St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Canton, Ohio

Photo by D. Rotthoff

Sunday, December 18, 2022

Fourth Sunday of Advent

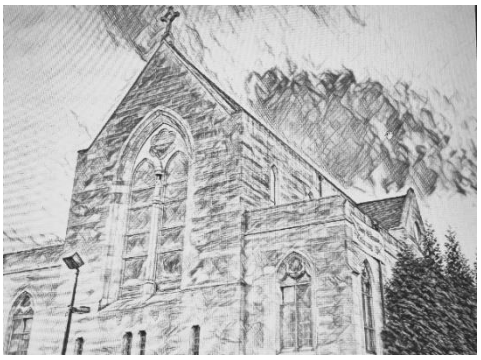
Holy Eucharist Rite II

Welcome to St. Paul's

Online and in-person services begin with music at 10:25 a.m.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
425 Cleveland Ave SW
Canton OH 44702
(330) 455-0286

Website: www.stpaulscanton.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/stpaulscanton
e-mail: stpaulsoffice@att.net
We're on YouTube: StPaulsCanton



Our mission

St. Paul's is a radically welcoming Episcopal community in downtown Canton, grounded in faith, called by God's Love to minister to the world.

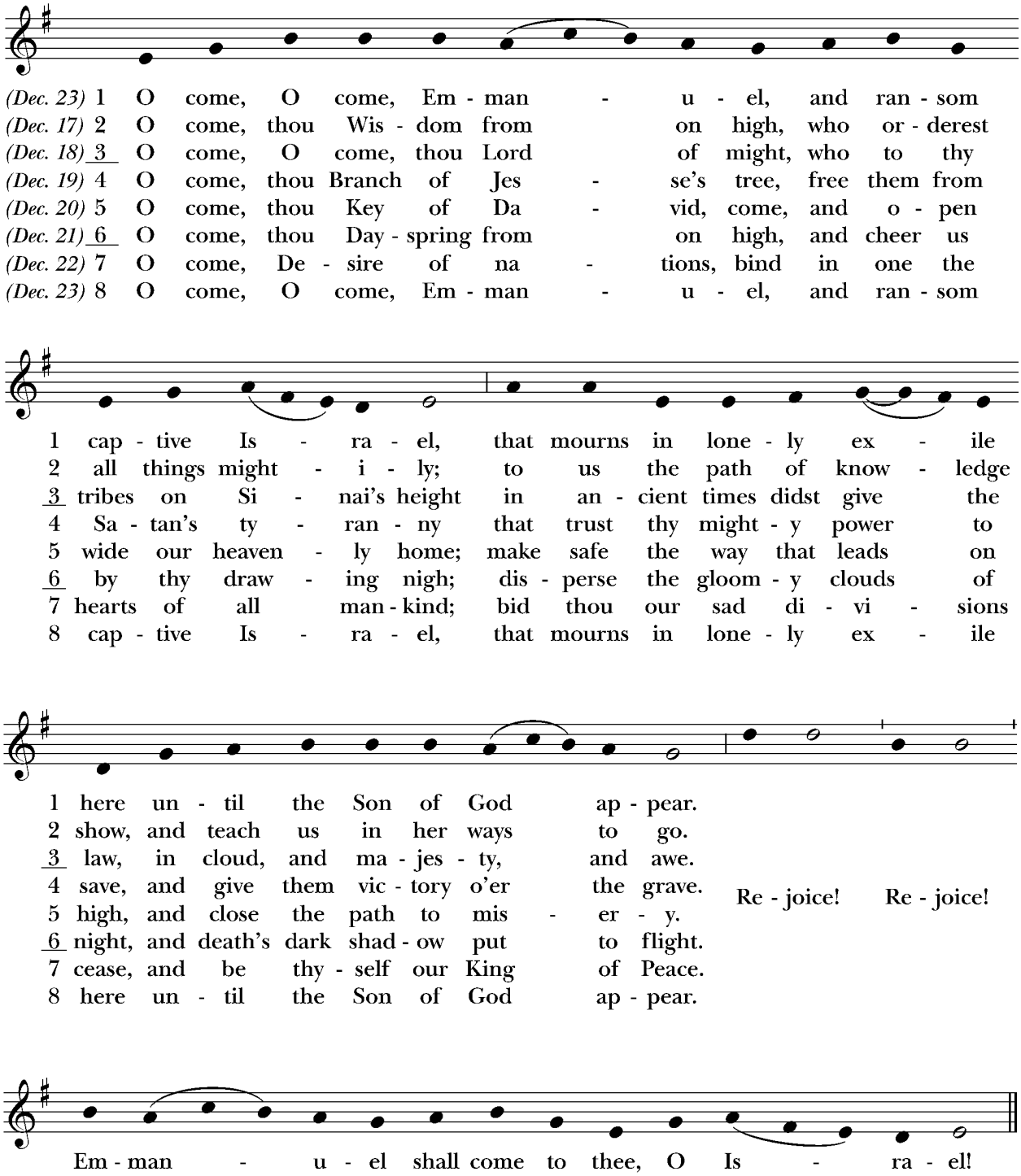
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Holy Eucharist Rite II

Readings and Psalm
First Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-16
Psalm: Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18
Second Lesson: Romans 1:1-7
Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

Prelude: *Veni Emmanuel* by Philip Moore

The Word of God

ENTRANCE HYMN *"O come, O come, Emmanuel" (Veni, veni, Emmanuel) (H 56)*



The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

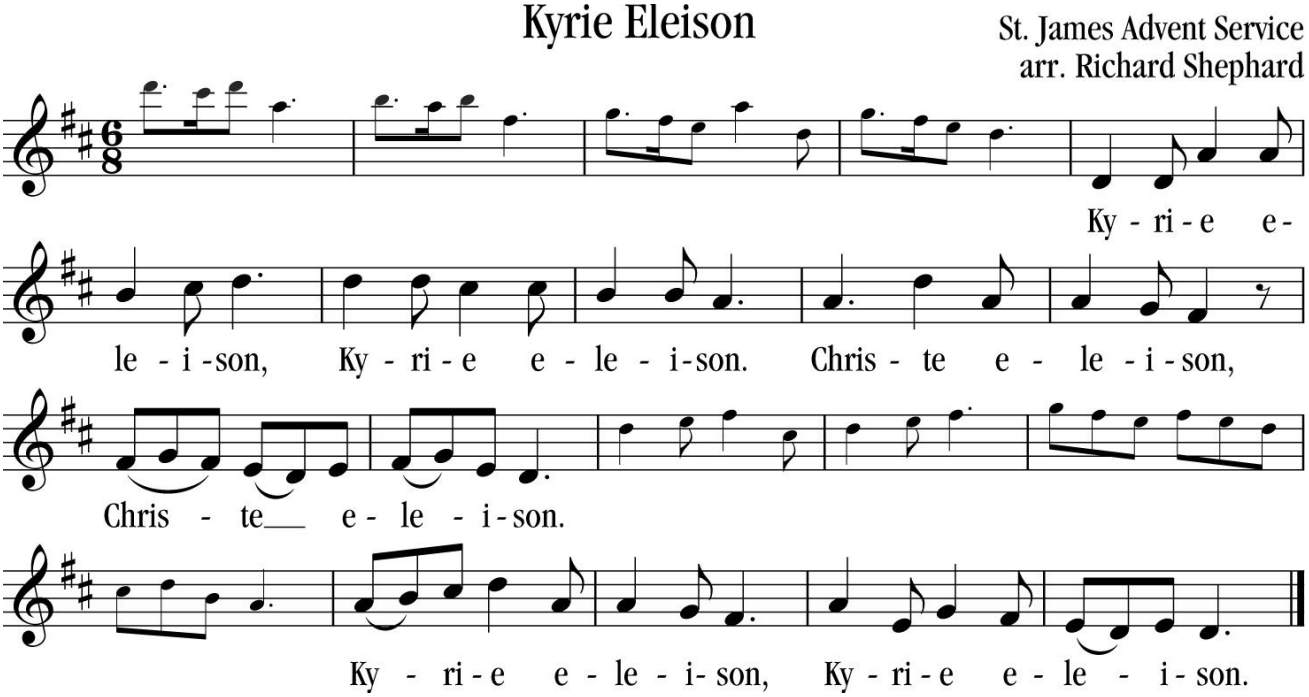
OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 355)

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.
People You come to your people and set them free.

COLLECT FOR PURITY (BCP p. 355)

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.

SONG OF PRAISE



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 357)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Isaiah 7:10-16

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

10Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, 11Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. 12 But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. 13 Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? 14 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. 15 He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. 16 For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

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

PSALM: Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

Remain seated.

1Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
2In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.
3Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
4O LORD God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?
5You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
6You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
7Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
18 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

SECOND READING: Romans 1:1-7

Remain seated.

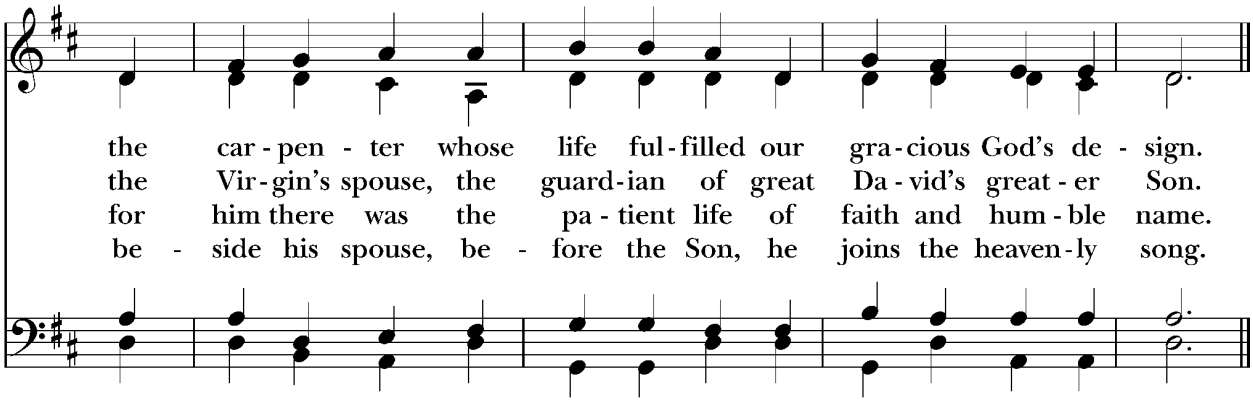
A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

1 Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of
God, 2 which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, 3
the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh
4 and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by
resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, 5 through whom we have received
grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for
the sake of his name, 6 including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,
7 To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN*: "Come now, and praise the humble saint" (Tallis' Ordinal) (H 260)*

All stand.



GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-25

All stand.

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

18 Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. 19 Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. 20 But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." 22 All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

23"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us."24 When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, 25 but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON: ***Rev. Christopher Hofer, Assisting Clergy***

Celebrant Let us affirm our faith with the words of the Nicene Creed

THE CREED

All stand.

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Written by Karen Boivin, Daniel Hayward and Maggie Melanson while MDiv students at Queen's School of Religion, Kingston ON

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord our God

Leader: God of Wonder,
We come before you in anticipation of what is to come;
We are excited
We are fearful
We are relieved
We are uncertain
In all these emotions, you are here with us.

Leader: God of No Limits,
We give you thanks for the boundless gifts you have given us:
This universe which you have created with its infinite mystery;
This earth that sustains us with its resources and beauty;
This created life, with all its relationships, of which we are a part;
For all these acts of love, we give you thanks.

Leader: God of Love,
We give you thanks for your Church
The community of those who came before, are here now, and are yet to come.
Help us to work together in the building of your kingdom here on earth
That we might live in justice, peace and harmony with all.

Leader: God of Many Blessings,
We call to mind all the ways in which you have blessed us individually,
With family and friends that fill us with belonging,
with studies and ministries that challenge and excite us
with good health and happiness.
In silence, O God, we give you our thanks for other blessings that you have laid before us…. for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially Peggy Neidig, Connie Blinn, and Dan Lewton. We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Leader: God of Wisdom and Understanding,
As we give thanks we also hear the words of Scripture, urging us to bring all the concerns of our hearts to you.
And so we come with prayers of petition and intercession:

For a time when all this world might know peace
When hunger and oppression might end
When those who suffer might know freedom from pain
In our individual lives, O God, we name and offer the sighs of our hearts.
Hear them now as we call out these prayers to you……. For Ed Sutek, Chris Moore, Ron Neidig, Rick Senften, Flo Myers, Bill, Rachel, Mary Lou, David Swope, Beth Paynter, and for the bereaved families of Pamela Johnson, Kaitlyn Cefalde, Melanie, Catherine Williams, and Shirley Megown. Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

Leader: God of Patience and God of Surprises,
Teach us, in this time of waiting, to be open to let go of all those things
That hide your presence from us.
Catch us by surprise, catch us with wonder,
Fill us with the gift of your grace and your love
In this time of Advent and all the days to come. Amen

COLLECT FOR PEACE

Said by all

Grant, O God that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatred cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The People sit, stand or kneel.

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

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.

Celebrant: 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. *Amen*.

THE PEACE

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

The people greet each other in the name of the Lord

Church Announcements

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE
Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

OFFERTORY HYMN*: "O King and Desire" by John Stainer*

The Great Thanksgiving
(Please remain standing)

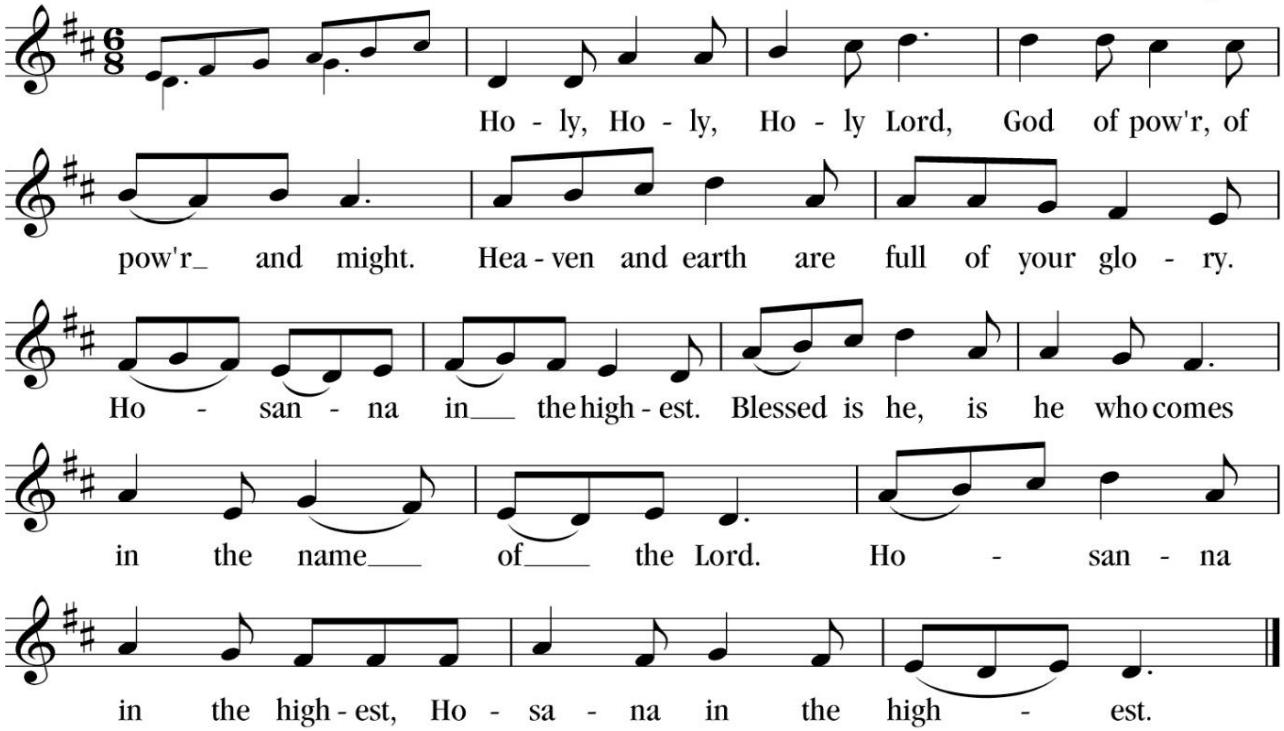
Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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 (Sanctus) St. James Advent Service arr. Richard Shephard



Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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.”

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

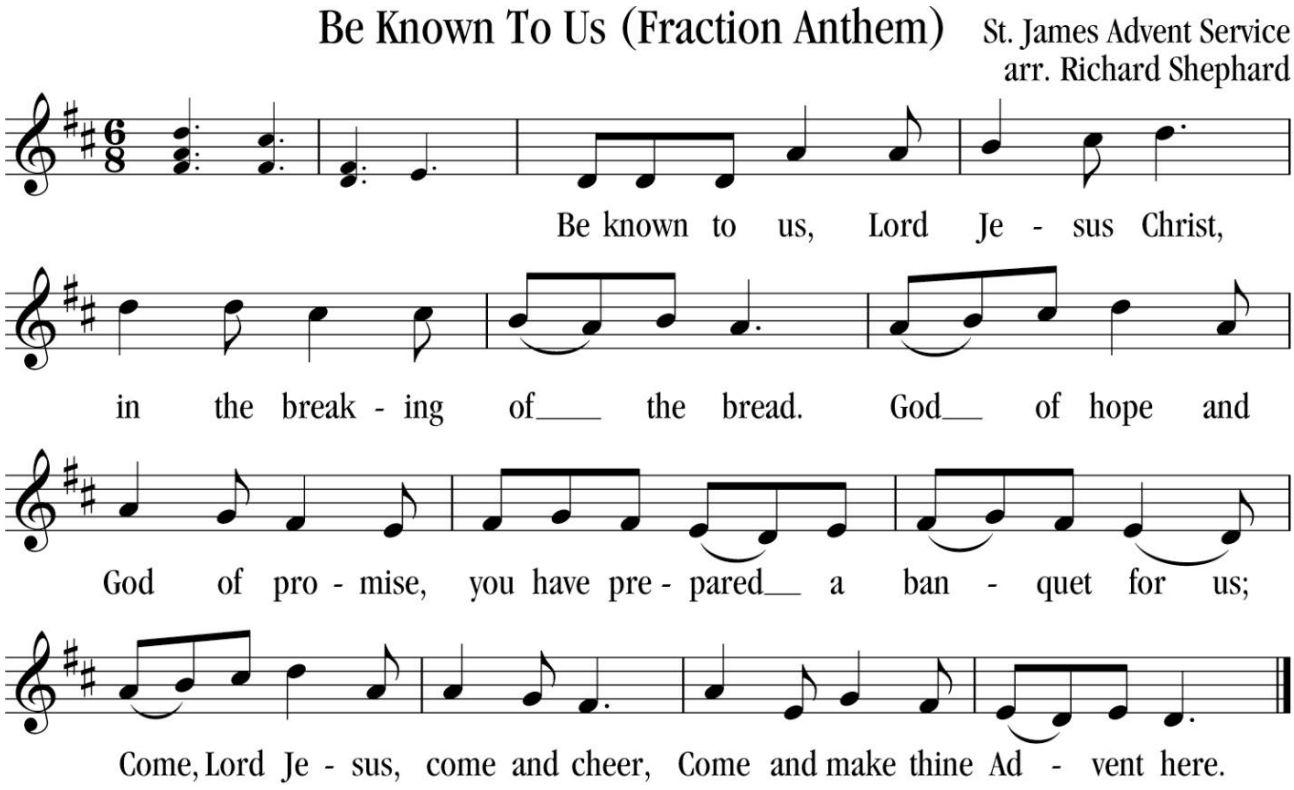
All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

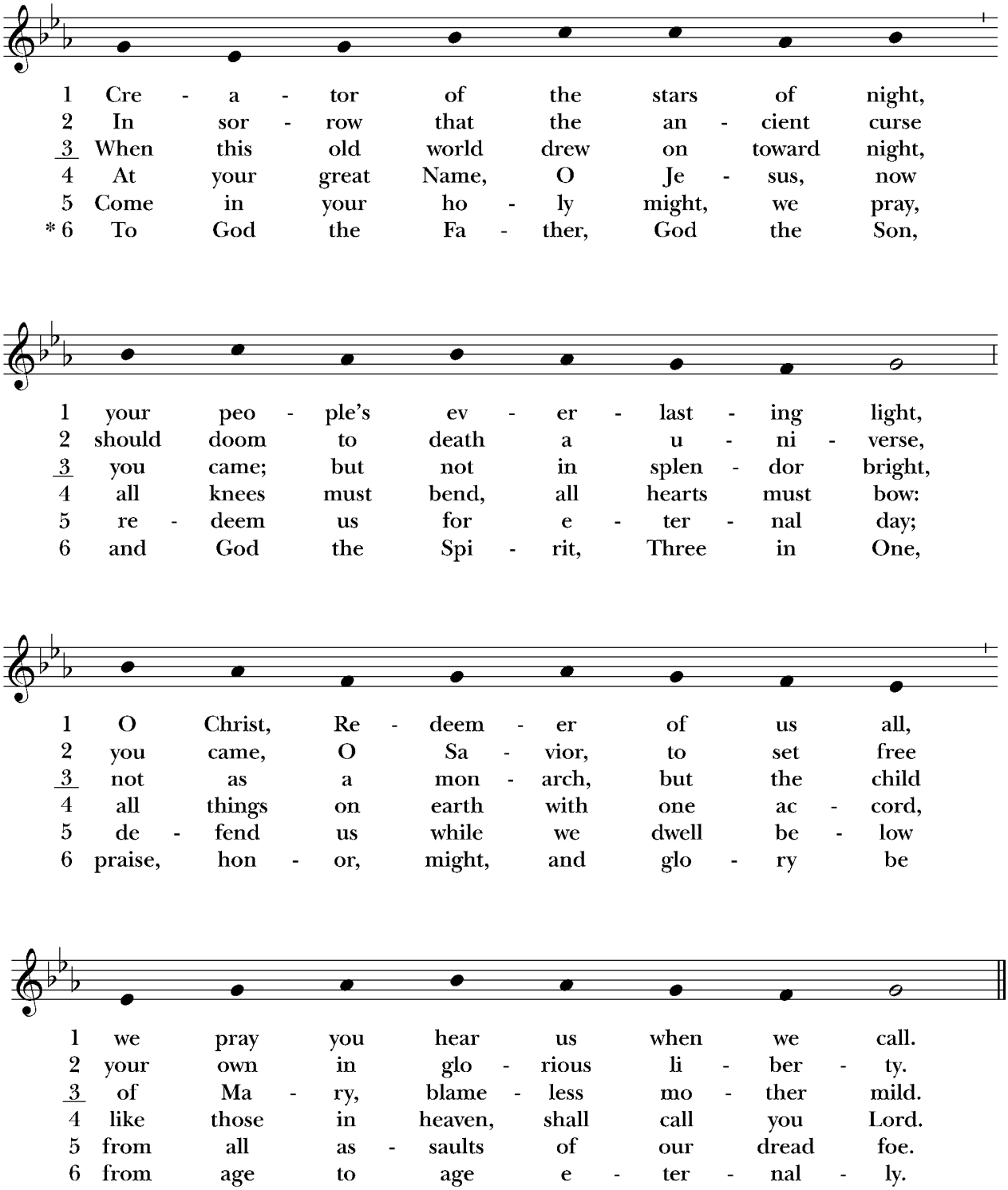
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread



Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

COMMUNION HYMN: ***"Creator of the stars of night"*** ***(Conditor alme siderum)***
(H 60)

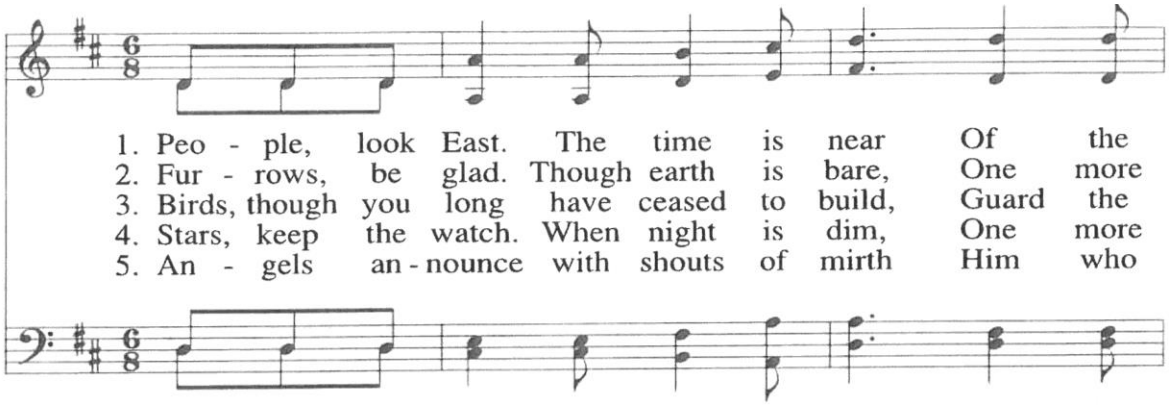


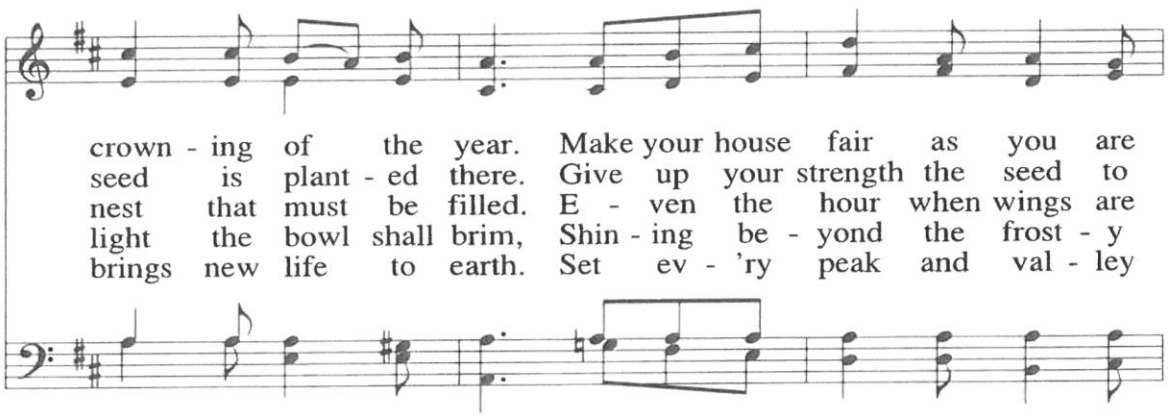
POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 365)
Let us pray together

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 (BCP p. 366)
The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION HYMN: *"People Look East" (Besancon)*





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Tune: BESANÇON, 87 98 87; French traditional; harm. by Martin Shaw, 1875–1958, © Oxford University Press

DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Conditor alme siderum* by Rebecca Groom Tevelde

Participants in Today's Liturgy:

Deacon-in-Charge:	The Rev. Dr. Robin Woodberry
Supply Priest:	The Rev. Christopher Hofer
Director of Music:	Edward T. Grimes
Lector:	Carol Sutek
Eucharistic Minister:	Douglas Colmery
Crucifer:	Douglas Colmery
Greeters:	Beth Paynter
Camera/Audio:	David Lewis, David Rotthoff
Altar Guild:	Shirley Brown, Linda Kendrick
Counters:	Demetrius Carrothers, Cara Warren

Announcements:

TODAY! Immediately following the service, the greening of the church will take place. Please stay and lend a helping hand. Coffee hour will be held when we are finished

Monday, December 19th, Vestry meeting, 6:00p

Wednesday Small Group Study
Has recessed for the holidays and will resume on January 4, 2023

Thursday Choir Rehearsal
Choir rehearsal is held on Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. Consider "making a joyful noise unto the Lord" and join our great choir!! All are welcome!

Saturday, December 24th, Festive Christmas Eve Service, 7:00p
Please come and join us for a wonderful time in celebration of the birth of our Lord. Each one reach one by inviting family and friends!

Social Justice Book Club
We will begin a new book, "Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass." We meet every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. The next gathering is on December 27th. You can join us either here in the Guild Hall or via Zoom.

Upcoming Commemorations

Lillian Trasher: Missionary in Egypt, 1961
Monday, December 19, 2022

Henry Budd: Priest, 1875
Thursday, December 22, 2022

Charlotte Digges (Lottie) Moon: Missionary in China, 1912
Thursday, December 22, 2022

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for the Anglican Church of Korea.

12/18/22: In the Diocese of Ohio, we pray for the South-East Mission Area

St. James Church, Boardman
The Rev. Maureen Major, Priest-in-Charge

St. Stephen's Church, East Liverpool

Holy Trinity Church, Lisbon
The Rev. Henry C. Fox, Extended Supply

St. Luke's Church, Niles

St. Paul's Church, Steubenville
The Rev. Stephen McKeown, Interim Supply

St. Paul's extends congratulations to our very own Rev. Maureen Major and the Rev. Leah Romanelli-DeJesus on their ordination to the Priesthood this past week. To God be the glory!

Save the Date: January 22, 2023
Annual Church Meeting

All ministries are asked to get their reports into the Church Office no later than January 14th.

December 2022 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec 18 ADVENT 4 10:30 am Service	Dec 19 6 pm Vestry Mtg	Dec 20	Dec 21	Dec 22 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	Dec 23	Dec 24 7 pm AA (Library) 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service 7:30 pm NA (Cmty Rm)
Dec 25 CHRISTMAS DAY! 8:00 am Morning Prayer	Dec 26 	Dec 27 7 pm Social Justice Book Group	Dec 28	Dec 29 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	Dec 30	Dec 31 7 pm AA (Library) 7:30 pm NA (Cmty Rm)

Upcoming Holiday Worship Service Schedule

Saturday, December 24th, Festive Christmas Eve Service, 7:00p

Sunday, December 25th, Christmas Day Morning Prayer ONLY, 8:00a

Sunday, January 8th, Epiphany Lessons & Carols Service @ St. Tim's Massillon, 5:00p

Monday, January 16th, MLK Day Events:
12:00p, Worship Service @ St. Paul's
2-4p, Community Service Projects
5:30p Courageous Conversation Kickoff @ St. Paul's

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Bishop
The Right Reverend Mark Hollingsworth, Jr.

Deacon-in-Charge
The Reverend Dr. Robin Woodberry

Officiating Clergy
The Reverend Christopher Hofer

Staff
Edward T. Grimes, Director of Music

Peggy Neidig, Office Manager

Paul Schmucker, Sexton

Music Begins Sunday Services at 10:25am are also live streamed on Facebook.

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Sermon Notes

A Prayer for Advent

Lord Jesus, Master of both light and darkness, send
your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.

We who have so much to do
seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.

We who are anxious over many things
look forward to your coming among us.

We who are blessed in so many ways
long for the complete joy of your Kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy
seek the joy of your presence.

We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking
the light. To you we say, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

-Father Henri JM Nouwen