¶ We welcome you to St. John's Church. If you are new, please be sure to fill out a visitor card and place it in an offertory plate, and/or sign one of the guest registers in the narthex at the back of the church. We are glad you are here and hope that you will join us for fellowship and refreshments in the undercroft below the nave (general seating area) of the church. If you have questions, please feel free to speak to any parishioner and they will happily provide you with whatever assistance you may require.

Notes on Selected Portions of Today's Music

The Offertory Anthem:

William Byrd (1543–1623) is the greatest of the late Renaissance English composers. Although a Catholic, his religious music was both in English and Latin. *Laetentur coeli* was published in the 1589 collection of Latin motets entitled *Cantiones sacrae* [Sacred chants]. Here, Byrd's predilection for a beautiful and personal kind of dense counterpoint is in evidence. Byrd and his friend Thomas Tallis had gained in 1575 the exclusive patent for contrapuntal religious music from Queen Elizabeth. It had proved to be less of a financial bonanza than they had hoped. This later collection of motets then must have come from a personal need to express rather than for financial gain. Certainly all of the motets in this collection are masterpieces of the first water

~ © Craig Smith, Artistic Director – Emmanuel Music; ed. C. Sayers

The Closing Hymn:

Lord Christ, when first thou cam'st to men was written by Walter Russell Bowie in 1928, and first published in Songs of Praise, 1931. It was written at the request of Dean Dwelly of Liverpool Cathedral, one of the editors, who desired an Advent hymn in the Dies irae mood. Dr. bowie wrote, "It is an effort to express both the solemnity and inspiration of the thought of Christ coming into our modern world in judgement."

~ The Hymnal 1940 Companion (Third Revised Edition) © Copyright 1949, 1951 by The Church Pension Fund; ed. C. Sayers



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The Rev. Fr. Steven J. Kelly, SSC, Rector
The Rev. Fr. Michael J. Bedford, SSC, Assisting Priest Emeritus
Dr. Huw R. Lewis, FRCO, Director of Music, Organist, and Master of the Choir
Ms. Chanmi Kim, MM, Edwards Organ Scholar



St. John's Church

Sunday, December 7, 2025

Ten O'clock in the Morning THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

The Order for Holy Communion

- A warm welcome to all parishioners, guests, and visitors. Worship at St. John's is according to the 1928 Book of Common Prayer and The Hymnal, 1940. Be sure to ask a neighbor for help if you have any questions about where we are during the service.
- The \blacksquare symbol indicates a point in the liturgy where making the sign of the cross is appropriate.
- Please turn all cell phones, pagers, and wireless communication devices off or to "vibrate."
- Children are most welcome at St. John's worship services. For those who desire it, during the school year, Sunday School begins at 10:00 AM in the undercroft, where nursery care is also available year-round.
- Information on worship practices, Communion procedure, announcements, prayer requests, the teaching series, a brief history of St. John's, and various aspects of parish life are available in the Parish Chronicle, which is inserted in this bulletin.

Hymnal Prayer Book

The Prelude: Pastorale — Domenico Zipoli

402 The Opening Hymn: O Word of God incarnate – Tune: Munich

The Introit: Populus Sion, Isaiah 30:19, 30; Psalm 80:1a – Plainchant

PEOPLE of Sion, behold the LORD is nigh at hand to redeem the nations: and in the gladness of your heart the LORD shall cause his glorious voice to be heard. *Ps.* Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel: thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep. Glory be... O people... (*etc.*)

	The Collect for Purity (the People all kneeling)	p. 67
	The Summary of the Law	p. 69
701	The Decalogue; Responses: John Merbecke and George C. Martin	p. 68-9
	The Summary of the Law	p. 69
	The Collect of the Day	p. 92
	The Collect for the First Sunday in Advent	n. 90

¶ This Collect is to be repeated every day, after the other Collects in Advent, until Christmas Day

Praver Book Hvmnal The Epistle: Romans xv. 4. p. 92–3 ¶ After the reading of the Epistle, the People shall remain seated, and the Choir shall chant The Psalm: 50:1-6. Deus deorum. - Anglican Chant: Edward Bairstow p. 401–2 ¶ Then shall the People stand, and the Choir continue with The Gradual: Ex Sion. Psalm 50:2. 5 – Plainchant Out of Sion hath God appeared: in perfect beauty. Gather my saints together unto me: those that have made a covenant with me with sacrifice. The Alleluia: Lætátus sum, Psalm 122:1 – Plainchant ▲ LLELUIA. Alleluia. V. I was glad when they said unto me: we will go into the house of the LORD. Alleluia. The Gospel: St. Luke xxi. 25. p. 93 **The Nicene Creed** p. 71 The Sermon Hymn: Book of books, our people's strength – Tune: Liebster Jesu **Announcements** (if there be any) The Sermon – The Rev. Fr. Steven J. Kelly, SSC, Rector The Offertory: Deus tu convértens, Psalm 85:6–7 – Plainchant WILT not thou turn again, O God, and quicken us; that thy people may rejoice in thee: shew us thy mercy, O LORD; and grant us thy salvation. The Offertory Anthem: Laetentur coeli – William Byrd Laetentur coeli, Rejoice, O heavens, and be joyful, O earth. et exsultet terra. Give praise. O hills. Jubilate montes laudem for our Lord shall come quia Dominus noster veniet, et pauperum and show mercy suorum miserebitur. to his humble people. Orietur in diebus tuis *There shall rise up in those days* justice and abundance of peace. justitia et abundantia pacis. ~ Sarum Respond, Advent The Presentation of the Alms and Oblations 139 The Doxology

PRAISE God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

141 *My country, 'tis of thee* (4th stanza only)

Our fathers' God, to thee, Author of liberty, To thee we sing; Long may our land be bright With freedom's holy light; Protect us by thy might, Great God, our King. Amen.

The Prayer for the Church

p. 74–5

Praver Book Hymnal p. 75 The Invitation to Confession The Confession and Absolution p. 75–6 The Comfortable Words p. 76 The Sursum corda: Plainchant p. 76 [734] our Lord *The Sanctus:* Missa Marialis – Plainsong, 14th century p. 77 798 ¥ The Benedictus qui venit: Missa Marialis The Prayer of Consecration p. 80-1 The Lord's Prayer p. 82 The Prayer of Humble Access (said by the Congregation with the Minister) p. 82 The Agnus Dei: Missa Marialis – Plainsong, 10th and 13th century (Trebles only, Men only, Full) The Invitation: ★ Behold the Lamb of God; behold him that takest away the sins of the world. Response: Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed. The Administration of Holy Communion p. 82–3 **The Communion Hymn:** Father, we thank thee who hast planted – Tune: Rendez à Dieu **The Communion:** Jerúsalem surge. Baruch 5:5: 4:36 – Plainchant TERUSALEM, haste thee, and stand on high: and behold the joy and gladness that cometh unto thee **J** from God thy Saviour. The Prayer of Thanksgiving (said by the Congregation with the Minister) p. 83 In place of the *Gloria in excelsis:* (sung while kneeling) O saving Victim, opening wide – Tune: St. Vincent The Blessing (the People all kneeling) p. 84 The Dismissal | Response: Thanks be to God. The Closing Hymn: Lord Christ, when first thou cam'st to men – Tune: Bohemian Brethren

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The Postlude: Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 661 - Johann Sebatian Bach