THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

YEAR B ✠ NOVEMBER 29, 2026

VOLUNTARY *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come* German chorale
arr. Ernst Pepping (1901–1981)

THE ENTRANCE HYMN "Lo, he comes with clouds descending" Hymn 57

TRADITIONAL COLLECT, BCP 159
Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

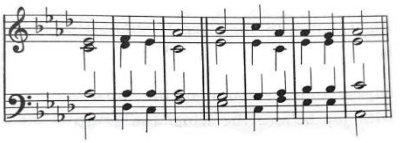
CONTEMPORARY COLLECT, BCP 211
Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON *Isaiah 64:1-9*

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence-
as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil-
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

THE PSALM *80:1-7, 16-18* music by George A Macfarren (1813-1887)

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading | Joseph • like a | flock; *
shine forth, you that are en-| throned up- | on the | cherubim.
2 In the presence of Ephraim, | Benjamin, • and Ma-| nasseh, *
stir up your | strength and | come to | help us.
3 Restore us, O | God of | hosts; *
show the light of your | countenance • and | we shall • be | saved.
4 O Lord | God of | hosts, *
how long will you be angered de-| spite the | prayers of • your | people?
5 You have fed them with the | bread of | tears; *
you have given them | bowls of | tears to | drink.



6 You have made us the de-| rision • of our | neighbors, *
and our | ene • mies | laugh us • to | scorn.
7 Restore us, O | God of | hosts; *
show the light of your | countenance • and | we shall • be | saved.
16 Let your hand be upon the | man of • your | right hand, *
the son of man you have | made so | strong for • your-| self.
17 And so will we never | turn a-| way from you; *
give us life, that we may | call up- | on your | Name.
18 Restore us, O Lord | God of | hosts; *
show the light of your | countenance • and | we shall • be | saved.

THE SECOND LESSON *1 Corinthians 1:3-9*

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

During the hymn, all children and youth are invited to follow the banner-bearer to Children's Church. They will return at the Peace.

SEQUENCE HYMN "Rejoice, rejoice believers" Hymnal 68

THE GOSPEL *Mark 13:24-37*

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,

and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

THE SERMON

OFFERTORY *Hark the Glad Sound* Thomas Merritt (1862–1908)

Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes, the Savior promised long!
Let every heart prepare a throne, and every voice a song.
He comes the prisoners to release in Satan's bondage held;
The gates of brass before him burst, the iron fetters yield.
He comes the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure,
And with the riches of his grace to enrich the humble poor.

(Philip Dodderidge, 1702–51)

PRESENTATION HYMN "O come, O come, Emmanuel" worship booklet p. 6

After the Invitation, all baptized persons may come forward to receive Holy Communion. If you are not baptized or do not wish to receive Communion, you may come forward and cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing instead. For gluten-free wafers, ask at the rail.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Hymn	"O heavenly Word, eternal Light"	Hymnal 73
Hymn	"Jesus came, adored by angels"	Hymnal 454
Hymn	"Judge eternal, robed in splendor"	Hymnal 596

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER AND BLESSING worship booklet p. 10

CLOSING HYMN "Come, thou long expected Jesus" Hymnal 66

DISMISSAL worship booklet p. 10

VOLUNTARY *Jubilate* Norman Warren

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The **Vestry Person of the Day** is **Winifred Nweke.**
  Today **Advent wreath-making** for all ages, before & after the 10:30 service. If you have a wreath-making form at home, bring it; we will have a limited supply available.
  + **Advent Giving Tree** begins. Pick out an ornament and give a Christmas gift to a local student in need. Wrapped gifts are due back by Sunday, Dec 13. More info in Bells.
- Dec 2 Wed **1st Wednesday Healing Service** in the Sanctuary at 12:30 PM (note new location).
- Dec 3 Thu **Wrapping Party for Reach Out** in Conference Room at 10:00 AM
- Dec 5 Sat **Wonder Church & Guardian's Night Out** Wonder Church begins at 5:30 in the Parish Hall, following the service children are invited to stay for a movie, pizza and activities while the adults enjoy some time on the Square. Children are to be picked up by 8:00. Register with Natalie.
- Dec 6 Sun **Easton Davis** will be joining us to film a **welcome video** for our website. Mark your calendars!
  + **Diocesan Confirmation** 4:00 PM at the Cathedral of St. Philip, come out and support our confirmands!
- Dec 13 **Advent Lessons & Carols** at 4:00 PM in the Sanctuary
- Please check the **Lost and Found** table in the back of the Parish Hall. Items that are not picked up by the end of the year will be donated.
- **Forward Day by Day** devotions for Nov – Jan are available in the tract rack by the library.
- **2027 Church Year calendars** are available in the Narthex, the parish office and beneath the two hall monitors. Grab yours today.
- **Christmas flower donations** are now being accepted. Forms are provided in the Narthex. Deadline is Dec 17th for inclusion in the bulletin.

Scan the QR codes…

Scan to Pledge for 2027

…to pledge for 2027

…to give online

Can you provide lunch?
EYC
Episcopal Youth Community

…to bring lunch for Youth one Sunday

St. James Episcopal Church 161 Church St., Marietta GA 30060	www.stjamesmarietta.com 770-428-5841
The Reverend Mariclair Partee Carlsen, Rector *for pastoral emergency, phone or text:* *for an appointment*, sign up online	rector@stjamesmarietta.com 678-369-1775 https://calendly.com/rector-stjamesmarietta
Mr. Foster Peterson, Seminarian Dr. Bryan Black, Director of Music Miss Natalie Fowler, Children's Ministry Coordinator Mr. Patrick White, Director of Youth and Parish Administration	seminarian@stjamesmarietta.com music@stjamesmarietta.com children@stjamesmarietta.com youth@stjamesmarietta.com parishadmin@stjamesmarietta.com
Office Hours Monday – Thursday, 9am-1pm	