

St. John's Episcopal Church
76 Market Street
Salem, New Jersey

December 17, 2017

10:30 AM.

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
A SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS

ORGAN PRELUDES: Three Christmas Chorale Improvisations (from Op. 65)
2. *Aus meines Herzen's Grunde* Sigfried Karg-Elert
5. *Freu dich sehr, O meine Seele*
10. *Vom Himmel hoch da komm ich her*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *Once in Royal David's City* [IRBY]

1: sung by a solo voice **Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed.
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.**

2: sung by the choir **He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and lowly lived on earth our Savior holy.**

3 – 6: sung by all **And through all his wondrous childhood He would honor and obey,
Love and watch the lowly maiden, in whose gentle arms he lay;
Christian children all must be mild, obedient, good as he.**

**For he is our childhood's pattern, day by day like us he grew,
He was little, weak, and helpless, tears and smiles like us he knew;
And he feeleth for our sadness, and he shareth in our gladness.**

**And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love,
For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above;
And he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.**

**Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
We shall see him; but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;
Where like stars his children crowned all in white shall wait
around.**

All remain standing for the Bidding Prayer

A BIDDING PRAYER

The Officiant bids the people to pray, saying:

Dear people of God: In this season, let it be our duty and delight 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 him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us make this place glad with our carols 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 in this city.

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.

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, Mary, and John the Baptist, his fore-runner in the way, 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:

Officiant and people together pray:

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
forever and ever. Amen

All are seated for the readings and anthems

THE FIRST LESSON: Genesis 3:8-15

Reader: Emma Baily, Youth Parishioner

Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden

And 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 the heel."

The word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM:

Adam Lay Ybounden

Boris Ord

Adam lay ybounden, bounden in a bond;
Four thousand winter thought he not too long.
And all was for an apple, an apple that he took,
As clerkes finden written in their book.
Ne had the apple taken been, the apple taken been,
Ne had never our lady a-been heavené queen.
Blessed be the time that apple taken was,
Therefore we moun singen *Deo Gratias!*

THE SECOND LESSON: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Reader: Gail Boyd, Chorister

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM:

No Sad Thought His Soul Afright (Hodie)

Ralph Vaughan Williams

No sad thought His soul affright, sleep it is that maketh night;
Let no murmur nor rude wind to His slumbers prove unkind;
But a quire of angels make His dreams of heav'n, and let Him wake
To as many joys as can in this world be-fall a man.
Promise fills the sky with light, stars and angels dance in flight;
Joy of heav'n shall now unbind chains of evil from man-kind.
Love and joy their power shall break, and for a new-born prince's sake;
Never since the world began such a light such dark did span.

THE THIRD LESSON: Isaiah 11: 1-9

Reader: Courteney Reece, Parishioner

The peace that Christ will bring is foretold

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.

The word of the LORD.
Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM: *There Is No Rose (Ceremony of Carols)* Benjamin Britten

There is no rose of such vertu as is the rose that bare Jesu.
Alleluia! [Praise God!]
For in this rose contained was heaven and earth in litel space.
Res Miranda. [Marvelous to behold]
By that rose we may well see there be one God in persons three.
Pares forma [Of equal form]
The angels sungen the shepherds to:
Gloria in excelcis Deo! [Glory to God in the highest!]
Gaudeamus [Let us rejoice!]
Leave we all this worldly mirth, and follow we this joyful birth.
Transeamus. [Let us travel there.]

THE FOURTH LESSON: Micah 5:2-5a

Reader: Ann Neff,
Clerk of the Vestry

The prophet Micah foretells the glory of tiny Bethlehem

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, 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; and he shall be one of peace.

The word of the LORD.
Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM:

Hodie Christus Natus Est

Jan Pieterzoon Sweelink

*Hodie, Christus natus est: hodie salvator apparuit.
Hodie in terra canunt angeli, laetantur archangeli
Exultant justi dicentes:
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Alleluia!*

Today Christ is born; today salvation has appeared.
Today on earth angels sing, together with archangels:
The righteous rejoice, saying:
Glory to God in the highest! Alleluia!

All stand for the hymn

HYMN:

O Little Town of Bethlehem

[FOREST GREEN]

Stanzas 1 & 2: All

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

**O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth,
And praises bring to God the King, and peace to men on earth;
For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.**

Stanza 3: Choir only

**How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming; but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.**

Stanza 4: Unison with Choir descant

**O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.**

All are seated for the readings and the anthems

THE FIFTH LESSON: St. Luke 1:26-38

Reader: William Clisham,
Minister of Music

The angel Gabriel greets the Blessed Virgin Mary

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 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 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.

The word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM:

Ave Maria

Sergai Rachmaninoff

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum, bene dita 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 You. Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now and in the hour of our death. Amen.

St. Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband, Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the LORD appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet: “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.”

The word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM:

See Amid the Winter's Snow

John Goss

See amid the winter's snow, born for us on earth below,

See the tender Lamb appears, promised from eternal years.

Hail! Thou ever blessed morn! Hail redemption's happy dawn!

Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.

Lo, within a manger lies He who built the starry skies;

He, enthroned in height sublime, sits amid the Cherubim.

Hail! Thou ever blessed morn! Hail redemption's happy dawn!

Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.

Sacred infant, all divine, what a tender love was Thine;

Thus to come from highest bliss down to such a world as this!

Hail! Thou ever blessed morn! Hail redemption's happy dawn!

Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.

Teach, O teach us, Holy Child, by Thy Face so meek and mild,

Teach us to resemble Thee, in Thy sweet humility!

Hail! Thou ever blessed morn! Hail redemption's happy dawn!

Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.

St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus

Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks by night. Then an angel of the LORD stood before them, and the glory of the LORD shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the LORD. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors.”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

The word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM:*O Magnum Mysterium*

Morten Lauridsen

*O magnum mysterium, et admirabile sacramentum**Ut animalia viderent Dominum natum, jacentum in praesepe!**Beata Virgo, cujus viscera meruerunt portare Dominum Christum.**Alleluia!*

O great mystery, and wondrous sacrament,

That animals should see the new-born Lord, lying in a manger!

Blessed is the virgin whose womb was worthy to bear the Lord Jesus Christ.

Praise God!

All stand for the hymn

HYMN:

Angels We Have Heard on High

[GLORIA]

**Angels we have heard on high singing sweetly through the night,
And the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.**

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

**Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear?**

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

**Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the new-born King.**

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

**See Him in a manger laid whom the angels praise above;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.**

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

All are seated for the readings and the anthems

THE EIGHTH LESSON: St. Matthew 2:1-11 Reader: Rev. Sally Maurer, Deacon

The magi are led by the star to Jesus.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is the shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child

was. When they saw that the star has stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

The word of the LORD.
Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM: *The Blessed Son of God (Hodie)* Ralph Vaughan Williams

The blessed Son of God only in a crib full poor did lie;
With our poor flesh and our poor blood was clothed that everlasting good.
Kyrie-lesion.
The Lord Christ Jesu, God's son dear, was a guest and a stranger here;
Us for to bring from misery, that we might live eternally.
Kyrie-leison
Al this did he for us freely, for to declare His great mercy;
All Christendom be merry therefore, and give Him thanks forever-more.
Kyrie-leison.

All stand for the Hymn.

HYMN: *God Rest You Merry* [GOD REST YOU MERRY]

**God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay;
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day,
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy; O tidings of comfort and joy!**

**From God our heavenly Father a blessed angel came
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same:
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy; O tidings of comfort and joy!**

**"Fear not, then," said the angel, "Let nothing you affright;
This day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright,
To free all those who trust in him from Satan's power and might."
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy; O tidings of comfort and joy!**

**Now to the Lord sing praised, all you within this place,
And with true love and charity each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas doth bring redeeming grace.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy; O tidings of comfort and joy!**

All are seated for the Offering and Anthem

THE COLLECTION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

ANTHEM: *Poverty Carol* Welsh / arr: Dr. Caradog Roberts

All poor men and humble, all lame men who stumble,
Come haste ye, nor feel ye afraid.
For Jesus, our treasure, with love past all measure,
In lowly poor manger was laid.
Though wise men who found him laid rich gifts around him,
Yet oxen they gave him their hay;
And Jesus in beauty accepted their duty; contented in manger he lay.
Then haste we to show him the praises we owe him;
Our service he ne'er can despise;
Whose love still is able to show us that stable where softly in manger he lies.

All stand for the reading of the Ninth Lesson.

THE NINTH LESSON: St. John 1:1-14 Reader: Rev. Fr. David Lacquintano

St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him is life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

The word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God.

All remain standing for the Hymn.

HYMN:

O Come, All Ye Faithful

[ADESTE FIDELES]

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come, ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him born the King of Angels;
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

God of God, Light of Light,
Lo! He abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten, not created:
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God in the highest:
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flock, draw nigh to gaze;
We too with thither bend our joyful footsteps;
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Child, for us sinners, poor and in a manger,
Fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;
Who would not love Thee, loving us so dearly?
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

All remain standing for the collects

THE COLLECTS:

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Priest: Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your only Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him, when he shall come to be our judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen*

Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our human nature upon himself, and to be born of the Virgin Mary. Grant that we, having been made children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through the same Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen*.

THE BLESSING

The priest then says:

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*.

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN: *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* [MENDELSSOHN]

**Hark! The herald angels sing Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled;
Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies,
With th'angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem.
Hark! The herald angels sing Glory to the new-born King.**

**Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come, off-spring of a virgin's womb;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see, hail th'incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing Glory to the new-born King**

**Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings;
Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing Glory to the new-born King**

ORGAN POSTLUDE: *In Dulci Jubilo, BWV 729* Johann Sebastian Bach

The St. John's Choir

Soprano

Gail Boyd
Arielle Egan
Kelly Freno

Alto

Mary Anne Clisham
DeeAnn Harris
Ann Neff
Gwen Norton

Tenor

Helen Acton
Nate Gable
Larry Moore
Andrew Sullivan

Bass

Jim Acton
Don Layton
George Neff
Jerry Pinner

Organist & Choir Director:

William F Clisham, Jr., Minister of Music

Officiant

The Rev. Sally Maurer, Deacon

Priest

The Rev. David Laquintano

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24
at St. John's

ADVENT IV

10:00 AM

Holy Eucharist – Rite II

CHRISTMAS EVE

5:00 PM

Blessing of the Crèche & Children's Eucharist
(no choir)

10:00 PM

A Festival Offering of Music for Handbells, Choir, and Organ
preceding the

10:30 PM

Christmas Eve Festival Holy Eucharist

CHRISTMAS DAY
MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

10:00 AM

Quiet (spoken) Holy Eucharist – Rite II
In the Chapel