



**The Third Sunday of Advent
December 15, 2024
10:45 am**

Welcome

Song

Candle Lighting

*As we light the third candle,
on this advent wreath.
Prepare our hearts to be ready,
arouse us from sleep.
In place of suffering,
give us grace and joy here.
For the day of your coming
is sure to be near.*

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Wreath lit by Mike & Beth Quattroccioci

Opening Song

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

**Come, thou long expected Jesus
Born to set thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in thee
Israel's strength and consolation
Hope of all the earth thou art
Dear desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart
Joy of every heart**

**Born thy people to deliver
Born a child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever
Now thy gracious kingdom bring
By thine own eternal spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone
By thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to thy glorious throne**

**You draw the hearts of shepherds
You draw the hearts of kings**

**Even as a baby, You were changing everything
You called me to Your Kingdom
Before Your lips could speak
And even as a baby,
You were reaching out for me**

**And now we are awaiting
The day of Your return
When every eye will see You
As heaven comes to earth
Until the sky is opened
Until the trumpet sounds
The bride is getting ready
The church is singing out**

**Come, thou long expected Jesus
Born to set thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in thee
Come, thou long expected King!**

Opening Acclamation

Clergy Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Collect of the Day

Clergy The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Clergy Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-20

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.
I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.
And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.
At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the Lord.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah

Surely, it is God who saves me; *
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.
And on that day you shall say, *
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is

near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Song

Every Promise

From the breaking of the dawn
To the setting of the sun
I will stand on every promise of your Word.

In this dark and troubled land
You will guide me with your hand.
As I stand on every promise of your Word.

Grace sufficient, grace for me,
Grace for all who will believe.
We will stand on every promise of your Word.

Holy Gospel

Luke 3: 7-18

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Clergy The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

The Rev. Pilar F. Padrón Parnell

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.

Prayers of the People

All are invited to stand, kneel, or sit as you are able to for the prayers.

Intercessor

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, responding with the words in bold.

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.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We pray for the community of St. James 'and all who minister to it, our clergy, vestry, and lay leaders. May God's call upon their lives make God's love known in our work together as the hands and feet of Jesus in this world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; praying for our president, Joe, and our governor, Kathy, that we may honor one another and serve the common good. We pray for those who are living in fear of violence and for people and places we now name silently or aloud_____.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

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
Hear our prayer.

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. We pray especially for our young families, children, and those who are welcoming new babies. May we recall the face of God in their lives and remember our call in baptism to support their lives in Christ.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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. Remembering especially, _____.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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. Remembering especially, _____.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Holy Trinity, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Confession of Sin

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

Clergy

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.**

The Peace

Clergy

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

Announcements

Anniversary & Birthday Blessings

May the strength of God pilot you, May the power of God preserve you, May the wisdom of God instruct you, May the hand of God protect you, May the way of God direct you, May the shield of God guard you against the snares of evil and the temptations of the world. May the Spirit of God bless you in the coming year.

Adapted from Patrick, c.389 - c.46

An offering is collected to help support St. James' mission of sharing Christ's love in with the world. You can donate by scanning or tapping the QR code or visiting www.stjameskan.org/support-stjames.



Offertory

Holy Water

The Great Thanksgiving

Priest

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Priest

Lift up your hearts.

People

We lift them to the Lord.

Priest

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we say:

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing the wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with St. James' and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

Celebrant

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The Communion

The sacrament is given to the people.

Music at Communion

Even So Come

The Postcommunion Prayer

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.

Blessing

Closing Song

Our God

**Water You turned into wine
Opened the eyes of the blind
There's no one like You
None like You
Into the darkness You shine
Out of the ashes we rise
There's no one like You
None like You**

**Our God is greater
Our God is stronger
God You are higher than any other
Our God is healer
Awesome in power our God our God**

**Into the darkness You shine
Out of the ashes we rise
There's no one like You
None like You**

Our God is greater

**Our God is stronger
God You are higher than any other
Our God is healer
Awesome in power our God our God**

**And if our God is for us
Then who could ever stop us
And if our God is with us
Then what could stand against
And if our God is for us
Then who could ever stop us
And if our God is with us
Then what could stand against
Then what could stand against**

**Our God is greater
Our God is stronger
God You are higher than any other
Our God is healer
Awesome in power our God our God!**

The Dismissal is given by the Clergy, and the People respond, **'Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!'**

Participants in the Liturgy

Celebrant
Director of Contemporary Music & Technology
Asst. Director of Contemporary Music & Technology
Media Engineer
Lector
Intercessor
Eucharistic Minister

Ushers

The Rev. Pilar F. Padrón Parnell
Michael Larkin
Dr. Nicholas Kilkenny
Carmen Liberatore
Margie Amberge
Jon Glass
Megan Glass
Diane Steckel
Bob & Nancy Lee

Copyrighted hymn texts and music reprinted and streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-735321, CCLI Church Copyright License #2417358, and CCLI Streaming License #20564297. All rights reserved.



*St. James' Episcopal Church * 96. E. Genesee St. Skaneateles, NY 13152 * 315-685-7600 * www.StJamesSkan.org*