken at this time and brought to the altar.*

**LESSON 6**

“Jesus is baptized by John and proclaims the coming  
of the Kingdom of God”

Mark 1:1-15

**THE SERMON**

*During the singing of the anthem, the officiant proceeds to the high altar.*

*The responsory may be chanted on one note, dropping a minor third on the text underlined.*

**VESPER RESPONSORY**

v. Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dis-mayed:

r. ***Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.***

v. Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord.

r. ***Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.***

v. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

r. ***Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.***

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*A moment of silence is kept.*

v. We wait for thy loving kindness, O Lord.

r. ***In the midst of thy tem-ple.***

**COLLECT FOR ADVENT****THE BLESSING****HYMN**

*People, Look East*  
Congregation

***People, look East. The time is near of the crowning of the year.***

***Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.***

***People, look East and sing today: Love the Guest is on the way.***

***Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there:***

***Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow'r may flourish.***

***People, look East and sing today: Love the Rose is on the way.***

***Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled.***

***Even the hour when wings are frozen He for fledgling time has chosen.***

***People, look East and sing today: Love the Bird is on the way.***

***Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim,***

***/shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.***

***People, look East and sing today: Love the Star is on the way.***

***Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Him who brings new life to earth.***

***Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.***

***People, look East and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.***

## POSTLUDE

*To request prayers, please fill out the form on the Pray card located on the backs of the chairs. We invite you to list your specific concerns and leave them in the Prayer Request box at the back of the Nave, place them in the offering plate, or bring them to the church office. Prayers of the People are written weekly. Normally they are offered for three weeks, but any request may be resubmitted as needed.*

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