

THE ORDER OF MASS

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7 December 2025 – 11:00 a.m., *livestreamed*

Mass Setting: *Missa Emmanuel* – *Richard Proulx* (1937-2010)
Congregational copies provided

ORGAN PRELUDE

Es ist ein' Ros entsprungen (*Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming*)

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

from *Eleven Chorale Preludes, Op. 122*

INTRODUCTORY RITES

HYMN *Sung by all, standing*

Helmsley



1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on



our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the



saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine



train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

SIGN OF THE CROSS

Priest: In the name of the ✠ Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

GREETING

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

KYRIE ELEISON

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Response to each Reading: The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 72

Angelo A. della Picca (1923-2007)



R. Jus-tice shall flour-ish in his time, and full-ness of peace for ev-er.

SECOND READING

Sung by all, standing

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Plainsong



Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

Music: Chant Mode VI; acc. by Richard Proulx

The Cantor and Choir chant the verse:

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths; /
all flesh shall see the salvation of God. **R.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

HOMILY

All stand

CREDO

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Jesus, Jesus, hear our prayer.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

ANTHEM

Walter Kendall Stanton (1891-1978)

1. Christ is the world's true light,
Its Captain of salvation,
The Day-star clear and bright
Of every man and nation;
New life, new hope awakes,
Where're men own his sway;
Freedom her bondage breaks,
And night is turned to day.

2. In Christ all races meet,
Their ancient feuds forgetting,
The whole round world complete,
From sunrise to its setting:
When Christ is throned as Lord,
Men shall forsake their fear,
To ploughshare beat the sword,
To pruning-hook the spear.

3. One Lord, in one great Name
Unite us all who own thee;
Cast out our pride and shame
That hinder to enthrone thee;
The world has waited long,
Has travailed long in pain;
To heal its ancient wrong,
Come Prince of Peace, and reign. Amen.

OFFERTORY HYMN *Sung by all, seated*

Geneva



1. Com - fort, com - fort, O my peo - ple, Speak of peace, now
2. Hark, the voice of one who's cry - ing In the des - ert
3. O make straight what long was crook - ed, Make the rough - er



says our God; Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness,
far and near, Bid - ding all to full re - pent - ance
plac - es plain; Let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



Mourn - ing 'neath their sor - row's load. Speak un - to Je -
Since the king - dom now is here. O that warn - ing
As be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry



ru - sa - lem Of the peace that waits for them;
cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
of the Lord Now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



Tell of all the sins I cov - er, And that war - fare now is o - ver.
Let the val - leys rise to meet him And the hills bow down to greet him.
And all flesh shall see the to - ken That his word is nev - er bro - ken.

INVITATION TO PRAYER AND PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Priest: Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

[Stand]

All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Kneel.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

COMMUNION RITE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

Priest: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

SIGN OF PEACE

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

AGNUS DEI

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

ARIA from MESSIAH

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

He shall feed his flock like a shepherd:
he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom,
and shall gently lead those that are with young.

(Isaiah 40: 11)

Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart:
and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

(Matthew 11: 28-29)

Renee Sonnet and Emily Wheeler, soloists

1 O day of peace that dim-ly shines through all our
2 Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the

hopes and prayers and dreams, guide us to jus-tice, truth, and
fierce de-vour the small; as beasts and cat-tle calm-ly

love, de-liv-ered from our self-ish schemes. May swords of hate
graze, a lit-tle child shall lead them all. Then en-e-mies

fall from our hands, our hearts from en-vy find re-lease, till by God's
shall learn to love, all crea-tures find their true ac-cord; the hope of

grace our war-ring world shall see Christ's prom-ised reign of peace.
peace shall be ful-filled, for all the earth shall know the Lord.

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1944–
Music: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918; harm. Charles H. Webb, 1933–
Words © 1982 Hope Publishing Company
Music harm. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company)

U.S.A./England
Isaiah 11:6–9
8.8.8.8.D. (L.M.D.)
JERUSALEM

All stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

CONCLUDING RITE

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

All: Thanks be to God.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 599

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

(Come now, Savior of the heathens)

TODAY'S READINGS

Reading 1 *Isaiah 11: 1-10*

On that day, a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse,
and from his roots a bud shall blossom.

The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him:

a spirit of wisdom and of understanding,

a spirit of counsel and of strength,

a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD,

and his delight shall be the fear of the LORD.

Not by appearance shall he judge,

nor by hearsay shall he decide,

but he shall judge the poor with justice,

and decide aright for the land's afflicted.

He shall strike the ruthless with the rod of his mouth,

and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked.

Justice shall be the band around his waist,

and faithfulness a belt upon his hips.

Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb,

and the leopard shall lie down with the kid;

the calf and the young lion shall browse together,

with a little child to guide them.

The cow and the bear shall be neighbors,

together their young shall rest;

the lion shall eat hay like the ox.

The baby shall play by the cobra's den,

and the child lay his hand on the adder's lair.

There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain;

for the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the LORD,

as water covers the sea.

On that day, the root of Jesse, set up as a signal for the nations,

the Gentiles shall seek out, for his dwelling shall be glorious.

Responsorial Psalm 72

R. Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

1. O God, with your judgment endow the king,

and with your justice, the king's son;

he shall govern your people with justice

and your afflicted ones with judgment.

2. Justice shall flower in his days,

and profound peace, till the moon be no more.

May he rule from sea to sea,

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

3. For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out,

and the afflicted when he has no one to help him.

He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor;

the lives of the poor he shall save.

4. May his name be blessed forever;

as long as the sun his name shall remain.

In him shall all the tribes of the earth be blessed;

all the nations shall proclaim his happiness.

Reading 2 *Romans 15: 4-9*

Brothers and sisters:

Whatever was written previously was written for our instruction,
that by endurance and by the encouragement of the Scriptures
we might have hope.

May the God of endurance and encouragement
grant you to think in harmony with one another,
in keeping with Christ Jesus,
that with one accord you may with one voice
glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you,
for the glory of God.

For I say that Christ became a minister of the circumcised
to show God's truthfulness,
to confirm the promises to the patriarchs,
but so that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy.

As it is written:

*Therefore, I will praise you among the Gentiles
and sing praises to your name.*

Gospel *Matthew 3: 1-12*

John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea
and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"
It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said:

*A voice of one crying out in the desert,
Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths.*

John wore clothing made of camel's hair
and had a leather belt around his waist.

His food was locusts and wild honey.

At that time Jerusalem, all Judea,
and the whole region around the Jordan
were going out to him

and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River
as they acknowledged their sins.

When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees
coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers!

Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?

Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance.

And do not presume to say to yourselves,
'We have Abraham as our father.'

For I tell you, God can raise up children to Abraham from these stones.

Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees.

Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit
will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

I am baptizing you with water, for repentance,
but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I.

I am not worthy to carry his sandals.

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

His winnowing fan is in his hand.

He will clear his threshing floor
and gather his wheat into his barn,

but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

UPCOMING MASS SCHEDULE:

CHRISTMAS EVE

5:30 P.M.

Ascension Choir, Organ, Piano & Trumpet

9:30 P.M.

LESSONS AND CAROLS

Sung by Ascension Choir

10:00 P.M.

Ascension Choir, Organ, Piano & Trumpet
Bilingual Readings & Homily

Music of Bach, Biebl, Britten, Pinkham, Rutter, Tavener & Willcocks

CHRISTMAS DAY

9:30 A.M. SPANISH

11:00 A.M. ENGLISH

Choir and Organ

Music of Darke, Lauridsen, Pinkham & Rutter

12:30 P.M. SPANISH

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

New Year's Eve

9:00 A.M. BILINGUAL

New Year's Day

11:00 A.M. ENGLISH

12:30 P.M. SPANISH

The Reverend Daniel Kearney, *Pastor*
The Reverend Daniel LeBlanc
The Reverend Deacon Daniel Corniell
The Reverend Deacon Nelson Falcon
Mary Santorello, *Director of Faith Formation*
Preston Smith, *Director of Music*

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
221 WEST 107TH STREET, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10025