

# A Service of Holy Word and Eucharist (First Sunday in Advent)

## December 1, 2024, 9:30AM

As we gather to worship, let us recognize that we gather on the ancestral lands and traditional territory of the Aspetuck River Valley dwelling Paugussett people.

Opening Hymn *Sleepers, wake! A voice astounds us*

Hymnal #61

1 "Sleep-ers, wake!" A voice a - stounds us, the  
 2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing; her  
 3 Lamb of God, the heavens a - dore you; let

shout of ram - part - guards sur - rounds us: "A -  
 heart with joy - ful hope is spring - ing, she  
 saints and an - gels sing be - fore you, as

wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!" Mid - night's peace their  
 wakes and hur - ries through the night. Forth he comes, her  
 harps and cym - bals swell the sound. Twelve great pearls, the

cry has bro - ken, their ur - gent sum - mons clear - ly spo -  
 Bride-groom glo - rious in strength of grace, in truth vic - to -  
 ci - ty's por - tals: through them we stream to join the im - mor -

ken: "The time has come, O maid - ens wise!  
 rious: her star is risen, her light grows bright.  
 tals as we with joy your throne sur - round.

Rise up, and give us light; the Bride-groom is in  
 Now come, most worthy Lord, God's Son, In-car-nate  
 No eye has known the sight, no ear heard such de-

sight. Al-le-lu-ia! Your lamps pre-prepare and  
 Word, Al-le-lu-ia! We fol-low all and  
 light: Al-le-lu-ia! There-fore we sing to

has-ten there, that you the wed-ding feast may share."  
 heed your call to come in-to the ban-quet hall.  
 greet our King; for ev-er let our prais-es ring.

Words: Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); tr. Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944). Copyright © 1982, by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Wachet auf*, melody Hans Sachs (1494-1576); adapt. Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); arr. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

## The Opening Acclamation

BCP p. 355

*Celebrant:* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

Collect for Purity: 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.

## Gloria *Magnificat (white pew card)*

*People:* ***Holy God,  
 Holy and Mighty,  
 Holy Immortal One,  
 Have mercy upon us.***

BCP bottom of p. 356

## Collect of the Day

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

## The Collect (Lighting of the Advent Wreath)

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## The Readings

### Old Testament

**Jeremiah 33:14-16**

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

*Lector:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

## The Response

### Psalm 25:1-9

*Ad te, Domine, levavi*

- 1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;  
my God, I put my trust in you; \*  
**let me not be humiliated,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*  
**let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**
- 3 Show me your ways, O LORD, \*  
**and teach me your paths.**
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
**for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.**
- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, \*  
**for they are from everlasting.**
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \*  
**remember me according to your love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.**
- 7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; \*  
**therefore he teaches sinners in his way.**
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right \*  
**and teaches his way to the lowly.**
- 9 All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness \*  
**to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.**

After the Psalm, all say together

**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. Alleluia.**

## **The Epistle**

**1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

*Leader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* ***Thanks be to God.***



(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
 (Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest  
 (Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy  
 (Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from  
 (Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen  
 (Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us  
 (Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the  
 (Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
 2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge  
 3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the  
 4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to  
 5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on  
 6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of  
 7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions  
 8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.  
 3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.  
 4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - jice! Re - jice!  
 5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.  
 6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.  
 7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.  
 8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

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

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode I, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

## The Gospel

Luke 21:25-36

*Celebrant:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke.

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

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Reflection

### The Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

The People stand as able and say together:

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.  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.  
who 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**

## **Form I**

**BCP p. 383**

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the  
Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us  
pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church  
of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.  
*Lord, have mercy.*

For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray  
to the Lord.  
*Lord, have mercy.*

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in  
authority, let us pray to the Lord.  
*Lord, have mercy.*

For Easton, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.  
***Lord, have mercy.***

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.  
***Lord, have mercy.***

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord. (Parish Prayer List)  
***Lord, have mercy.***

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.  
***Lord, have mercy.***

In the communion of Mary and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

***To thee, O Lord our God.***

*Celebrant:* O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

## **Confession of Sin**

**BCP p. 360**

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 the grace of 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 Holy Communion

**Offertory Anthem**      *Sung by the choir*

**Doxology**                      *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

## Great Thanksgiving

**BCP p. 369**

### Eucharistic Prayer C

*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.***

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, Lord, 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 a woman, 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 (*white pew card*)**

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, 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 he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and 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 many 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 Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; 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, Father, 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.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

<b>Our Father, who art in heaven,</b>	<b>BCP P. 364</b>
<b>hallowed be thy Name,</b>	
<b>thy kingdom come,</b>	
<b>thy will be done,</b>	
<b>on earth as it is in heaven.</b>	
<b>Give us this day our daily bread.</b>	
<b>And forgive us our trespasses,</b>	
<b>as we forgive those who trespass against us.</b>	
<b>And lead us not into temptation,</b>	
<b>but deliver us from evil.</b>	
<b>For thine is the kingdom,</b>	
<b>and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.</b>	

## Breaking of the Bread

*Celebrant:* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

## Fraction Anthem (*white pew card*)

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 faith with thanksgiving.

## A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

We believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and we pray you to come into our hearts, praying especially with those at home who cannot at this time receive communion,

I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. ***Amen.***

***A Special Note for Communion:*** *Christ's table welcomes all. Please come forward to receive communion or receive a blessing. Simply extend a hand to receive communion. Indicate if you require a gluten free wafer. If you would like a blessing instead, simply cross your arms at your chest. If you take the wine cup, please consume it as you receive it and put the empty cup in the glass bowl.*

1 Watch-man, tell us of the night, what its signs of prom - ise  
 2 Watch-man, tell us of the night; high - er yet that star a -  
 3 Watch-man, tell us of the night, for the morn - ing seems to

are. Trav - eler, o'er yon moun - tain's height, see that glo - ry -  
 scends. Trav - eler, bless - ed - ness and light, peace and truth its  
 dawn. Trav - eler, dark - ness takes its flight, doubt and ter - ror

beam - ing star. Watch - man, does its beau - teous ray  
 course por - tends. Watch - man, will its beams a - lone  
 arc with - drawn. Watch - man, let thy wan - derings cease;

aught of joy or hope fore - tell? Trav - eler, yes; it  
 gild the spot that gave them birth? Trav - eler, a - ges  
 hic thee to thy qui - et home. Trav - eler, lo! the

brings the day, prom - ised day of Is - ra - el.  
 arc its own; sec, it bursts o'er all the earth.  
 Prince of Peace, lo! the Son of God is come!

*Two groups may sing antiphonally, alternating by sentences.*  
 Words: John Bowring (1792-1872). Music: *Aberystwyth*, Joseph Parry (1841-1903).

## Prayer After Communion

BCP p.365

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you feed us with spiritual food. 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

May the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## Closing Hymn

### *People, look East*

### Hymnal #724

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are as follows:

1. Peo - ple, look East. The time is near of the crown-ing of the  
2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is plant - ed  
3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be  
4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall  
5. An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to

1. year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble, trim the hearth and set the  
2. there: give up your strength the seed to nour - ish, that in course the flow'r may  
3. filled. E - ven the hour when wings are fro - zen God for fledg - ling time has  
4. brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er, bright as sun and moon to -  
5. earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum - ming with the word, the Lord is

1. ta - ble. Peo - ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the guest is on the way.  
2. flour - ish. Peo - ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the rose is on the way.  
3. cho - sen. Peo - ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the bird is on the way.  
4. geth - er. Peo - ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the star is on the way.  
5. com - ing. Peo - ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the Lord is on the way.

Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965). Music: *Besançon Carol*, harm. John L. Hooker (b. 1944).

## Dismissal

*Celebrant:* Alleluia! Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*People:* ***Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.***

**Announcements for December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024**

**COFFEE HOUR SIGN UP** sheet is located in the narthex. Please consider signing up.

**TREE LIGHTING & A VISIT WITH SANTA on Saturday, 12/7 at 5:00.** We can use more baked goods for the bake sale. Proceeds benefit the Cheyenne River Reservation. Prior to the tree lighting, CCNS is holding “A Visit with Santa” at 3:30 that day with crafts, treats and a photo opp with Santa.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER ENVELOPES are in the pews.** If you wish to memorialize or give thanks for someone during this special Christmas season, please indicate so on the envelope. You may also make your donation online. Simply scan the QR code on the card in the pews or visit [www.christchurcheaston.com/give](http://www.christchurcheaston.com/give). Select the “Altar Flowers Fund” when placing your donation online and indicate your loved ones’ names under “Memo.”

**BABY SHOWER FOR JESUS, now through Christmas Eve.** Once again, we will be collecting diapers and wipes for Nourish Bridgeport. 1 in 3 young families cannot afford diapers, but you can help keep those bottoms dry! Adult diapers are also needed.

**PAGEANT REHEARSALS will be held on Sunday, 12/15 and 12/22 following service.** If needed, an additional rehearsal may be scheduled for Monday, 12/23 (time TBA). Please email [eastonparish1762@sbcglobal.net](mailto:eastonparish1762@sbcglobal.net) to sign your children up for the pageant.

**If you’re out grocery shopping, please consider picking up gift cards for the needy for grocery stores and gas stations. Also consider gift cards to Target or Walmart for Christmas.**

#### **UPCOMING WORSHIP DATES - DECEMBER 2024:**

**Sunday, 12/8 @ 9:30 am, Morning Prayer (Vicki MarkAnthony)**

**Sunday, 12/15 @ 9:30 am, Eucharist (Rev. Sandy Belcher)**

**Sunday, 12/22 @ 9:30 am, Morning Prayer (Jim Swann)**

**Tuesday, 12/24 @ 4:00 pm, Eucharist (Christmas Eve) (Rev. Ranjit Mathews)**

**Wednesday, 12/25 @ 9:30 am, Morning Prayer (Vicki MarkAnthony)**

**Sunday, 12/29 @ 9:30 am, Eucharist (Rev. Sandy Belcher)**