



EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HOLY EUCHARIST

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 17, 2023
10:00 A.M.

EMMANUEL CHURCH
21 STRATFORD STREET | WEST ROXBURY, MA 02132
WWW.EMMANUELWR.ORG

PRELUDE

THE WORD OF GOD

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Please stand as you are able.

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

HYMN

Savior of the nations, come!

H82 #54

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Celebrant Our King and Savior now draws near.
People **O come, let us adore Him.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant May God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 64:1-4, 8-11

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because
the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the
prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day
of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who
mourn;
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give
them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle
of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness, the
planting of the LORD, to display his glory.
They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise
up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of
many generations.

For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and
wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I
will make an everlasting covenant with them.
Their descendants shall be known among the
nations, and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a
people whom the LORD has blessed.
I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being
shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of
righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as
a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a
garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

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

CANTICLE 15

Luke 1:46-55

Magnificat

⁴⁶My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
⁴⁷my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;
⁴⁸for he has looked with favor on his lowly
servant. From this day all generations will
call me blessed:
⁴⁹the Almighty has done great things for me, and
holy is his Name.
⁵⁰He has mercy on those who fear him in every
generation.
⁵¹He has shown the strength of his arm, he has
scattered the proud in their conceit.
⁵²He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.

⁵³He has filled the hungry with good things, and
the rich he has sent away empty.
⁵⁴He has come to the help of his servant Israel,
for he has remembered his promise of
mercy,
⁵⁵The promise he made to our fathers, to
Abraham and his children for ever.

**All: 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.**

THE SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

A Reading from the Second Letter of Peter

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

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

Please stand as you are able.
H82 #75

SEQUENCE HYMN

There's a voice in the wilderness crying

THE GOSPEL

John 1:6-8,19-28

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Jonathan Eden

THE NICENE CREED

Please stand as you are able.

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 IN THE SEASON OF ADVENT

Standing or Kneeling, the Leader and People pray responsively.

Intervessor Stir up your whole church, O Lord, and with great might prepare our hearts to receive your Word,

People **That all your people may hear your truth. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, today we remember: Christ Church, Cambridge, St. Bartholomew's Church, Cambridge, St. James' Church, Cambridge, St. Peter's Church, Cambridge, and the Diocesan Disciplinary Board. That their lives and teaching may glorify your name through all the world.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Bring wisdom and patience to all in positions of authority, here and around the world, that a sense of community and harmony may be found in all their decisions and that all their actions may serve the common good.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Cast away the darkness of war in all the world, and teach us to put on the armor of Christ's peace, that, living in unity with one another, all people of the earth may dwell in safety and look with confidence to the coming of your kingdom.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Swell our hearts, Lord Christ, with the love you make known to us in this season, that we may take to heart the care of the poor, the outcast, and all who suffer from any grief or trouble.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send again the message of repentance, preached once by your prophets, and give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins of prejudice, injustice, and greed.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Have mercy, O Lord, on all the sick and those who have requested our prayers, especially Christina, Donald, Carol, Julie, Stanley, Peter, Felix, Mary, Catherine, Michael, Parker, Sergio, Martha, Anne, Patricia, Barbara,

Maureen, Rachael, Louise, Scott, Kathleen, Paul, Eddy, Christopher, and those we now name silently or aloud (*pause*). Enfold them with your healing hands, that they may feel your presence and be made whole.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Remember, O God, all those we love but see no longer, especially, those we now name silently or aloud (*pause*), and all who find their delight in your kingdom, that they may feast forever at a table we hope, one day, to share.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

In this season of waiting, your grace surrounds us and we thank you for all the gifts manifest in our lives and communities, especially those we now name, silently or aloud (*pause*), that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, Give us grateful hearts and abundant hope, that we may recognize your hands at work in us and in the world around us.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Prepare us. Purify us. Stir cold hearts and open blinded eyes,

That, watching, we may be ready to receive the gift that even now you prepare for Bethlehem's manger. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Celebrant And, as we know that without you we cannot please you, hear our prayer of confession that we make before you:

People **Have mercy upon us, most merciful God. In your compassion, forgive us our sins, things known and unknown, deeds done and left undone; and lift us by your spirit's presence that we may live to serve you and one another in new life, to the honor and glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant May the power of God, who comes to dwell among us, forgive you all your sins and offenses, prepare your hearts for joy, and embrace you in an eternal kingdom.

People **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY HYMN

Blessed be the God of Israel

Please stand as you are able.

H82 #444

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant May God 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 God thanks and praise.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Dear God, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of Mary his mother, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

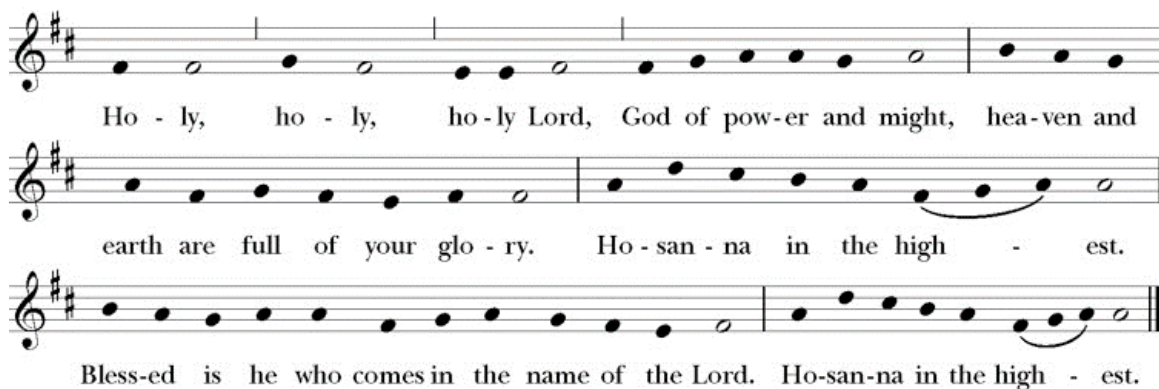
By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

H82 #S124



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

And so, Most Gracious God, we who have been redeemed by Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our forebears; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Deborah, Hannah and Rebecca. God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ,

that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, O God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

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,
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.]

A period of silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM

Robinson & Forster

mp
Come, Ho - ly Child of light and be known: be
cresc.
known in bro - ken bread and of - fered lives; be known in this
house as Lord and King; be known in our hearts to - day
dim. *p*
and for ev - er. A - - men.

Priest The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion at Emmanuel Church.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **O God, who bids us wait in this season of longing: As you have fed us with the body of Christ, make us hungry for your justice in the world; As you have given us drink from the cup of salvation, make us thirsty for the fullness of your kingdom; In these days of expectation, stir our hearts and awaken hope that we may share the gifts of your reconciling love with all creation. Amen.**

BLESSING

May the God who stoops to become incarnate grant us the grace to remember that the world is too broken for anything but truth, and too small for anything but love. **Amen.**

May God take our minds and think through them, take our lips and speak through them, and take our hands and work through them. **Amen.**

May God stir our hearts with yearning for the coming kingdom and open our ears to the voices of the prophets. **Amen.**

And may the blessing of God, who Creates, Redeems, and Sustains us, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN

Hark the glad sound!

H82 #72

DISMISSAL

Celebrant
People

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

POSTLUDE



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT EMMANUEL

CONTEMPLATIVE ADVENT PRAYERS	TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 7:00 PM
ADVENT I	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 10:00 AM
HYMN SING	11:30 AM
CONTEMPLATIVE ADVENT PRAYERS	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 7:00 PM
ADVENT II	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 10:00 AM
VISIT FROM SANTA WITH FURRY FRIENDS!	11:30 AM
CONTEMPLATIVE ADVENT PRAYERS	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 7:00 PM
ADVENT III	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 10:00 AM
CONTEMPLATIVE ADVENT PRAYERS	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 7:00 PM
ADVENT IV	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 10:00 AM
CHRISTMAS EVE HOLY EUCHARIST	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 5:00 PM

WELCOME TO EMMANUEL CHURCH

We are glad that you joined us today and pray that you will know God's presence through our worship and in this community. Wherever you are in your journey with God or toward God you are welcome here. Indeed, you are invited and welcome here in our pews and in all the things we do together as a community each week. We would also love to be in better touch throughout the year. Please reach out to our Bridge Priest, the Rev. Jonathan Eden at therev.jonteden@gmail.com or [617.798.0700](tel:617.798.0700) for more information.

We meet every Sunday for worship at 10:00 A.M. and you can also learn more about who we are and what we do together through our Web and Social Media pages:

Facebook



Instagram



YouTube



Web



SERVING TODAY

Celebrant
Altar Server
Altar Guild
Lector
Gift Bearers
Organist

The Rev. Jonathan Eden
John Gooley
Terri Halliday, Gail Halpin-Evans
Kellon Belfon
Weekly volunteers
Esther Kwok

PARISH DIRECTORY

The Parish Office	21 Stratford St, WR 02132 617-323-1440 www.emmanuelwr.org	Vestry Co-Wardens Treasurer Clerk Vestry	Terri Halliday Ken Thelen Kellon Belfon Anne Jackson Ed Fleming Gail Halpin-Evans Cathy McCarthy Seraiah Belfon
Bridge Priest	The Rev. Jonathan Eden therev.jonteden@gmail.com 617.798.0700		
Office Hours	Tues 10 a.m. –5:30 p.m.	Social Media Leader	

PARISH PRAYER LIST

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please be in touch with The Rev. Jonathan Eden.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

If you would like to contribute, please mark your donation as "Christmas flowers" and provide the name(s) in whose memory or honor you are giving. You can use the forms found at the back of the Church. Please see Gail Halpin-Evans with questions. The deadline is December 17th.

CHRISTMAS EVE

If you are coming to the Christmas Eve 5:00 pm service, and would like to have a reading role, please contact Fr. Jon at therev.jonteden@gmail.com. We will have one brief rehearsal after the service TODAY!