



THE CHURCH
OF ST. MICHAEL & ST. GEORGE

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2024 10:00 am

Holy Eucharist

¶ *The service follows the Order for Holy Eucharist beginning on page 323 of The Book of Common Prayer*

¶ *The musical setting of the Mass Ordinary is the Advent Mass on Picardy of Robert Lehman*

Organ Voluntary

Pastoral from Sonata no. 1

Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

Hymn at the Procession - 68

The Third Sunday of Advent is traditionally known as "Gaudete" (Latin for "rejoice"). We rejoice in Christ's promised coming, and our liturgy takes this emphasis with a shift from blue to rose vestments.

Acclamation

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

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

The Collect for Purity

¶ *The Celebrant says*

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

Kyrie eleison

g Sung by All

Organ introduction

Lord, have mer-cy up - on us. Christ have
mer - cy up - on us. Lord have mer - cy up - on us.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. *g People Amen.*

g Then all are seated

The Word of God

The Lesson

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has cast out your enemies. The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear evil no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Do not fear, O Zion; let not 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. Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. 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 together; yea, I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

¶ *All remain seated for the singing of the Canticle*

The First Song of Isaiah

Isaiah 12:2-6

¶ *Sung by the Choir*

Chant in E-flat

Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

Behold, God is my salvation, *
I will trust and not be afraid;
For the Lord God is my strength and my song; *
he also is become my salvation.
Therefore with joy shall ye draw water *
out of the wells of salvation.
And in that day ye shall say, *
Praise the Lord, call upon his Name,
Declare his doings among the people, *
make mention that his Name is exalted.
Sing unto the Lord; for he hath done excellent things; *
this is known in all the earth.
Cry out and shout, thou inhabitants of Zion; *
for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, *
world without end. Amen.

The Epistle

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety 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 passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

☞ *All stand for the singing of the Hymn and Gospel Procession*

Hymn at the Sequence - 59

We await Christ's coming with joy in anticipation of our promised redemption.

The Gospel

Luke 3:7-18

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

People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

John said therefore to the multitudes that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits that befit repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the multitudes asked him, "What then shall we do?" And he answered them, "He who has two coats, let him share with him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise." Tax collectors also came to be baptized, and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Collect no more than is appointed you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Rob no one by violence or by false accusation, and be content with your wages." As the people were in expectation, and all men questioned in their hearts concerning John, whether perhaps he were the Christ, John answered them all, "I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with 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 preached good news to the people.

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Anne Hunter Kelsey

¶ *Following the Sermon, all stand and say together*

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped
and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead, †
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People ¶ *All kneel as the Deacon says these Prayers*

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Have mercy we pray on those who now suffer the miseries of wars not of their own making. Have compassion on the wounded and dying; comfort the broken-hearted; confound the hatred and madness of those who make war; guide our rulers, bring war to an end, bring peace across the world. Unite us all under the reign of thy Son, the Prince of Peace, before whose judgement seat the rulers of the world will give account, and in whose name we pray.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless † thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Michael and All Angels, Blessed George, and of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. ¶ *People Amen.*

Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

¶ *Celebrant and People*

Almighty God,

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

maker of all things, judge of all men:

We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness,
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.

We do earnestly repent,

and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,
the burden of them is intolerable.

Have mercy upon us,

have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may ever hereafter
serve and please thee in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of thy Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶ *Then the Celebrant stands, pronounces Absolution*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and truth faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon ✠ and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

¶ *People Amen.*

¶ *The Celebrant may then say one or more of the following Comfortable Words*

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.

Matthew 11:28

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. 1 Timothy 1:15

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. 1 John 2:1–2

¶ *All stand*

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And with thy spirit.

¶ *Then the Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord*

Announcements

The Church of St. Michael & St. George is grateful for the generosity of all visitors and parishioners who donate as part of the weekly offertory. If you wish, please place your donation in the collection plate or use the QR code below to give online. These gifts are used to support our parish and our mission, in addition to parishioners' annual commitments.



The Holy Communion

Anthem at the Offertory

Ave maris stella,
Dei mater alma,
atque semper virgo,
felix caeli porta.

Sumens illud Ave
Gabrielis ore,
funda nos in pace,
mutans Hevæ nomen.

Hail, star of the sea,
Blessed Mother of God
and ever Virgin,
happy gate of Heaven.

Receiving that Hail
from the mouth of Gabriel
establishing us in peace,
transforming us in the name of Eve.

Solve vincla reis,
profer lumen cæcis,
mala nostra pelle,
bona cuncta posce.

Virgo singularis,
inter omnes mitis,
nos culpis solutos
mites fac et castos.

Vitam præsta puram,
iter para tutum,
ut videntes Jesum
semper collætetur.

Sit laus Deo Patri,
summo Christo decus,
Spiritui Sancto,
tribus honor unus. Amen.

Loosen the chains of the guilty,
bring forth light to the blind,
dispel our evil,
pray for all good things.

O unique Virgin,
gentle above all others,
set us free from sin,
meek and pure.

Grant a pure life,
prepare a safe way,
that seeing Jesus
we may ever rejoice.

To God the Father be praise,
glory to Christ on high,
honor to the Holy Spirit,
Three in one. Amen.

Words: Latin, c. 9th century
Music: Judith Weir (b.1954)

¶ *Following the singing of the Anthem, all stand to sing*

Hymn at the Presentation - Veni, veni Emmanuel

O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
 who ord'rst all things mightily;
 to us the paths of knowledge show,
 and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because thou didst send thy 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 with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Sanctus and Benedictus *♩ Sung by all*

Organ introduction

Ho - ly,— ho - ly,— ho - ly, Lord—
God of— Hosts: Heav'n and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo-ry be to
thee, O Lord Most High. Bles-sed is he that com - eth
in— the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high-est.——

♩ The People kneel

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled ✠ with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. ♪ *All* AMEN.

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

The Lord's Prayer

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 Bread and a period of silence is kept; then is sung

Agnus Dei ♪ *Sung by all*

Organ introduction

O Lamb of God, that tak'st a-way the
sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O
Lamb of God, that tak'st a-way the sins of the world, have
mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of God, that tak'st a-way the
sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

The Prayer of Humble Access ¶ *Said by all*

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

The Invitation and Ministration of Communion

¶ *All Christians baptized with water in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Proceed to the Altar Rail when invited by the Usher. To receive the Bread, extend your palms, crossed and upward; when offered the Chalice, please assist in guiding it. Those who do not wish to receive Holy Communion may come forward for a blessing; please indicate this to the Priest by crossing your arms over your chest.*

¶ *Holy Communion is distributed both at the High Altar and in St. Mary's Chapel. When directed, please follow the Ushers' direction. Those who are not able to come to the High Altar are always welcome to proceed to St. Mary's Chapel.*

Carol at Holy Communion

Peace be to you and grace from him
Who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed his blood
That we might saved be.
Sing holy, holy to our Lord,
The Lord, Almighty God,
Who was and is and is to come;
Sing holy, holy, Lord!
Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Christ is coming, is coming soon,
For Christ is coming soon!
E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come,
And night shall be no more;
They need no light nor lamp nor sun,
For Christ will be their All!

Words: Revelation 22, adapted by Ruth Manz (1919-2008)

Music: Paul Manz (1919-2009)

Hymn at Holy Communion - 64

☞ Sung by all

The Postcommunion Prayer

☞ Said by all kneeling

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Advent Blessing ✠

☞ The Celebrant blesses the People

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin.

☞ People Amen.

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. *☞ People Amen.*

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. *☞ People Amen.*

And the blessing ✠ of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *☞ People Amen.*

☞ All stand

The Dismissal

☞ The People are dismissed with these words

Deacon Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

☞ All stand

Hymn at the Retiring Procession - 72

Organ Voluntary

Noël Grand Choeur, "Laissez paître vos bêtes" Jean-Jacques Charpentier (1734-1794)

This Morning's Liturgy

† **Judith Weir** (b.1954) was appointed Master of the Queen's Music by Elizabeth II in 2014, and she stayed in this role under Charles III until 2024. In her composition "Ave Maris Stella," Weir adapts the original plainsong into a more rhythmic melody heard in the opening baritone solo.

† Colors play an important part of the worship of the Church. They change according to the seasons of the Church year and the liturgical tasks at hand. The colors worn at the Church of St. Michael & St. George are drawn from colors worn in England before the Reformation. On The Third Sunday of Advent we use rose, reflecting the theme of "rejoicing" found in the proper liturgical texts of the day.



THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL & ST. GEORGE

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The Rev. Peter James Speropulos	<i>Assistant Rector</i>
The Rev. Thomas Roy Albinson	<i>Assistant Rector</i>
The Rev. Dr. Stewart Douglas Clem	<i>Priest Associate; Theologian in Residence</i>
The Rev. Anne Hunter Kelsey	<i>Priest Associate</i>
Mr. Joseph Andrew Arndt	<i>Organist and Director of Music</i>

