



A Service for the Young
and the Young at Heart

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7 DECEMBER 2025 AT 9:15 AM
The Cathedral of the Incarnation
Garden City, New York

Welcome to *Cathedral for Kids* - *A Mass for the Young and Young at Heart*

Everyone is welcome in God's house and we are glad you're here! In the Episcopal Church, we pray using our whole bodies - our minds, our voices, our hands, and our feet. Here are few of the ways we pray together:

- ***When we sit, we listen with our ears and our hearts.*** Sitting helps us be comfortable so we are ready to receive God's Word and hear what God is speaking to our hearts in prayer.
- ***We also stand when we join our voices together in song.*** Few things make a community feel more welcoming than singing, and we invite you to participate fully in this Mass. Besides, singing together is fun!
- ***When we hear the names of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we make the sign of the cross.*** We touch our foreheads, our chest, our left shoulder, and our right shoulder, making the sign of the cross on our bodies. Look for the + in your bulletin indicating when you can make the sign of the cross!

In the Church Calendar, we are in the season of Advent, which marks the four Sundays leading up to Christ's birth at Christmas. The season of Advent is a season of waiting for good things that are to come. Waiting is not easy, but in Advent, we discover that Jesus is worth the wait!

If you are new to the Cathedral and would like to know more about our programs and services, please look on the table at the back of the Church, ask one of our clergy, or email us anytime at cathedral@incarnationgc.org.

GATHERING MUSIC

*After a brief welcome, we begin our worship time together
by joining our voices in several short refrains.*

IN THE LORD I'LL EVER BE THANKFUL (*please remain seated*)

Taizé

Three staves of musical notation in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The melody is simple and repetitive. The lyrics are: In the Lord I'll ev - er be thank - ful, in the Lord I will re -
joice! Look to God, do not be a - fraid. Lift up your
voic - es the Lord is near; lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near.

O COME, AND LET US SING (*please remain seated*)

Taizé

Two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time, key of D major. The melody is simple and repetitive. The lyrics are: O come and let us sing to God, our hope. God's mer cy is for ev - er. O
come and let us sing to God our hope. God's mer cy is for ev - er.

WELCOME AND ACCLAMATION

Presider + Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

After the Collect, all sit for the reading

PROCLAIM AND RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 11:1-5

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All young people are now invited to the front to hear the Word of God and to sit on the story rugs for the Sermon.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*all stand and sing the refrain*)

David Ogden



THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 19:13-15

Deacon The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

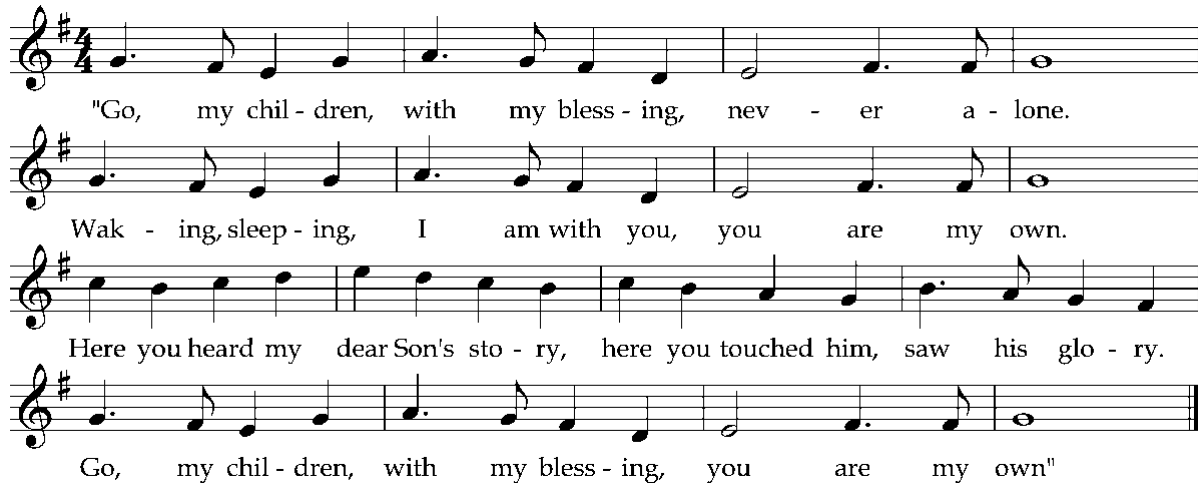
Then little children were being brought to Jesus in order that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples spoke sternly to those who brought them; but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." And he laid his hands on them and went on his way.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON (*please be seated*)

After the Sermon, we stand to sing as the children return to their places.



WE PRAY FOR THE WORLD AND THE CHURCH

Deacon Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

At the end of each prayer, offer your own prayers silently to God.

Loving God, we thank you for the Church, for our leaders, and for all who help us learn about your love. Help us to follow Jesus and to grow in faith and kindness.

We pray for the world, for all people in every country, and for peace where there is fighting. Guide our leaders to make good choices, and help us all to live together in peace.

We thank you for the beauty of the earth—for the skies and oceans, mountains and animals. Help us to care for the earth and not waste what you have made.

We pray for our families, our friends, and our teachers. Thank you for the people who care for us. Help us to show love, patience, and forgiveness to one another.

We pray for people who are sick, sad, or afraid. Be with them, comfort them, and bring them hope and healing.

We remember people who have died. May they rest in your love and light forever.

Dear God, help us to be kind, to speak the truth, to share what we have, and to love as Jesus loves us. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Stand or kneel as you are able

Deacon We pray also to you for forgiveness of our sins.

People **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 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.**

Presider 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.**

PREPARE THE TABLE

*Please be seated as we sing the Offertory Hymn. When the ushers come to
your seat please place your offering in the basket. Today's offering supports
the ministries of the Cathedral of the Incarnation.*

OFFERTORY HYMN

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor 1, Tenor 2/Bass) using a treble and bass staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is simple, consisting of quarter and half notes. The lyrics are as follows:

| | | | | | | | |
|---|------|-------------|-----------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|
| 1 | On | Jor - dan's | bank | the | Bap - tist's | cry | an - |
| 2 | Then | cleansed | be | ev - ery | breast | from | sin; make |
| 3 | For | thou | art | our sal - | va - tion, | Lord, | our |
| 4 | To | heal | the | sick stretch | out | thine | hand, and |
| 5 | All | praise, | e - ter - | nal | Son, | to | thee, whose |

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -
 3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we
 4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy
 5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
 2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.
 3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.
 4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
 5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), after John Chandler (1806-1876); alt.
 Music: *Winchester New*, melody from *Musicalishes Hand-Buch*, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

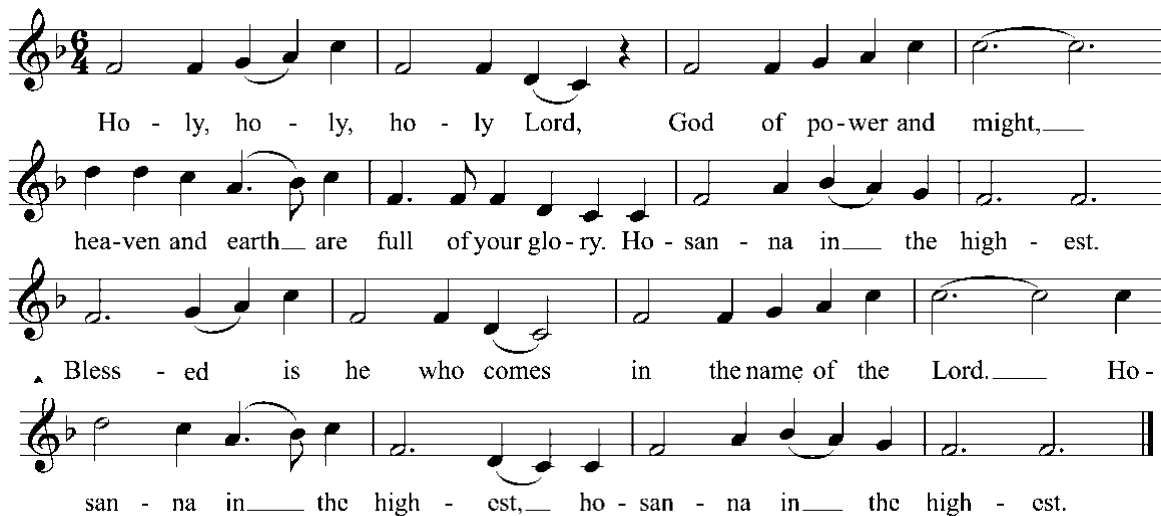
Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider It is a right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Because you sent him to redeem us from sin and death and to make us inheritors of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may with joy behold his appearing. And so we join the saints and angels in proclaiming your glory, as we sing:



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:

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

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. Send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts. Let them be for us the Body and Blood of your Son. + And grant that we who eat this bread and drink this cup may be filled with your life and goodness.

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 forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

People **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.

BREAK THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the bread.

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Presider The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by thanksgiving.

SHARE THE GIFTS OF GOD

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion. If you would prefer a blessing instead, please cross your arms over your chest as you come forward. Gluten free hosts are available.

COMMUNION MOTET: *There's a voice in the wilderness crying* Craig Philips

There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod: Prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God! The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills made low; make straight all the crooked places where the Lord our God may go! O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up to the heights and sing! Proclaim to a desolate people the coming of the King! Like the flowers of the field they perish, like grass our works decay, the power and pomp of nations shall pass like a dream away; but the word of our God endureth, the arm of the Lord is strong; he stands in the midst of nations, and he will right the wrong. He shall feed his flock like a shepherd, the lambs he'll gently hold; to pastures of peace he'll lead them, and bring them safe to his fold.

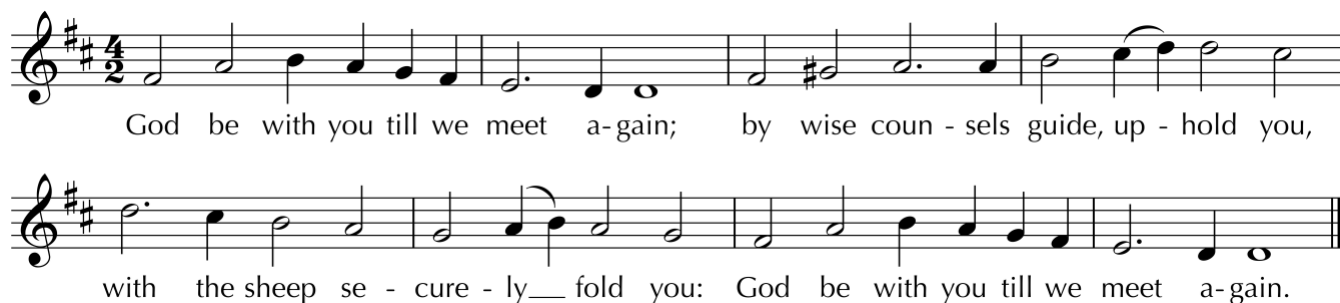
ANNOUNCEMENTS *(please remain seated)*

POST COMMUNION PRAYER *(please stand)*

Presider Let us pray.

People **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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE



BLESSING & EXCHANGE OF PEACE

Presider The blessing of God Almighty, + Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you now and forever more.

People **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Greet those around you in the name of the Lord.

Announcements

Weekday Mass – *In the Cathedral* Tuesdays through Thursdays at noon.

Dean's Forum - Sunday, 10:15-11am in the Mercer Library

Our Nicea 2025 series continues this Sunday with a conversation on God the Holy Spirit facilitated by Fr. Eddie Alleyne and seminarian Shannon Whittaker.

Christmas Pageant Rehearsals & Sign Up *December 7, 14, 20 & 21*

Rehearsals for this year's 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Pageant continue on Sundays in December, 10:15-11am, during Fellowship in Faith. To sign up, email Mo. Kate at ksalisbury@incarnationgc.org or fill out [this online form](#) to join the full cast dress rehearsal Saturday, December 20th, 10am-12 Noon. There's a part for every child!

Fellowship in Faith - Sundays, *10-11am at the Mercer School*

During Advent, children who are not rehearsing for the Christmas Eve Pageant are invited to create their own Christmas icons! Inspired by the colorful work of Ukrainian artist Nastja Paruta-Dashko, whose icons of Jesus with children were recently brought to the Cathedral by Director of Music Larry Tremsky, we'll explore a different part of the Nativity story each week as we create our own works of sacred art.

Meditation and Contemplative Prayer – Mondays via zoom at 6:30pm see the Center for Spiritual Imagination website for links, as well as other upcoming events.

A Festival of Lessons and Carols – *Sunday, December 14 at 4PM*. The service is free and open to all. The full Cathedral Choirs will perform favorite and familiar carols in addition to some lesser-known works from around the world.

In Good Company with the Dean – This year, join the Very Rev. Dr. Michael Sniffen, Dean of Long Island, for a new series of intimate evening gatherings across the Cathedral Close.

These relaxed, 90-minute conversations are open to all and will explore the questions of theology, Christian spirituality, and life in community that matter most today.

First Gathering: "Why We Talk About God" *Wednesday, December 17 6:30-8:00pm* / *See House* - Discover how theology lives not only in books but also in our shared stories and daily life. This opening conversation will be held at See House, the historic former residence of the bishops of Long Island, now home to cathedral and diocesan offices. Light refreshments will be served. Space is limited to 30 participants. Register on Realm.

On Sunday, December 14, the masses are in memory of James Albertelli from Anthony and Alison Parks. "It is holy and wholesome to remember those who have died, for they are at rest in the arms of God."

Altar Flowers this week are given in loving memory of Michael M. O'Donald, Jr. by his parents, Michael and Mary.

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord. Lord, have mercy.

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THE CATHEDRAL OF THE INCARNATION
36 Cathedral Avenue,
Garden City, NY. 11530

*For a complete staff directory, please see our website at:
<incarnationgc.org>*



*From the Brooklyn Bridge to Montauk Point
A house of prayer for Long Island*