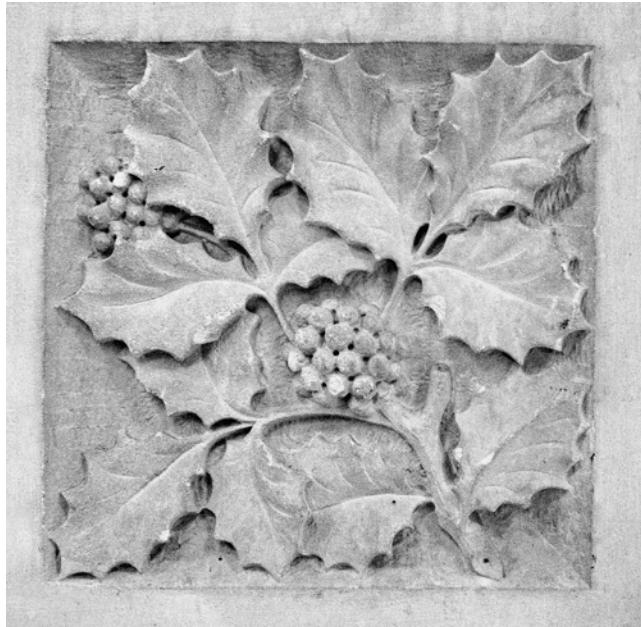


**The Church of the Ascension**  
in the City of New York  
FIFTH AVENUE AT TENTH STREET



**December 5, 2021**  
**Second Sunday of Advent**

**THE HOLY EUCHARIST**  
Nine O'Clock A.M.

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

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

**Organ Prelude**

**Plein Jeu**

Jean-Adam Guilain (1680-1739)

**Choral Prelude**

**Benedictus Dominus Deus**

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \*  
    he has come to his people and set them free.  
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \*  
    born of the house of his servant David.  
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,  
that he would save us from our enemies, \*  
    from the hands of all who hate us.  
He promised to show mercy to our fathers \*  
    and to remember his holy covenant.  
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \*  
    to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
Free to worship him without fear, \*  
    holy and righteous in his sight  
        all the days of our life.  
You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \*  
    for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,  
To give his people knowledge of salvation \*  
    by the forgiveness of their sins.  
In the tender compassion of our God \*  
    the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of  
death, \*  
    and to guide our feet into the way of peace.  
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.

**Hymn 67**

**Psalm 42**

## **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. Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People            *Amen.*

## **The Lighting of the Second Advent Candle**

*(Children who are present may gather around the Advent Wreath and the first two candles are lit.)*

All      Come, O Holy One,

as the water of life and refiner's fire!  
Strengthen us with courage for your work of justice  
that in all creation and among every people  
your peace may be established  
and your joy abound,  
through Jesus our Deliverer. Amen.

## The Word of God

### A Reading from the Book of Baruch

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him. (5:1-9)

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

**Hymn 444**

***Thornbury***

## A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God. (1:3-11)

Reader      The Word of the Lord.

People      *Thanks be to God.*

### Gospel

**Luke 3:1-6**

Priest      The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People      *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

Reader      The Gospel of the Lord.

People      *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**The Sermon**

**The Rev. Elizabeth G. Maxwell**

**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.

*People* *Lord, have mercy.*

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.

*People* *Lord, have mercy.*

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 Burundi, let us pray to the Lord.

*People* *Lord, have mercy.*

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.

*People* *Lord, have mercy.*

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, Jacovella, Fanny, Andrew, Heildi, 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, Larry Harris, and Kitty Brett, 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**

### **Chorus from *Messiah***

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

### **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.*

**Hymn 597**

***Jerusalem***

## **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 65**

***Bereden väg för Herran***

**Dismissal**

*(The congregation is dismissed, and the people respond)*

Thanks be to God.

**Postlude**

**Dialogue sur les Grand Jeux**

Jean-Adam Guilain

### **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](http://Ascensionnyc.org/Sunday)), or you can to our website ([Ascensionnyc.org](http://Ascensionnyc.org)) and click the link on our main page.

**Sunday Evening Meditation & Sacrament Returns at a New Time!** As we start the new church year we begin our Meditation and Sacrament service at a new time: 6 pm. This is a contemplative service of interfaith readings, music and communion, with significant silence to pray, meditate or just sit in our sacred space. Maybe you want to try it as your Advent practice? All are welcome!

**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](http://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](mailto:srpiccone@yahoo.com)

**Advent Poems and Prayers:** an Online Time of Reflection, Saturday, December 11; 10 am-noon- Please join us online for a couple of hours to share and pray with favorite poetry about Advent or Advent themes. For more information, speak with Mother Liz. Zoom link: [us06web.zoom.us/j/86054788308](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86054788308).

**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](https://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).

### **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](https://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, 5:30 pm** via Zoom:  
[ascensionnyc.org/eveningprayer](https://ascensionnyc.org/eveningprayer). (929-205-6099; meeting ID is 770 597 201)

- **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](http://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 5 – Second 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 6**

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

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

### **Tuesday – December 7**

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

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

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

Resistance Cinema (Zoom) 7:00 p.m.

Voices of Ascension Concert (Church) 7:30 p.m.

### **Wednesday – December 8**

Finance Committee (Zoom) 11:30 a.m.

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.

### **Thursday – December 9**

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

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

Voices of Ascension Concert (Church) 7:30 p.m.

### **Friday – December 10**

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

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

### **Saturday – December 11**

Advent Prayer & Poetry (Zoom) 10:00 a.m.

## **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.

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

### **Rota**

December 5

9:00 AM

Altar Guild & Lector June Fait

11:00 AM

Altar Guild Elizabeth Adams, John Grimes

Ushers Gale Lynch, John Merryman,  
David Lehmann

Lectors David Cholcher, Robin Clements  
Intercessor Kyle Cheseborough

Server Shana Kaplanov  
Crucifer John Grimes  
Torches Janet Fisher, Rusty Moore

Livestream Host Vin Knight

Counters Maurice Seaton

**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](http://www.ascensionnyc.org)

12 West 11th Street, New York 10011

(212) 254-8620

[info@ascensionnyc.org](mailto: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](http://Ascensionnyc.org/Sunday))

Wednesday Eucharist, 6:00 p.m.

Weeknight Evening, 5:30 p.m. ([ascensionnyc.org/eveningprayer](http://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



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Paperless Bulletin  
[Ascensionnyc.org/todaysservice](http://Ascensionnyc.org/todaysservice)

## Hymns for December 5

### Entrance Hymn

#67

**Comfort, comfort ye my people**

**Psalm 42**

Comfort, comfort ye my people,  
speak ye peace, thus saith our God;  
comfort those who sit in darkness  
mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.

Speak ye to Jerusalem  
of the peace that waits for them;  
tell her that her sins I cover,  
and her warfare now is over.

Hark, the voice of one that crieth  
in the desert far and near,  
calling us to new repentance  
since the kingdom now is here.

Oh, that warning cry obey!  
Now prepare for God a way;  
let the valleys rise to meet him  
and the hills bow down to greet him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked,  
make the rougher places plain;  
let your hearts be true and humble,  
as befits his holy reign.

For the glory of the Lord  
now o'er earth is shed abroad;  
and all flesh shall see the token  
that the word is never broken.

### Canticle 16 - The Song of Zechariah

#444

**Blessed be the God of Israel**

**Thornbury**

Blessed be the God of Israel,  
who comes to set us free;  
he visits and redeems us,  
he grants us liberty.

The prophets spoke of mercy,  
of freedom and release;  
God shall fulfill his promise  
and bring his people peace.

He from the house of David  
a child of grace has given;  
a Savior comes among us  
to raise us up to heaven.

Before him goes his herald,  
forerunner in the way,  
the prophet of salvation,  
the harbinger of Day.

On prisoners of darkness  
the sun begins to rise,  
the dawning of forgiveness  
upon the sinner's eyes.

He guides the feet of pilgrims  
along the paths of peace.  
O bless our God and Savior,  
with songs that never cease.

### Communion Anthem

#597

**O day of peace that dimly shines**

**Jerusalem**

O day of peace that dimly shines  
through all our hopes and prayers and  
dreams,  
guide us to justice, truth, and love,  
delivered from our selfish schemes.  
May swords of hate fall from our hands,  
our hearts from envy find release,  
till by God's grace our warring world  
shall see Christ's promised reign of peace.

Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb,  
nor shall the fierce devour the small;  
as beasts and cattle calmly graze,  
a little child shall lead them all.  
Then enemies shall learn to love,  
all creatures find their true accord;  
the hope of peace shall be fulfilled,  
for all the earth shall know the Lord.

**Exit Hymn**

**#65**

Prepare the way, O Zion,  
your Christ is drawing near!  
Let every hill and valley  
a level way appear.  
Greet One who comes in glory,  
foretold in sacred story.

*[Refrain]*

*Oh, blest is Christ that came  
in God's most holy Name.*

**Prepare the way, O Zion**

**Bereden väg för Herran**

He brings God's rule, O Zion;  
he comes from heaven above.  
His rule is peace and freedom,  
and justice, truth, and love.  
Lift high your praise resounding,  
for grace and joy abounding.

*[Refrain]*

Fling wide your gates, O Zion;  
your Savior's rule embrace.  
His tidings of salvation  
proclaim in every place.  
All lands will bow before him,  
their voices will adore him.

*[Refrain]*