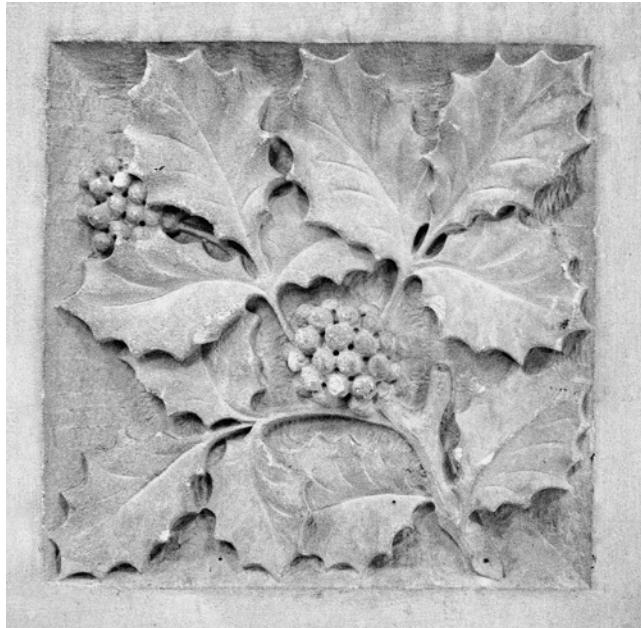


The Church of the Ascension
in the City of New York
FIFTH AVENUE AT TENTH STREET



December 12, 2021
Third Sunday of Advent

THE HOLY EUCHARIST
Nine O'Clock A.M.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST with Music
Eleven O'Clock A.M.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Prelude

Prelude and Fugue in C Major
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Hymn 76

Winchester New

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People *And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever*
 Amen.

Collect for Purity

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Trisagion

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant 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.

People *Amen.*

The Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

(Children who are present may gather around the Advent Wreath and the first three candle are lit.)

All Come, O Holy One,
breaker of chains and renewer of life!
Open our eyes to your presence in all the earth.
Stir us to proclaim gladly the signs of your love:
the liberation of those oppressed,
the healing of those frail and broken,
springs of water in all the parched places,
and Jesus Christ risen and alive, through whom we
pray. Amen.

The Word of God

A Reading from Zephaniah

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 fortune before your eyes, says the Lord.

(3:14-20)

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People *Thanks be to God.*

Canticle 9 - The First Song of Isaiah

(A cantor first sings this refrain, which is then repeated by all)



Sing the Prais - es of the Lord,



For he has done great things.

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;

Refrain

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.

Refrain

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Refrain

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians

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.

(4:4-7)

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People *Thanks be to God.*

Gospel **Luke 3:7-18**

Priest 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.

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.
People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Nicene Creed *(All stand and say together)*

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

Form I

Leader	With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy." For the peace from above, for the loving- kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.
<i>People</i>	<i>Lord, have mercy.</i>
Leader	For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.
<i>People</i>	<i>Lord, have mercy.</i>
Leader	For Michael our Presiding Bishop, Andrew, Allen and Mary our own Bishops, and for all the clergy and people; in the Anglican Cycle of prayer, for The Anglican Church of Canada, let us pray to the Lord.
<i>People</i>	<i>Lord, have mercy.</i>
Leader	For the leaders of the nations, for Joe our President; Kathy our Governor, Bill our Mayor, Eric our Mayor-elect, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.
<i>People</i>	<i>Lord, have mercy.</i>

Leader For this city, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For Robert, Ed, Janet, Ellen, Joseph, Brielle, Lucas, Holly, Alejandro and Jesus, Nancy, Barbara, Dorothy, Stewart, Patricia, Judith, Harold, Hannah, Jurek, Alice, Michael, Todd, Fanny, Andrew, and Heidi, for the peoples of Ethiopia, Haiti and Afghanistan., let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, especially Julie Ortiz, Billy Harris, Kitty Brett, and Andrew Stengel, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

People *Lord, have mercy.*

Leader For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray to the Lord.

People *Lord, have mercy.*

Leader That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

People *Lord, have mercy.*

Leader Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace.

People *Lord, have mercy.*

Leader In the communion of saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

People *To you, O Lord our God.*

Silence.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession and Absolution

Priest Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

(All say together)

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.

(The priest says the absolution)

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.

People *Amen.*

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People *And also with you.*

Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

O Thou, the Central Orb
Charles Wood (1886-1926)

O thou, the central orb of righteous love,
pure beam of the most High, eternal Light
of this our wintry world, thy radiance bright
awakes new joy in faith, hope soars above.

Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine
gilding our darksome heaven with rays divine.

Thy saints with holy luster round thee move,
as stars about thy throne, set in the height
of God's ordaining counsel as thy sight
gives measured grace to each, thy power to prove.

Let thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin,
our nature all shall feel eternal day,
in fellowship with thee, transforming day,
to souls erewhile unclean, now pure within. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

(The people stand while the offerings are presented)

Sursum corda

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People *We lift them to the Lord.*

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

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

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

(The people stand or kneel, and the priest continues.)

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Memorial Acclamation

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*People We remember his death,
 We proclaim his resurrection,
 We await his coming in glory;*

(The priest continues)

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all

things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People *AMEN.*

The Lord's Prayer

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

The Communion of the People

(The celebrant says the following invitation)

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The people come forward single-file up the center aisle, maintaining appropriate physical distance of at least 6 feet. Wait at the designated place for the person ahead of you to be communicated and leave before you approach the priest to receive. After receiving

the host, please exit by way of the south aisle around to the center aisle and up to your seat. Once at your seat you may remove your mask long enough to consume the host. For anyone needing ambulatory assistance, the priest will come to you at your seat.

Communion Motet

Lord, We Beseech Thee

Adrian Batten (1591-1637)

Lord, we beseech thee, give ear unto our prayers, and by thy gracious visitation lighten the darkness of our hearts, by our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hymn 66

Stuttgart

Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

(Said together by all)

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

Hymn 75

Ascension

Dismissal

(The congregation is dismissed, and the people respond)

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Little” Prelude and Fugue in B-flat Major

Johann Sebastian Bach

Announcements

Welcome Back to In-Person Church at 11 am We are so happy to see you all again, and to be together in our beautiful church building. Please join us in the front garden under our new tent, after the service for coffee and tea. As a reminder, masks are required inside and recommended outside. Our services are also livestreamed via our usual Zoom link!

Watch us remotely with Local Live! You can watch our services with our Zoom congregation each Sunday by logging into Zoom as you normally would (Ascensionnyc.org/Sunday), or you can go to our website (Ascensionnyc.org) and click the link on our main page.

Christmas Flower Offering- Help us decorate the church for Christmas with flowers and greenery. You may use the enclosed envelope or go online to our Abundant Giving page to designate your memorial names and thanksgivings. Please submit your memorials and thanksgivings to the Parish Office by Sunday, December 19.

Vestry Nominations - Four people are to be elected to the Ascension vestry at our annual meeting on Jan. 30, 2022. Serving on the vestry is an opportunity to provide spiritually grounded leadership, with an emphasis on our finances and our three historic properties. Members are to support the church's mission by their actions and by regular attendance at services, including Zoom of course. If you are interested in running or wish to nominate someone, please obtain forms from the church office or from a member of the nominating committee: Isabel Spencer, Rachel Sedor, Shep Skiff, Steve Hubbard, or Joan Castagnone. Candidates must have been pledging members of the Church of the Ascension for one year prior to the meeting. Vestry members are expected to attend regular meetings, which are on the third Wednesday of every month, except August. The vestry retreat will be held Feb. 4 & 5. The deadline for

nominations is December 19. For additional information, please see a committee member.

Crochet Creations by Jeannette! Hello there, Ascensioners! Jeanette Shields is offering crochet hats, scarves, sweaters, dresses, baby's clothing, and other wares. They are colorful, attractive to the eye, warm in the winter, cool in the summer, and some can be quite dramatic! Visit her website at: jeanettemariecrochet.squarespace.com

Monday Evening Lectionary Bible Study -- Join us Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. This is an opportunity to read and discuss the readings for the upcoming Sunday. If you are interested in joining, please contact Sibyl Piccone at srpiccone@yahoo.com

Women's Spirituality Group - Those who identify as women, of all ages and stages of life are invited to participate in this monthly roundtable of topics spiritual and worldly. We will get started this Advent with a conversation about the Magnificat and how we respond to God in our lives today. Each month, a different group member will have the opportunity to lead the discussion based on a prayer, poem, story, or artwork. We will gather on Tuesday, December 14 at 6:30 via zoom. Bring yourself, a cup of tea, and help us strengthen our sisterhood! Interested? Contact Shana Kaplanov to be added to our email list (shana.weber@gmail.com). Zoom Link: bit.ly/32I5bP5.

Next Racial Justice Group meeting, Thursday, December 16 at 6:30 pm. We will finish reading Clint Smith's *How the Word is Passed: a Reckoning with the History of Slavery Across America*. In a review of the book earlier this year in the NY Times, Julian Lucas writes, "Gregarious, learned and engagingly open-minded, the book meets America where it is on the subject- which is to say, all over the place. Beginning in his hometown, New Orleans, Smith visits nine places that memorialize or distort their link to the legacy of slavery, from Thomas Jefferson's Monticello to the African Burial Ground in

Lower Manhattan. He skillfully braids interviews with scholarship and personal observation, asking, 'How different might our country look if all of us fully understood what had happened here?" Please join us for what will surely be a lively conversation! For December 16, please read the remainder of the book (pages 207-290). You can join the Zoom call at: [uso6web.zoom.us/j/82207736415](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82207736415)

Worship With Us:

- **Sunday Holy Eucharist** (Church) 9:00 a.m.
- **Sunday Holy Eucharist with Music** (Church) 11:00 a.m.
Coffee & tea in the front garden following the service
- **Sunday Livestream Service via Zoom** at 11:00 a.m.
zoom.us/j/322793633 (929-205-6099, meeting ID: 322 793 633)
- **Sunday Meditation & Sacrament** (Church) 6:00 p.m
- **Wednesday Evening Eucharist** (Church) 6:00 p.m.
- **Evening Prayer Every Weekday Evening** via Zoom:
ascensionnyc.org/eveningprayer. 5:30p.m.
- **Prayer & Meditation** - Every Weekday the Church is open for prayer and meditation every weekday; Monday through Friday, Noon to 3:00 p.m. Open Church will begin with Noonday Prayer, led by Brother Andrew, OSF.

Christmas at Ascension

Christmas Eve

(Reservations Required: ascensionnyc.org/christmaseve)

Family Service, 5:00 p.m.

Prelude Music for Christmas, 9:30 p.m.
& Festival Eucharist, 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day

Holy Eucharist & Hymns; 11:00 a.m.

1st Sunday after Christmas, Dec. 26

Holy Eucharist, 9:00 a.m.

Lessons and Carols, 11:00 a.m.

Parish Activities this Week

Sunday – December 12 – Third Sunday of Advent

Holy Eucharist (Church) 9:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist w/ Music (Church) 11:00 a.m.

(*Live Stream: AscensionNYC.org*)

Coffee & Tea (Front Garden) following the service

Meditation & Sacrament (Church) 6:00 p.m.

Monday – December 13

Church open for prayer & meditation; Noon to 3:00 p.m.

Evening Prayer (Zoom) 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday – December 14

Church open for prayer & meditation; Noon to 3:00 p.m.

Evening Prayer (Zoom) 5:30 p.m.

Women's Spirituality Group (Zoom) 6:30 p.m.

EfM (Parish Hall/Zoom) 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday – December 15

Church open for prayer & meditation; Noon to 3:00 p.m.

Evening Prayer (Zoom) 5:30 p.m.

Midweek Holy Eucharist (Church) 6:00 p.m.

Vestry Meeting (Hybrid) 6:45 p.m.

Thursday – December 16

Church open for prayer & meditation; Noon to 3:00 p.m.

Evening Prayer (Zoom) 5:30 p.m.

Racial Justice Discussion Group(Zoom) 6:30 p.m.

Friday – December 17

Church open for prayer & meditation; Noon to 3:00 p.m.

Evening Prayer (Zoom) 5:30 p.m.

Saturday – December 18

Food Pantry (12 W 11th St) 8:30 a.m.

If you are in need or would like to volunteer, speak to Fr. Ed.

Sunday – December 19 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Holy Eucharist (Church) 9:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist w/ Music (Church) 11:00 a.m.

(*Live Stream: AscensionNYC.org*)

Coffee & Tea (Front Garden) following the service

Meditation & Sacrament (Church) 6:00 p.m.

Anyone entering the church must wear a mask and maintain appropriate physical distance. Please utilize the hand sanitizer stations.

Rota

December 12

9:00 AM

Altar Guild & Lector Rachel Sedor

11:00 AM

Altar Guild Elizabeth Adams, John Grimes

Ushers John Grimes, Jacob Scott, Kyle Cheseborough

Lectors Isabel Spencer, John Merryman

Intercessor James Amodeo

Server Elizabeth Adams

Crucifer Tom Rice

Torches Rusty Moore

Livestream Host Derek Baker

Counters Tom Rice

The Church of the Ascension

in the City of New York
Fifth Avenue at Tenth Street
Incorporated October 1, 1827

Parish House

www.ascensionnyc.org

12 West 11th Street, New York 10011

(212) 254-8620

info@ascensionnyc.org

Office Hours:

Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Regular Weekly Worship Schedule

Sunday Eucharist, 9:00 a.m.

Sunday Eucharist w/ Music, 11:00 a.m.

Sunday Online Church, 11:00 a.m. (Ascensionnyc.org/Sunday)

Wednesday Eucharist, 6:00 p.m.

Weeknight Evening, 5:30 p.m. (ascensionnyc.org/eveningprayer)

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Elizabeth G. Maxwell, *Rector*
The Rev. Edwin Chinery, *Associate Rector*
The Rev. Posey Krakowsky, *Priest Associate*
Charles E. Schmidt, *Chancellor*
Dennis Keene, D.M.A., *Organist & Choirmaster*
Andrew P. Jones, *Parish Administrator*
Kelli Long, *Business Manager*
Sajia Choudhury, *Parish Bookkeeper*
Dwight Roberts, *Sexton*
William Gordon, *Assistant Sexton*
Luis Ortiz, *Assistant Sexton*

Vestry

Maurice Seaton, *Warden*
Isabel Spencer, *Warden*
Mary Gaillard, *Treasurer*
Elizabeth Adams: *Clerk*
Barbara M. Burns
Kyle Church Cheseborough
Peter Clark
Janet Fisher
Vin Knight
Gale Lynch
Rusty Moore
Tom Rice
Rachel Sedor
Madonna Stack-Barker
John Thompson
Jill Tildesley



@ascensionnyc



Paperless Bulletin
Ascensionnyc.org/todaysservice

Hymns for December 12, 2021

Entrance Hymn

Hymn 76

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within,
and let each heart prepare a home
where such a mighty guest may come.

For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge, and our great reward;

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

Winchester New

without thy grace we waste away
like flowers that wither and decay.

To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let thy light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
whose advent doth thy people free;
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Spirit evermore.

Communion Hymn

Hymn 66

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.

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Stuttgart

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a king,
born to reign in us for ever,
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.

Exit Hymn

Hymn 75

There's a voice in the wilderness crying

Ascension

There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
a call from the ways untrod:
Prepare in the desert a highway,
a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted,
the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places
where the Lord our God may go!

O Zion, that bringest good tidings,
get thee up to the heights and sing!
Proclaim to a desolate people
the coming of their King.

Like the flowers of the field they perish,
like grass our works decay,
the power and pomp of nations
shall pass like a dream away;

but the word of our God endureth,
the arm of the Lord is strong;
he stands in the midst of nations,
and he will right the wrong.

He shall feed his flock like a shepherd,
the lambs he'll gently hold;
to pastures of peace he'll lead them,
and bring them safe to his fold.