

Advent Lessons & Carols



*The Episcopal Church of
St. John the Baptist*

Milton, Delaware

December 13, 2020 | 4:00 pm

Service Participants

Rector

The Rev. Thomas M. White

Acolyte

Jerry Pirrung

Minister of Music

Scott Kresge

Choir Director

Rebecca Frankum

Choir

Ned Criscimagna

Denise Cunningham

Sally Fox

Bel Gwiazdowski

Rob Freeman

Susan Mattia

Paul McDonagh

Elizabeth Scheer

Karen Vanselous

Erin Willis

Violinist

Jacob Colby

Lay Readers

Ned Criscimagna

Sandy Criscimagna

Sharon Lamando

Theo Leithmann

Mary Moubray

Mark Owen

Sheila Robinson

Eric Valentine

Videography

Scott Kresge

The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist subscribes to an all copyright release covering all content in this bulletin from One License with license No. A-727355.

Cover Illustration: *Angel Gabriel from 'The Annunciation' in presbytery of Salesianerkirche Church, Vienna, Austria. Giovanni Antonio Pellegrini (1725-1727)*

PRELUDE

Voluntary | “*Veni, Veni Emmanuel*”

David Hicken

Sonata No. 3 in F Major HWV 370

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

II. Allegro

III. Largo

Violin with Piano Accompaniment

Jacob Colby & Scott Kresge

Please stand as able and all sing

PROCESSIONAL HYMN | O Come, O Come, Emmanuel | *Veni, Veni, Emmanuel*

#56

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Dear People of God: In the season of Advent, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God’s loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this town.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the LORD Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore.

And now, to sum up all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us, saying:

*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 Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. *Amen.*

Please be seated

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 3: 1-15

Theo Leithmann

Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, “Where

are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

CAROL | **Adam lay ybounden** | 15th Century, Music: Peter Warlock

Choir

SECOND LESSON: Isaiah 40: 1-11

Mark Owen

God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption.

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;

lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,
"Here is your God!"

See, the LORD God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;

his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,

and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Please be seated

THIRD LESSON: Jeremiah 31: 31-34

Sharon Lamando

A new covenant is promised which will be written in our hearts.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt-- a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL | Prepare ye the Way | Mark Burrows

**Ned Criscimagna, Bel Gwiazdowski,
Elizabeth Scheer, & Erin Willis**

FOURTH LESSON: Zephaniah 3: 14-18

Mary Moubray

The Lord will be among us; we are summoned to rejoice and sing.

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

VIOLIN SOLO | Gigue from Partita No. 2 in D minor, BWV 1004 | J. S. Bach

Jacob Colby

FIFTH LESSON: Isaiah 6: 1-11

Sheila Robinson

God reveals his glory to the prophet and calls him to be his messenger.

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the LORD sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory."

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!" And he said, "Go and say to this people:

'Keep listening, but do not comprehend;
keep looking, but do not understand.'

Make the mind of this people dull,
and stop their ears,
and shut their eyes,
so that they may not look with their eyes,
and listen with their ears,
and comprehend with their minds,
and turn and be healed.”
Then I said, “How long, O LORD?” And he said:
“Until cities lie waste
without inhabitant,
and houses without people,
and the land is utterly desolate;

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as able and all sing

HYMN | Rejoice, Rejoice Believers | Llangloffan

#68

Please be seated

SIXTH LESSON: Micah 5: 2-4

Ned Criscimagna

The one who is to rule Israel will be born in the village of Bethlehem.

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.
Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.
And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL | Carol for Advent | Greensleeves | D. Besig & N. Price

Choir & Violin

SEVENTH LESSON: Isaiah 7: 10-15

Sandy Criscimagna

God promises that a child shall be conceived who will be known as “God with us.”

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL | Lo’ How a Rose E’er Blooming with Of the Father’s Love Begotten | Jay Rouse

Choir

EIGHTH LESSON: Isaiah 65: 17-25

Eric Valentine

God promises a new heaven and a new earth.

For I am about to create new heavens
and a new earth;
the former things shall not be remembered
or come to mind.
But be glad and rejoice forever
in what I am creating;

for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy,
and its people as a delight.
I will rejoice in Jerusalem,
and delight in my people;
no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it,
or the cry of distress.
No more shall there be in it
an infant that lives but a few days,
or an old person who does not live out a lifetime;
for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,
and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.
They shall build houses and inhabit them;
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
They shall not build and another inhabit;
they shall not plant and another eat;
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.
They shall not labor in vain,
or bear children for calamity;
for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD—
and their descendants as well.
Before they call I will answer,
while they are yet speaking I will hear.
The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,
the lion shall eat straw like the ox;
but the serpent— its food shall be dust!
They shall not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain, says the LORD.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

SOLO | **Now Hear the Glad tidings** | *J. S. Bach* | *Arr. Hal Hopson*

Denise Cunningham

NINTH LESSON: Luke 1: 26-38

Fr. Tom White

The Angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will bear the Son of the Most High.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

CAROL | **Mary Did you Know?** | *Arr. Buddy Greene*

Choir

BENEDICTION

Please stand as able and all sing

RECESSIONAL HYMN | **Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending** | *Helmsley*

#57

POSTLUDE

Organ Voluntary | *"Helmsley"*

Robert Lind

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH 
 OF *St. John the Baptist*

“Where All Are Welcome . . . No Exceptions!”

307 Federal Street/P.O. Box 441, Milton, Delaware 19968

302.684.8431

officestjohnthebaptist@gmail.com

www.stjohnthebaptistmilton.org

www.facebook.com/stjohnthebaptistmilton

www.instagram.com/stjohnthebaptistmilton

The Rev. Thomas M. White, Rector

37507 Worcester Dr., Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

cell: 301.807.2298 home: 302.226.9979

rectorstjohnthebaptist@gmail.com

Scott Kresge, Minister of Music

cell: 610.905.1711

officestjohnthebaptist@gmail.com

Rebecca Frankum, Choir Director

officestjohnthebaptist@gmail.com

The Vestry

Senior Warden: Jill Malloy - 2021

Junior Warden: Sharon Lamando - 2021

Ted Palmer - 2021

Jean Skocypec - 2022

Rob Konnyu - 2022

Clara Escobar - 2023

Scott Kresge - 2023

Treasurer: Tom Sombar

Assistant Treasurer: James E. Stout

Clerk of the Vestry: Scott Kresge