



# ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## A SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS FOR ADVENT

December 8, 2019      5 P.M.

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### WELCOME!

Welcome to St. Thomas's Episcopal Church for this Service of Lessons & Carols for Advent. To follow along with the service, you will need **only this service bulletin**. Throughout, the People's responses are shown in **bold**. After the service all are invited to a **reception in honor of the St. Thomas's Choir** in the Lounge on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Thanks to the Edwards and Chavira families for hosting!

**Families with small children:** Three seating areas at the front of the church are reserved for families with small children: the area under the array of paper cranes (for children age 3 and under), and the areas in front of the two front pews. For safety, every child should be accompanied by a caregiver.

**Wireless access in the Sanctuary** is accessible by connecting to wireless network STEC – Guest. Your device will open a web browser and St. Thomas's website.

**Restrooms for men and women** are located on the second floor. Go through the red double doors at the front of the church, up the stairs to the left, and to the far end of the hallway. An **all-gender restroom (with baby changing table)** is in the Vesting Room, located opposite the red double doors at the front of the church.

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### Prelude

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659  
Es ist ein Ros entsprungen, Op. 122, No. 8

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)  
Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)

### Introit: Zion hört die Wächter singen

J. S. Bach (1685–1750), BWV 140

Zion hört die Wächter singen,  
das Herz tut ihr vor Freuden springen,  
sie wachet und steht eilend auf.  
Ihr Freund kommt vom Himmel prächtig,  
von Gnaden stark, von Wahrheit mächtig,  
ihr Licht wird hell, ihr Stern geht auf.  
Nun komm, du werthe Kron,  
Herr Jesu, Gottes Sohn.  
Hosianna!  
Wir folgen all zum Freudensaal  
und halten mit das Abendmahl.

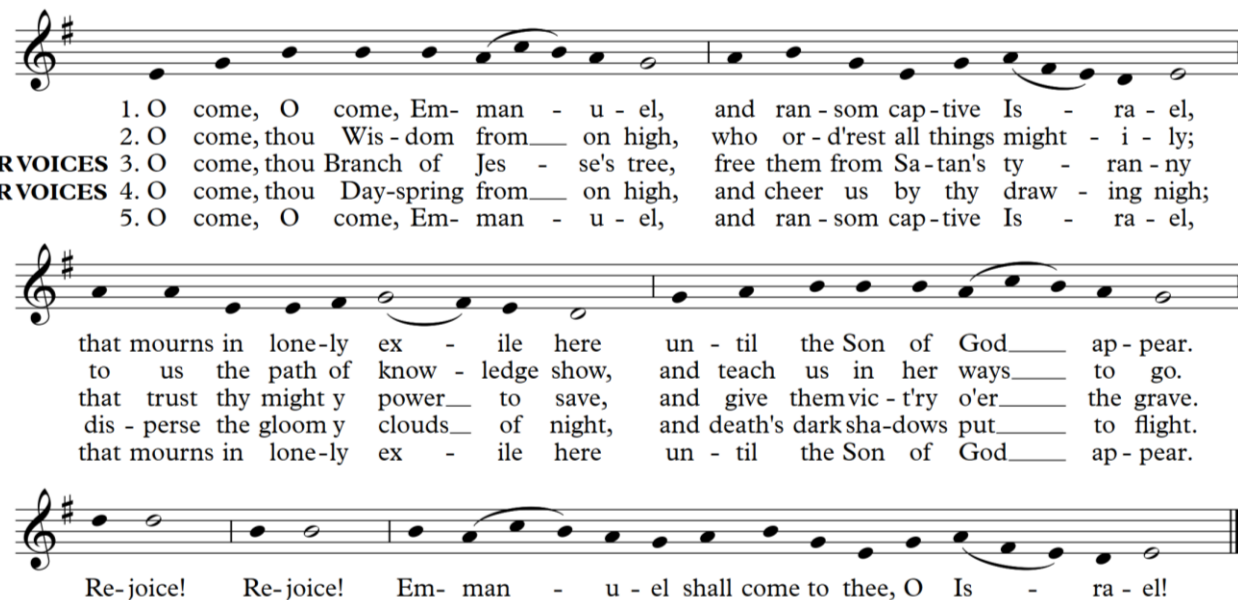
Zion hears the watchmen sing,  
her heart leaps for joy within her,  
she wakens and hastily arises.  
Her glorious Friend comes from heaven,  
strong in mercy, powerful in truth,  
her light becomes bright, her star rises.  
Now come, precious crown,  
Lord Jesus, the Son of God!  
Hosanna!  
We all follow to the hall of joy  
and hold the evening meal together.

*Text: Philipp Nicolai (1556–1608)*

*At the ringing of the bell, please stand.*

## O come, O come, Emmanuel *(sung by all)*

*Veni, veni, Emmanuel*



1. O come, O come, Em- man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,  
2. O come, thou Wis - dom from \_\_\_ on high, who or - d' rest all things might - i - ly;  
**LOWER VOICES** 3. O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny  
**UPPER VOICES** 4. O come, thou Day - spring from \_\_\_ on high, and cheer us by thy draw - ing nigh;  
5. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,  
that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God \_\_\_ ap - pear.  
to us the path of know - ledge show, and teach us in her ways \_\_\_ to go.  
that trust thy might y power \_\_\_ to save, and give them vic - t'ry o'er \_\_\_ the grave.  
dis - perse the gloom y clouds \_\_\_ of night, and death's dark sha - dows put \_\_\_ to flight.  
that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God \_\_\_ ap - pear.

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

## Bidding Prayer

*Priest*

Dear People of God: in this season of Advent, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against our God until the glorious redemption brought to us by God's holy Child Jesus, and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and justice on earth; for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and within this city of New Haven.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless; the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children; as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore.

And now, to sum up all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us, saying:

*Priest and People*

**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.**

*Priest*

The Almighty God bless us with his grace: Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

*All are seated.*

### **First Lesson: Genesis 3:1-15**

*Jennifer Herdt*

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves. They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?” He said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.”

He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.” Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent tricked me, and I ate.”

The Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.”

**Jesus Christ the Apple Tree** (*sung by the choir*)

Elizabeth Poston (1905–1987)

The tree of life of my soul hath seen,  
Laden with fruit and always green:  
The trees of nature fruitless be  
Compared with Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel:  
By faith I know, but ne'er can tell  
The glory which I now can see  
In Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought,  
And pleasure dearly I have bought:  
I missed of all; but now I see  
'Tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil,  
Here I will sit and rest awhile:  
Under the shadow I will be,  
Of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,  
It keeps my dying faith alive;  
Which makes my soul in haste to be  
With Jesus Christ the apple tree.

*Text: Anonymous, based on Solomon 2:3-5*

**Second Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-9**

*Jesse Stricklan*

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.

**A shoot shall come forth** (*sung by the choir*)

Richard Horn (1938–2004)

A shoot shall come forth out of Jesse,  
And a bud shall grow out of his roots.  
The spirit of life shall be with him,  
The spirit of wisdom and truth.

Then the lamb shall lie down with the leopard,  
And the lion eat straw with the ox,  
For the hand of a Child shall lead them  
To the peaceable kingdom of God.

From out of the wells of salvation  
Will he draw us the water of life;  
His waist shall be girdled with justice,  
The heart of his heart shall be Love.

He'll come from the end of his heaven,  
And the earth shall be torn from its place;  
Our lives shall be filled with his radiance  
As floodwaters cover the sea.

*Text: Richard Horn, based on Isaiah 11 and 32:18*

**Third Lesson: Isaiah 35:1-10**

*Bill English*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

*All stand.*

**"Sleepers, wake!"** (*sung by all*)

*Wachet auf*

1 "Sleep-ers, wake!"      A    voice    a - stounds      us,      the  
 2 Zi - on hears      the    watch - men    sing - ing;      her  
 3 Lamb of God,      the    heavens    a - dore      you;      let

shout    of    ram - part - guards    sur - rounds      us:      "A -  
 heart    with    joy - ful    hope    is    spring - ing,      she  
 saints    and    an - gels    sing    be - fore      you,      as

wake,    Je - ru - sa - lem,    a - rise!"      Mid - night's    peace    their  
 wakes    and    hur - ries    through    the    night.      Forth    he    comes,    her  
 harps    and    cym - bals    swell    the    sound.      Twelve    great    pearls,    the

cry has bro - ken, their ur - gent sum - mons clear - ly spo -  
 Bride-groom glo - rious in strength of grace, in truth vic - to -  
 ci - ty's por - tals: through them we stream to join the im - mor -

ken: "The time has come, O maid - ens wise!  
 rious: her star is risen, her light grows bright.  
 tals as we with joy your throne sur - round.

Rise up, and give us light; the Bride - groom is in  
 Now come, most wor - thy Lord, God's Son, In - car - nate  
 No eye has known the sight, no ear heard such de -

sight. Al - le - lu - ia! Your lamps pre - pare and  
 Word, Al - le - lu - ia! We fol - low all and  
 light: Al - le - lu - ia! There - fore we sing to

has - ten there, that you the wed - ding feast may share."  
 heed your call to come in - to the ban - quet hall.  
 greet our King; for ev - er let our prais - es ring.

Words: Philip Nicolai (1556-1608); tr. Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944) Copyright ©1982, Carl P. Daw, Jr. All rights reserved. Used with permission.  
 Music: *Wachet auf*, melody Hans Sachs (1494-1576); adapt. Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); arr. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

*All are seated.*

#### Fourth Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-11

*Judy Thompson*

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.” A voice says, “Cry out!” And I said, “What shall I cry?” All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, “Here is your God!” See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

**Drop down, ye heavens, from above** (*sung by the choir*)

Judith Weir (b. 1954)

Drop down, ye heavens, from above,  
and let the skies pour down righteousness.  
Comfort ye, comfort ye my people;  
my salvation shall not tarry.

I have blotted out as a thick cloud,  
thy transgressions:  
Fear not, for I will save thee;  
For I am the Lord thy God,  
the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer.

*Text: Rorate caeli (The Advent Prose)*

**Fifth Lesson: Isaiah 64:1-9a**

*Ricardo Chavira*

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.

We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

*All stand.*

Creator of the stars of night (*sung by all*)

*Conditor alme siderum*



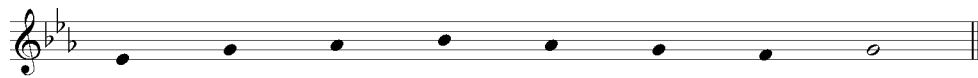
1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,  
 2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse  
 3 When this old world drew on toward night,  
 4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now  
 5 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,  
 \* 6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,



1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,  
 2 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,  
 3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,  
 4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow;  
 5 re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;  
 6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,  
 2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free  
 3 not as a mon - arch, but the child  
 4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,  
 5 de - fend us while we dwell be - low  
 6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



1 we pray you hear us when we call.  
 2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.  
 3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.  
 4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.  
 5 from all as - saults of our dread foe.  
 6 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Words: Latin, 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Conditor alme siderum*, plainsong, Mode 4; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956) Copyright ©1984, Bruce Neswick. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

*All are seated.*

**Sixth Lesson: Zephaniah 3:14-18**

*Craig Bottiger*

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.



**Rejoice greatly** (*sung by Maggie Lieberman*)

*George Frideric Handel (1685–1759)*

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion,  
shout, O daughter of Jerusalem;  
behold, thy King cometh unto thee:

He is the righteous Savior,  
and He shall speak peace unto the heathen.

*Text: Zechariah 9:9-10*

**Seventh Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-15**

*Denise Terry*

Again 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.

*All stand.*

**Hark! the glad sound!** (*sung by all*)

*Richmond*

*Descant*

4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

1 Hark! the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior  
 2 He comes, the pri - songers to re - lease in Sa - tan's  
 3 He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

prom - ised long; let ev - ery heart pre -  
 bond - age held; the gates of brass be -  
 soul to cure; and with the trea - sures  
 shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.  
 pare a throne, and ev - ery voice a song.  
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
 arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

*All are seated.*

**Eighth Lesson: Micah 5:2-4**

*Don Edwards*

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.

**O Thou the central orb** (*sung by the choir*)

*Charles Wood (1866–1926)*

O Thou the central orb of righteous love,  
 Pure beam of the most High, eternal Light  
 Of this our wintry world, Thy radiance bright  
 Awakes new joy in faith, hope soars above.  
 Come, quickly come, and let Thy glory shine,  
 Gilding our darksome heaven with rays Divine.  
 Thy saints with holy lustre round Thee move,

As stars about Thy throne,  
 set in the height of God's ordaining counsel,  
 as Thy sight Gives measur'd grace to each,  
 Thy power to prove.  
 Let Thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin,  
 Our nature all shall feel eternal day,  
 In fellowship with Thee, transforming day  
 to souls erewhile clean, now pure within. Amen.

*Text: Henry Ramsden Bramley (1833–1917)*

*All stand for the Ninth Lesson.*

**Ninth Lesson: Luke 1:26-38**

*Alisa D'Andrea*

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.

*All are seated. During this anthem a collection will be taken. The offering will be used to further the mission of St. Thomas’s Church.*

**Ave Maria** *(sung by the choir)*

Anton Bruckner (1824–1896)

Ave Maria gratia plena Dominus tecum  
benedicta tu in mulieribus  
et benedictus fructus ventris tui Jesus  
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 at the hour of our death. Amen.

*Text: Angelus (Luke 1:28,31)*

*All stand.*

### Vesper Responsory

Priest: Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed:

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

Priest: Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord:

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

Priest: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:

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

*A period of silence is kept, and then the Priest continues*

Let us pray. Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your 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 living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### Welcome and Announcements

## Lo, he comes, with clouds descending *(sung by all)*

*Helmstley*

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for  
2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in  
3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his  
4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand  
dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at  
daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less  
thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his  
nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the  
ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -  
power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,  
ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,  
own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.  
with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: *Helmstley*, melody Augustine Arne (1710-1778); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), alt.

## The Blessing

*Priest*

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.**

## Voluntary

Final from Symphony no. 1

Louis Vierne (1870–1937)

*Please remain standing as the procession leaves the church. You may then be seated for the organ music.*

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