



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
Holy Eucharist, Rite II, Year A  
December 21, 2025, 10AM

## Welcome!

We are happy to worship with you, and honored to have you with us!  
Our liturgy comes from the Book of Common Prayer (the red book) and  
also uses texts from *Enriching Our Worship*, a collection of supplemental  
resources approved for use in The Episcopal Church.

Everything you will need for this service can be found in this bulletin  
and also the blue *Hymnal* in the pew rack.

*Children begin in service with their families, and will be invited  
to Sunday School in Nieman Hall by Miss Kathryn.  
The children will rejoin the service at the Peace.*

## ENTRANCE RITE

**PRELUDE**                      “*Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland*”          Dietrich Buxtehude  
   organ

*The people stand.*

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN**     “Savior of the Nations, Come!”                  Hymnal 54  
       *(Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland)*

OPENING ACCLAMATION BCP, p. 355

*Presider* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

## COLLECT FOR PURITY

*The Presider prays the Collect, after which all respond Amen.*

SONG OF PRAISE                      “Ave Maria”                      Simon Lindley  
*Sung by the School Choirs*

*The people remain standing.*

*Children, age 4 through grade 5, are invited to join Miss Kathryn for Sunday School in Nieman Hall. They will return to the sanctuary at the Peace.*

*Nursery care is available for children through age 4.*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY BCP, p. 212

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People*    **And also with you.**

*The Presider prays the Collect, after which all respond Amen.*

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*The people are seated for the readings.*

## THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 7:10-16

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*The people stand.*

## PSALM 80:1-7

*Sung by the Choir.*

Plainsong

*The people sit.*

## THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 1:1-7

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*The people stand.*

**GRADUAL HYMN** “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”  
(Stuttgart)

Hymnal 66  
**Verses 1-3**

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 1:18-25

*Gospeller* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People*



*Gospeller* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*



**GRADUAL HYMN** “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

**Verse 4**

*The people sit.*

## SERMON

*The people stand.*

## THE NICENE CREED

BCP, p. 358

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.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The Leader offers intercessions on behalf of the congregation; during the silences the people may add their own petitions, silently or aloud.*

*Each petition concludes* ...in hope and expectation we pray,  
*People respond*                   **Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Leader* “...and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit in glory everlasting ” **Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

BCP, p. 360

*Presider*     Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*The people kneel or sit*

*Presider and People*

**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.**

*After the Absolution is said, the people respond* **Amen.**

*The people stand.*

## THE PEACE

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*   **And also with you.**

*The people greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

*The Sunday School children join their families in church at this time..*

## WORDS OF WELCOME

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Ave Maria”

Nathaniel Dett

*Sung by the Choir, Ted Roper, solo.*



*Please feel free to make your offering in thanksgiving to God using  
the electronic giving options at [www.gracemadison.org/giving](http://www.gracemadison.org/giving).*

*A collection is taken and carried in procession to the Lord's Table.*

*The people stand.*

PRESENTATION HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"  
(*Veni, veni, Emmanuel*)

Hymnal 56  
Verses 7 & 8

- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
in one the hearts of all mankind;  
bid thou our sad divisions cease,  
and be thyself our King of Peace.

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel!**

- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel!**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, Eucharistic Prayer B

Hymnal S-120

The musical notation is arranged in four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff is for the Presider and the second for the People. The third staff is for the Presider and the fourth for the People. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give God thanks and praise."

*Presider*                      *People*  
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
*Presider*                      *People*  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
*Presider*  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People*  
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

*Presider*      It is right and a good and joyful thing...  
... who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

# SANCTUS

St. James Advent Series

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r, of  
pow'r\_ and might. Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in\_ the high - est. Blessed is he, is he who comes  
in the name\_ of\_ the Lord. Ho - san - na  
in the high - est, Ho - sa - na in the high - est.

*The people remain standing.*

*Presider*

We give thanks to you, O God...

Therefore, according to his command, O Father:

*Presider and People*

**We remember his death,**

**We proclaim his resurrection,**

**We await his coming in glory;**

*Presider*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise...

... all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

A\_ men\_ A\_ men\_ A\_ men

*Presider*

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.

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*A period of silence is kept.*

**Presider**

Christ our  
Passover



Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us

**2 People**

There fore let us keep the feast.

**All**



Al - le - lu - ia

*Presider* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## FRACTION ANTHEM

“Cherry Tree”

Traditional

Sung by The Gargoyles Arr. R. Vaughan Williams

*All baptized persons are invited to receive Communion. Our custom is to receive the bread on extended hands and to help guide the chalice to the mouth by touching its base.*

*Intinction— dipping the wafer in the wine—is not practiced.*

*To receive a blessing instead of the sacrament, cross your arms over your chest.*

*If you need to have Communion brought to you at your seat, please inform an usher.*

*Gluten-free bread is available upon request.*

## COMMUNION MUSIC

“Creator of the Stars”

organ



Tenors & Basses Verse 2  
Trebles Verse 3

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*Presider* Let us pray.

## Presider and People

## THE BLESSING

*The Presider invokes God's blessing upon all, to which the people respond Amen.*

Hymnal 265

## DISMISSAL

*The people are dismissed in the name of Christ.*

*Response*      **Thanks be to God.**

J. S. Bach

## **Grace Prayer List**

We pray for all who are in need, especially Sue, Monty, Stuart, Allen, David, Joan, Pam, Brian, Margaret, Robert, Richard, Kackie, Marianne, Paul, Eloise, Croft, Matt, John, James, Mary, Tiffanie, Jo, Susan, Brigitte, Elizabeth, Brian, Dennis, Sue.

## **CHRISTMAS EVE**

### **Pageant Service**

4:30PM Carols & Bells Prelude, *Church*

5PM Festival Holy Eucharist with Nativity Pageant and Carols, *Church*

### ***Candlelight Service***

8:30PM Carols & Bells Prelude, *Church*

9PM Festival Holy Eucharist by Candlelight, *Church*

## **CHRISTMAS DAY**

10AM Festival Holy Eucharist with Carols, *Church*

# *Thank you to those who have pledged to Grace in 2026*

*received as of 12/17/25*

Lauren Ackland  
Nancy Adamczyk  
Scott & Randi Albiston  
Joe & Cynthia Barilla  
Dan & Madeline Baulig  
John & Mayan Beaudouin  
Michel Belt  
Diane Bensley  
Leigh & Andy Bolt  
Dean & Talar Boorujy  
Mariam Bora  
Nancy Boucher  
Linda Bowden  
Suzanne Bowles  
Linda Bronco  
Geoff & Crary Brooks  
Elizabeth Brown  
Michael & Lou Ann Bugg  
Laura & Mark Burgess  
Bob & Judy Burks  
Dennis & Evelyn Callahan  
Chris & Melissa Ciolino  
Ken Cole & Rosemary  
Collingwood-Cole  
Emily & Kyle Colwell  
Ted & Tish Corvino  
Mike & Chris Cullen  
Jennifer & Aaron Daley  
Therese & Chris Dalton  
Nicole & Ellen Dean  
Philip & Ruth Deane  
Gale Nino DeGuzman  
& Peter Owen  
Georgeann DiGiovanni  
Erik & Cindy Donough  
Mary Doody  
Diane DuBrule  
John & Angela Finlay  
Rob & Heather Fraser  
Philip Gaffney &  
Linda Canavan  
John & Allison Garde  
David & Nancy Gates  
Megan Gates &  
William Whelan  
Patrick & Heidi Griffiee  
Robert Griner  
Scot & Nancy Guempel

Paul Hackett  
Doug & Katie Harter  
Chris Hauck  
H. Friedrich & Sally  
Holzapfel  
Melissa Honohan  
Tom & Judy Honohan  
Marie Hopkins  
Mark & Beth Hopkins  
Kathleen Hower &  
Peter Munter  
Han Huang &  
Patricia Northrop  
Jim & Barbara Hughes  
Susan Ironside  
& Andrew Moore  
Ted & Karen Jamer  
Charlie & Judy Jurgensen  
Cheryl & Baldwin King  
Wade & Linda Kirby  
Michael Kostial  
Steven Lane  
Bob & Bonnie Layton  
David & Kelly Leach  
Paul & Laura Lemaire  
Norman & Martha Lewis  
Maureen Link  
David Lloyd & Mary Royer  
Larry & Teddy Love  
Jordan & Andrea Lynch  
Ginger Maione  
Donald & Alberta Marcy  
Robert & Karen Martin  
Jonathan & Susan Massey  
Anne Matlack &  
Jabez Van Cleef  
Sherri Mayans  
Judith McClellan  
Beth & Tucker McKeever  
Marthe & Michael McLinden  
John & Mary McManus  
Kathryn McManus  
Barbara Million  
John & Dot Mitchell  
Anne Marie & Mike  
Muldoon  
Marilyn Musielski  
Kirk & Sue Nixon

Joan Nolan  
Nancy Nubel  
Kirk & Peggy Oakes  
Ken & Jolanta Peacock  
Michael & Elizabeth Petite  
Ruth Portela  
Don Post & Jackie Lauria  
Doris Purdy &  
Ronald DeGroot  
Eleanor Rawitz  
Elven & Diane Riley  
Franklin Ritt  
Nancy Roddy  
Kate & Anthony Rogers  
Mary & Al Rooney  
Janet Ross  
Bruce Rudin  
Patty Ruggles  
Katherine & Robert Rummel  
Mark Sacher  
Doug & Mary Schaenen  
Suzanne & Jonathan Shelby  
Rick & Julie Sheppard  
Mary Clair & Chris  
Sonneman  
Rich & Cindy Steffens  
Jeffrey & Christa Stewart  
Susan Strong  
Sarah & Christopher Sullivan  
Ethne Swartz  
Hugh Symonds  
& Jane Jermyn  
Doug & Hilary Tabish  
James & Ashely Thomas  
Elizabeth Towle  
James & Ruth Tranberg  
Joanna Trimble  
Scott & Evangeline Tross  
Han-Hsien Tuan  
John & Beverly Wand  
Scott & Melissa Waterstredt  
Theresa Wertheimer  
Stephan & Raia Wielandy  
Chris & Stacy Wilde  
Elizabeth Williams  
Miller Wood  
Andy & Cali Yost  
Marco & Susan Zarbin

## *Grace Calendar Highlights*

### **TODAY**

4PM **Advent Evensong**, Church

Following the Evensong, we will celebrate and honor our loved ones by lighting the *Tree of Light* in front the church.

Mon, Dec 22

11AM **Funeral for Donna "Gay" Culin**, Church

6:30PM, **Candlelight Service *Bells Rehearsal***, Nieman Hall

Tue, Dec 23

4:30PM, **Pageant *Bells Rehearsal***, Nieman Hall

5PM **Pageant Rehearsal**, Church

7:15PM **Adult Choir Rehearsal**, Choir Room

Sat, Jan 3, 11AM-3PM **Repair Café**, Grace Hall

Wed, Jan 7, **Pizza-Compline Family Worship**

Pizza-making at 5:30 / Service at 6PM

Jan 9-11 **Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**

Tickets on our website: [www.gracemadison.org](http://www.gracemadison.org)

Sun, Jan 18, 2PM **BONJ: A Baroque Winter Wassail**

Music of Vivaldi, Handel, Bach & others, Grace Church

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## **Grace Episcopal Church**

4 Madison Avenue. Madison, NJ 07940

Phone: (973) 377-0106

Website: [www.gracemadison.org](http://www.gracemadison.org)

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