



# ST. JOHN'S CHURCH - SAVANNAH

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT  
DECEMBER 21, 2025  
11:00AM

## PROCESSION AND LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR ADVENT

*Please maintain a reverent silence before the service*

## VOLUNTARY: Advent Rhapsody

Andrew Kirk (b. 1970)

*As the procession enters the Nave, the People stand*

*Once all have taken their place, the Advent wreath is lit as the Choir sings*

## THE ADVENT RESPONSORY

I look from afar;

and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth.

Go ye out to meet him and say:

Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?

High and low, rich and poor, one with another,

Go ye out to meet him and say:

Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep,

Tell us, art thou he that should come?

Stir up they strength, O Lord, and come to reign over the people Israel.

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

I look from afar:

and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth.

Words: *Aspiciens a longe*, Responsory I of Advent Sunday from the *Breviarium Sarisburicense*

Music: adapted from a Magnificat by Giovanni Palestrina (c. 1525-1594)

### *A Preist then sings*

*The Procession begins and the People join in singing*

## Hymn 2 “O come, O come Emmanuel”

## VENI EMMANUEL

*The procession pauses at the Chancel steps, and a Priest sings*

*The People remain standing and a Priest continues with the Collects. To each they respond*

Amen.

*The Priest then sings*

*Priest* *People*

Arise, O God, maintain thine own cause.  
For all the earth is full of dark-ness.

*The procession continues and the People join in singing*

## Hymn 1 “Come, thou long-expected Jesus”

STUTTGART

### *The People sit*

## THE FIRST LESSON: Genesis 3:8-15 *read by Smith Pollak*

CAROL

Adam lay ybounden,  
Bounden in a bond;  
Four thousand winter  
Thought he not too long.

Ne had the apple taken been,  
Ne had never our lady  
Abeen heavné queen.

And all was for an apple,  
an apple that he took,  
As clerkès finden written  
In their book.

Blessed be the time  
That apple taken was,  
Therefore we moun (must) singen,  
*Deo gracias!* (Thanks be to God!)

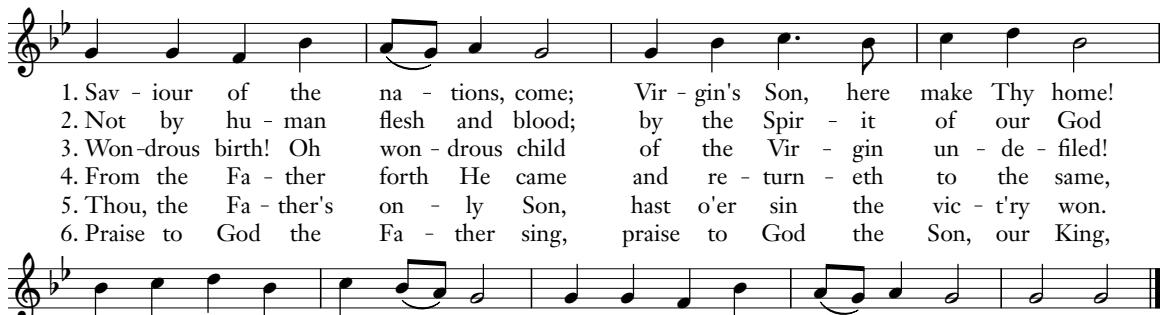
Words: Anonymous, 15th Century  
Music: Boris Ord (1897-1961)

## THE SECOND LESSON: Genesis 22:15-18 *read by Mary Sprague*

*The People stand and join in singing*

Hymn “Saviour of the nations, come”

NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND



1. Sav - iour of the na - tions, come; Vir - gin's Son, here make Thy home!  
2. Not by hu - man flesh and blood; by the Spir - it of our God  
3. Won - drous birth! Oh won - drous child of the Vir - gin un - de - filed!  
4. From the Fa - ther forth He came and re - turn - eth to the same,  
5. Thou, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son, hast o'er sin the vic - t'ry won.  
6. Praise to God the Fa - ther sing, praise to God the Son, our King,

mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.  
was the Word of God made flesh, wo - man's off - spring, pure and fresh.  
Might - y God and Ma - ry's son, ea - ger now his race to run.  
cap - tive lead - ing death and hell high the song of tri - umph swell!  
Bound - less shall Thy king - dom be; when shall we its glo - ries see?  
Praise to God the Spir - it be, Ev - er and e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

*The People sit*

THE THIRD LESSON: Isaiah 7:10-15 *read by Stephen Ezelle*

#### CAROL

Lo, how a Rose ever blooming from tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung.  
It came, a blossom bright, amid the cold of winter,  
when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind,  
with Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.  
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior,  
When half spent was the night.

O Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,  
dispel in glorious splendor the darkness everywhere;  
true man, yet very God, from sin and death now save us,  
and share our every load.

Words: German carol, 15th Century  
Music: Bruce Neswick (b. 1956)

THE FOURTH LESSON: Isaiah 40:9-11 *read by Rick Wright*

## CAROL

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.  
  
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.

Furrow, be glad. Though earth is bare,  
One more seed is planted there:  
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,  
That in course the flower may flourish.  
People look East, and sing today:  
Love the Rose is on the way.  
  
Angels, announce to man and beast  
Him who cometh from the East.  
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.

Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965)  
Music: Barry Ferguson (b. 1942)

## THE FIFTH LESSON: Luke 1:26-35 *read by Heather Cross*

## CAROL

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;  
“All hail” said he, “thou lowly maiden Mary,  
*Most highly favoured lady,* *Gloria!* (Glory!)

“For know a blessed Mother thou shalt be,  
All generations laud and honour thee,  
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold.

*Refrain*

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,  
“To me be as it pleaseth God,” she said,  
“My soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name.”

*Refrain*

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born  
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,  
And Christian fold throughout the world will ever say

*Refrain*

Words: Reverend Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)  
Music: Old Basque Carol

## THE SIXTH LESSON: Matthew 1:18-25 *read by Graham Sadler*

*The People stand and join in singing*

Hymn "Come, thou Redeemer of the earth"

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR



1. Come thou Re-deem-er of the earth, come, tes - ti - fy thy Vir - gin-birth:  
2. Forth from his cham-ber go - eth he, that roy - al home of pu - ri - ty,  
3. From God the Fa - ther he pro-ceeds, to God the Fa - ther back he speeds;  
4. O e - qual to thy Fa - ther, thou! Gird on thy flesh - y man - tle now;  
5. Thy cra - dle here shall glit - ter bright, and dark-ness breathe a new - er light,  
6. All laud, e - ter - nal Son to thee whose ad - vent sets thy peo - ple free,



All lands ad - mire, all times ap - plaud: such is the birth that fits a God.  
a giant in two - fold sub-stance one, re - joic - ing now his course to run.  
runs out his course to death and hell re - turns on God's high throne to dwell.  
the weak-ness of our mor - tal state with death-less might in - vig - or - ate.  
where end - less faith shall shine se - rene, and twi - light nev - er in - ter - vene.  
whom with the Fa - ther we a - dore, and Ho - ly Ghost for ev - er - more.

*The People remain standing and say together*

THE APOSTLES' CREED *(said by All)*

BCP, p. 15

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary: Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead: He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty: From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost: The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints: The Forgiveness of sins: The ✕ Resurrection of the body: And the Life Everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS *(said by the Officiant and People)*

℣ The Lord be with you.

℟ And with thy spirit.

℣ Let us pray.

*The People kneel, and the Officiant continues*

℣ Lord have mercy upon us;

℟ Christ have mercy upon us;

℣ Lord have mercy upon us.

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(said by All)*

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 SUFFRAGES (*said by All*)

℣ Thou that sittest upon the Cherubim,  
℟ Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come, and help us.  
℣ Drop down, ye heavens, from above,  
℟ And let the skies pour down righteousness  
℣ Let the earth open,  
℟ and bring forth salvation.  
℣ Turn us again, O Lord God of hosts;  
℟ Show the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.

*The Officiant continues*

Grant, O Almighty God, that as thy Son Jesus Christ at His first Advent did come to seek and to save that which was lost; so at His second and glorious appearing He may find in us the fruits of the Redemption which he wrought; who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, One God, world without end. *Amen.*

*The People sit*

### THE NOTICES

### THE ADDRESS

### THE OFFERING

*The People stand and a Priest begins the Offertory with a sentence of scripture.*

*The People remain standing and join in singing*

Offertory Hymn 775 “Joy to the world!”

ANTIOCH

*The People remain standing as representatives of the congregation bring the People’s gifts to the Priest and sing*

Hymn 139 “Praise God, from whom all blessings flow”

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him, above ye heavenly hosts:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*The Priest then says*

                         All things come of thee, O Lord,  
People              and of thine own have we given thee. Amen.

*The Choir then sings*

Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed;  
*Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.*

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

## *Refrain*

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

### *Refrain*

Words: Responsorium: *Judea et Jerusalem*, Vespers of Christmas Eve from the *Breviarium Romanum*

### Music: Giovanni Palestrina (c. 1525-1594)

### *A Preist then sings*

*The People kneel and the Priest continues*

*Priest* We wait for thy loving-kindness, O Lord; *People* In the midst of thy tem - ple.

*Priest* Open wide, O Lord, the gate of heaven and visit thy people in peace;

*People* Send forth thy Spirit from on high that their hearts may be up - lift - ed un - to Thee.

*The Priest then pronounces the blessing, to which the People respond*

Amen.

*The People stand and join in singing*

Hymn 236 "Once in royal David's city" (*The congregation joins in singing at the third verse*)

JRBV

*The People kneel and the Priest says*

The Spirit and the Bride say Come, and let everyone that heareth say Come, Amen; even so, quickly come, Lord Jesus.

## People

Amen.

## VOLUNTARY: Postlude

George Dyson (1883-1964)

*The People are invited to be seated for the voluntary or depart quietly.*

*Please join us in the Green-Meldrim House following the liturgy for Coffee Hour*

## WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

*Our mission is to build a community in Christ that is grounded in historic faith, reverent worship, and is committed to sharing the life-transforming truth of the Gospel.*

325 Bull Street on Madison Square  
Telephone: 912.232.1251 • Website: [www.stjohnssav.org](http://www.stjohnssav.org)

Nursery care is available from 8:45AM - 12:15AM in Cranmer Hall.  
Please speak to an usher for assistance with the location of the nursery.

For information on worship and other events of the Parish, see the separate Parish Paper located at the back of the Nave.

### Clergy

The Right Reverend Frank Logue, *Bishop*

The Reverend Gavin Dunbar, *Rector*

The Reverend Jonathan Jameson, *Associate Rector*

### Honorary Assisting Clergy

The Right Reverend Paul Lambert, *Bishop (retired)* DEPO

The Reverend J. Patrick Hunt, *Assisting Priest*

The Reverend David Thurlow, *Assisting Priest*

### Vestry

Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr. (Barbara)

Mr. Charles J. Ezelle

Mrs. L. Allan Reynolds, Jr. (Beverley)

Mr. Stephen D. Ezelle

Mr. Douglas P. McManamy

Mr. R. Scott Howard

Mrs. Jonathan D. Sprague (Mary)

Mr. Richard Wright (Rick)

Mrs. Patrick Worsham (Jane)

Mrs. James F. Holtzclaw (Sherry)

### Vestry Emeriti

Mr. George Fawcett, Mr. Edwin H. Culver, Mr. J. Earl Gilbreath, Jr.,  
M. Tyus Butler, Jr., Esq. (Ty), *Chancellor Emeritus & Vestryman Emeritus*

### Officers of the Vestry

Mr. Graham P. Sadler, *Senior Warden*

Mrs. Duncan Pindar (Terry), *Junior Warden*

Mr. Floyd Whittington, Jr., *Treasurer*

Mrs. Stuart C. Clifford (Susan), *Assistant Treasurer*

Mrs. Elizabeth H. Schubert, *Clerk of Vestry*

Dolly Chisholm, *Chancellor*

### Women of St. John's Melanie Finnegan, *President*

### Chancel Society

Mrs. Jeanne H. McMillan and Mrs. Linda H. Pounds, *Co-Presidents*

### Men of St. John's Mr. Benjamin Baxter, *President*