



CHURCH *of the*  
**INCARNATION**

**The Third Sunday of Advent**

December 12, 2021

*Contemporary Service*



# ORDER OF SERVICE

## SONG

Lo, he comes with clouds descending  
Once for favored sinners slain  
Thousand, thousand saints attending  
Swell the triumph of his train  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
God appears on earth to reign  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
God appears on earth to reign

Every eye shall now behold him  
Roben in dreadful majesty  
Those who set and naught and sold him  
Pierced and nailed him to the tree  
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing  
Shall the true Messiah see  
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing  
Shall the true Messiah see

*Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending*

Yea, amen! Let all adore thee  
High on thine eternal throne  
Savior, take the power and glory  
Claim the kingdom for thine own  
O come quickly, O come quickly  
Alleluia! Come, Lord come  
O come quickly, O come quickly  
Alleluia! Come, Lord come

Alleluia! Alleluia!  
God appears on earth to reign  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
God appears on earth to reign

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

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

*All* 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.

## SUMMARY OF THE LAW

## SONG

*Hosanna (Praise is Rising)*

Praise is rising, eyes are turning to You  
We turn to You  
Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for You  
We long for You

When we see You  
we find strength to face the day  
In Your presence all our fears are washed away

Hosanna, Hosanna  
You are the God who saves us  
Worthy of all our praises

Hear the sound of hearts returning to You  
We turn to You  
In Your kingdom broken lives are made new  
You make all things new

When we see You  
we find strength to face the day  
In Your presence all our fears are washed away

*Chorus*  
*Hosanna, Hosanna*  
*You are the God who saves us*  
*Worthy of all our praises*  
*Hosanna, Hosanna*  
*Come have Your way among us*  
*We welcome You hear, Lord Jesus*

When we see You  
we find strength to face the day  
In Your presence all our fears are washed away

*Chorus*

## THE COLLECTS OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And with your spirit.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming did send your messenger to prepare the way before you; Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility so that on the last day, when he will come again in his glorious majesty to judge 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 LESSON

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not pass over it, and fools shall not err therein. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 80

Here us, oh Shepherd of Israel  
You who lead Joseph like a flock  
You sit and throne between the cherubim  
Shine forth before us  
Awaken Your might, come and save us

*Chorus*

*Restore us, oh Lord God Almighty  
And make Your face shine upon us*

That we may be saved

Oh, Lord God, how long will Your anger  
Smolder against all our prayers  
You have fed them bread of tears  
They drank bowls of tears  
For You made us a scorn to our neighbors

*Chorus*

That we may be saved  
Your vine is cut down and burned with fire  
At Your rebuke, Lord, we die  
Let Your hand rest on the man  
At Your right hand  
The son of man who You raised up

*Chorus 2x*

That we may be saved

## THE EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. I do not even judge myself. I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then every man will receive his commendation from God.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      Thanks be to God.

## SEQUENCE

*O Come O Come Emmanuel, v. 7*

O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree  
An ensign of thy people be  
Before thee rulers silent fall  
All peoples on thy mercy call

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel

## THE GOSPEL

Matthew 11:2-10

*Deacon*      ✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew.

*People*      Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you he who is to come, or shall we look for another?" And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is he who takes no offense at me." As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to behold? A reed shaken by the wind? Why then did you go out? To see a man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, those who wear soft raiment are in kings' houses. Why then did you go out? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written, 'Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, who shall prepare thy way before thee.'"

*Deacon*      The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*      Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## SERMON

The Reverend Canon Victor Lee Austin, Ph.D.

## THE NICENE CREED

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

*Leader* In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy"

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* Lord, have mercy.

*Leader* For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael the Presiding Bishop, for George our Bishop and Michael and Frasier, our assisting Bishops, Bishop Anthony, our Rector, and the clergy of this parish and for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* Lord, have mercy.

*Leader* For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* Lord, have mercy.

*Leader* For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* Lord, have mercy.

*Leader* For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* Lord, have mercy.

*Leader* For those in positions of public trust, especially Joe, our president, and the congress and courts of justice, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* Lord, have mercy.

*Leader* For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* Lord, have mercy.

*Leader* For this congregation, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* Lord, have mercy.

*Leader* For our enemies and those who wish us harm, and for all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you O Lord. For ourselves; for the forgiveness of our sins, and for the grace of the Holy Spirit to amend our lives, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* Lord, have mercy.

*Leader* For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* Lord, have mercy.

*Leader* For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* Lord, have mercy.

*Leader* Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

*People* To you, O Lord our God.

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*



## **CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION**

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

*All kneel.*

*Deacon & 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.

*The Celebrant stands and gives the Absolution, after which all stand.*

## **THE PEACE**

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

*People* And with your spirit.

*All greet one another with a sign of peace in the name of the Lord.*

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CHILDREN'S SERMON (9 AM)**

### **BIRTHDAY BLESSING**

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## OFFERTORY SONG

*Be On the Lookout*

*The Minister begins the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture.*

*Chorus*

*Lift up your head*

*Be on the lookout*

*Wake from your bed*

*Don't fall asleep*

*Lift up your head*

*He's comin' soon now*

*Get yourself ready*

*For the comin' of the King*

Could a mother, forget her children  
Could a husband, forget his wife  
How much more then, will he remember  
Will He come and set things right!

*Chorus*

Cast aside all the works of darkness

Live as children of the day

Light your lamp

And keep them burnin'

Til we see our bridegroom's face

*Chorus*

See those fields, they're ripe for harvest

See the work that's left undone

Take to the world his love and justice

Singin' "let his kingdom come!"

Oh let his kingdom come!

*Chorus*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And with your spirit.

*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.

*The Celebrant continues with the Preface, which concludes*

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

*Celebrant & People*

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.

*All kneel. The Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic Prayer.*

*Celebrant* Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*All* Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

*The Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic Prayer, which concludes*

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. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*Celebrant & People*

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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread and a period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

## **THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS**

*Celebrant* We do not presume  
*All* to come to this your table, O merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in your abundant and great mercies.  
We are not worthy so much as to gather up  
the crumbs under your table;  
but you are the same Lord  
whose property is always to have mercy.  
Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,  
and to drink his blood,  
that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

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

*Persons who wish to have the Holy Eucharist brought to them in their pew should notify an usher.*

### **Instructions for Holy Communion**

All Christians who have been baptized with water and in the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, who come forward in faith and are permitted to receive Holy Communion in their own church, are welcome to do so on this occasion.

Communion is received in the following way: a priest places the Bread in the palm of your hand, which you then consume; to receive the Wine, hold the base of the chalice, guide it to your lips. The practice of dipping the Bread into the Wine is not permitted. If you do not wish to receive one or both Elements, simply cross your arms over your chest.

If one is not able (e.g. because of a medical condition), or prefers not, to receive either the Bread or the Wine, the Church has always taught that a person still receives all the benefits of Holy Communion. If needed, there is wine from a dedicated gluten-free chalice; just notify a priest when you kneel at the altar rail.

Please feel free to consult with a member of the clergy if you have more questions.

## **SONG**

Let all mortal flesh keep silence  
And with fear and trembling stand  
Set your minds on things eternal  
For with blessing in his hand  
Christ our God to earth descended  
Come our homage to command

King of kings, yet born of Mary  
Once upon the earth he stood  
Lord of lord we now perceive him  
In the body and the blood  
He will give to all the faithful  
His own self for heavenly food

Rank on rank, the host of heaven  
Spreads its wings on the way  
As the Light of Light descended  
From the realms of endless day  
That the powers of hell may vanish  
As the darkness clears away

## *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

At his feet the six-winged seraph  
Cherubim with sleepless eye  
Veil their faces to the presence  
As with ceaseless voice they cry  
"Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, Lord Most High!"  
"Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, Lord Most High!"

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

*Celebrant & People*

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 & DISMISSAL**

*The Celebrant gives the blessing, after which the Deacon says*

*Deacon* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

# NOTES

A notebook page with a dark red border and horizontal ruling lines. The word "NOTES" is centered at the top in a bold, dark red font. The page is otherwise blank, with no text or markings.

A FESTIVAL OF NINE

Lessons

&

Carols

SUNDAYS, DECEMBER 12 & 19 • CHURCH  
4:30 PM ORGAN PRELUDE • 5 PM SERVICE



# BACH'S LUNCH

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14  
12:15 PM • CHURCH

This program features the Advent cantata *Schwingt freudig euch empor*, BWV 36 along with the Advent chorale preludes from the *Orgelbüchlein* collection. Please join us for this free concert of beautiful Advent music by Bach!

# Children's CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19  
10:20 AM • GREAT HALL

Come join the choristers and children of Incarnation as they retell the classic Christmas story. Cookie and hot chocolate reception to follow.



## SILVER SAINTS CHRISTMAS EVE GATHERING

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24  
1-3 PM • GREAT HALL

Senior adults and their friends are invited to a *come-and-go* celebration with eggnog, wine, and savories after the 12 pm Christmas Eve Service!

If you can make it, please let Carol Kadel know by Tuesday, December 14 at 214-217-5610.





## **CHRISTMAS EVE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24**

**12 PM**

*Holy Eucharist with Choir*

**2 PM**

*Family Service  
with the Incarnation Choristers*

*Contemporary Eucharist  
with the Uptown Band*

**5 PM**

*Holy Eucharist  
with the Incarnation Choir & Brass*

*Contemporary Eucharist  
with the Uptown Band*

**10:30 PM**

*High Mass  
with Incense, the Incarnation Choir, & Brass*

## **CHRISTMAS DAY SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25**

**11 AM**

*Holy Eucharist with Hymns*



### **NEW GUEST *or* NEED ASSISTANCE**

Stop by the Welcome Desk in the Welcome Center between services to get support, discover ways to connect, and pick up a new visitor gift.



### **WEEKLY ENEWS**

Our official church newsletter is the best way to receive up-to-date announcements and information about upcoming events. Sign up today at [incarnation.org/enews](http://incarnation.org/enews).



### **WEEKLY READINGS**

This week's readings may be found in the Book of Common Prayer, pg. 939, Advent 3.

## **CHURCH *of the* INCARNATION**

*A parish in the Episcopal Diocese of  
Dallas and a member of the world-wide  
Anglican Communion.*

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