

Advent Evensong



Sunday, December 21, 2025, 4PM

*The Choirs of Grace Church,
Madison, NJ*



Grace Episcopal Church

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15

The people stand.

MAGNIFICAT

Sung by choir trebles.

Erik Meyer

The people sit.

THE SECOND LESSON

John 3:16-21

The people stand.

NUNC DIMITTIS

Sung by the choir tenors and basses.

Kent B. Jones

APOSTLES' CREED

Chanted by all, standing.

BCP, p. 66

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

RESPONSES

Sung by the choir.

Ayleward

The people remain standing.

THE COLLECTS

BCP, p. 69-70

The people sit.

HYMN

“Hark, the Glad Sound”

Hymnal 72

(Richmond)

Sung by all.

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANTHEM

“*Puer natus in Bethlehem*”

Michael Praetorius

Combined choirs, recorders.

(1571-1621)

A child is born in Bethlehem,
therefore Jerusalem rejoices. Alleluia.

Refrain Sing, rejoice, triumph for our Lord the king of glory.

Kings of Sheba came, offering gold, incense and myrrh.
Alleluia. ***Refrain***

Here lies in a manger he who reigns without end.
Alleluia. ***Refrain***

Child of my heart, O Jesu, my dearest little friend,
let us bless the Lord.
Alleluia. ***Refrain***

The holy Trinity be praised. Let us give thanks to God.
Alleluia. ***Refrain***

Praise him with sound, all you Christians.

The people stand.

GENERAL THANKSGIVING

BCP, p. 71

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we thine unworthy servants
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all men.

We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for thine inestimable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we beseech thee,
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;
and that we show forth thy praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to thy service,
and by walking before thee
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

GRACE

The people remain standing.

CLOSING HYMN

“Watchman Tell Us”
(Aberystwyth)
Sung by all.

Hymnal 640

POSTLUDE

“Toccata on Aberystwyth”

David Bednall
(b. 1979)

*Please remain standing while the choir recesses,
then feel free to sit.*

*Following the Postlude, you are invited to the front entrance
of the church to light the Tree of Light*

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Officiant: The Rev. Susan R. Ironside

Reader: Christine Cullen

Verger: Geoff Brooks

Organist/Choir Director: Dr. Anne Matlack

Members of the choirs of Grace Church Madison

Recorders: John Lamb, Kris Lamb

CHOIR

School Choir

Eve Albiston, Vivienne Cole, Maggie Donough,
Katie Finlay, Brianna Marecki, Cathleen Nunn

Sopranos

Randi Albiston*, Susan Goodman*, Teddy Love,
Susan MacDowell*, Janet Ross, Ruth Portella*,
Claire Siebert, Cynthia Steffens

Alto

Camille Bourland*, Crary Brooks, Jackie Lauria*, Marilyn Musielski,
Diane DuBrule, Peggy Potter, Susan Strong

Tenor

Curt Beaudouin, Liam Flanagan, Jeff Kunick,
Peter Munter, Matthew North, John Pivarnik,

Bass

Scott Albiston*, Erik Donough, Ian Finlay,
Steven Lane*, William Marinovic, Ted Roper*, Jabez Van Cleef*

**soloists/small group in Praetorius*

Read about the music in our Sunday services at
www.annematlack.wordpress.com



Grace Church

Grace Episcopal Church

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