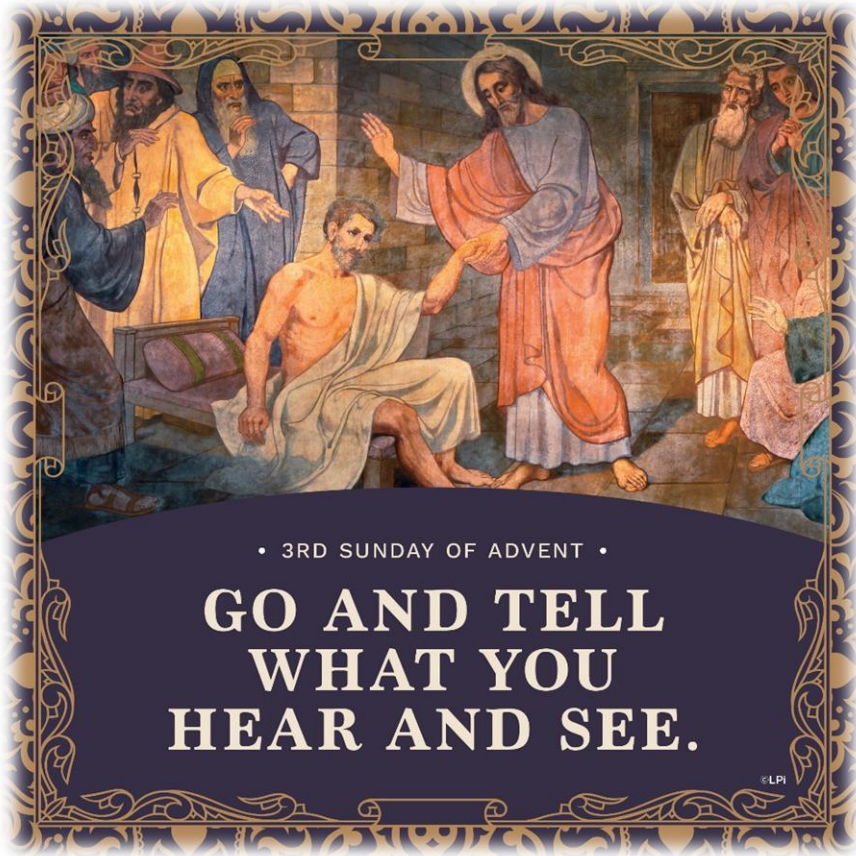


CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
EAST GREENBUSH – NEW YORK



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025

Order of Service

ENTRANCE HYMN: THE GREAT FORERUNNER OF THE MOURN

WINCHESTER NEW



1. The great fore - run - ner of the morn, The
2. With heav'n - ly mes - sage Ga - briel came, That
3. His might - y deeds ex - alt his fame To



1. her - ald of the Word, is born; And faith - ful hearts shall
2. John should be that her - ald's name, And with pro - phet - ic
3. great - er than a proph-et's name; Of wom - an - born shall



1. nev - er fail With thanks and praise his light to hail.
2. ut - t'rance told His ac - tions great and man - i - fold.
3. nev - er be A great - er proph - et than was he.

Text: LM; *Praecursor altus luminis*; St. Bede the Venerable, 673–735; tr. by John M. Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: Georg Wittwe's *Musikalisches Hand-Buch*, Hamburg, 1690; adapt. by William H. Havergal, 1793–1870.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD



FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

A reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah.

The desert and the parched land will exult; the steppe will rejoice and bloom. They will bloom with abundant flowers, and rejoice with joyful song. The glory of Lebanon will be given to them, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the LORD, the splendor of our God. Strengthen the hands that are feeble, make firm the knees that are weak, say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication; with divine recompense he comes to save you. Then will

the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the mute will sing. Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy; they will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee. The word of the Lord.

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RESPONSORIAL PSALM—Psalm 146



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SECOND READING: James 5:7-10

A reading from the letter of Saint James.

Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not complain, brothers and sisters, about one another, that you may not be judged. Behold, the Judge is standing before the gates. Take as an example of hardship and patience, brothers and sisters, the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. The word of the Lord.

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GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Refrain



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

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

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GOSPEL READING: Matthew 11:2-11

✠ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

When John the Baptist heard in prison of the works of the Christ, he sent his disciples to Jesus with this question, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Jesus said to them in reply, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me." As they were going off, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John, "What did you go out to the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind? Then what did you go out to see? Someone dressed in fine clothing? Those who wear fine clothing are in royal palaces. Then why did you go out? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you. Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he." The gospel of the Lord.

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† PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day 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. I 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 adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY HYMN: LO, HOW A ROSE E'ER BLOOMING



1. Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing From ten - der stem hath
2. I - sa - iah 'twas for - told it, The Rose I have in
3. This Flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet-ness fills the



sprung! Of Jes-se's lin-eage com - ing, As seers of old have
mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The Vir - gin Moth - er
air, Dis - pels with glo-rious splen - dor The dark-ness ev - 'ry -

sung. It came, a blos - som bright, A -
kind. To show God's love a - right, She
where. True man, yet ver - y God, From
mid the cold of win - ter, When half spent was the night.
bore to us a Sav - ior, When half spent was the night.
sin and death he saves us, And light - ens ev - 'ry load.

Text: Isaiah 11:1; *Es ist ein 'Ros' entsprungen*; *Speier Gesangbuch*, 1599; tr. sts. 1–2 by Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, alt.; st. 3, Friedrich Layritz, 1808–1859; tr. by Harriet Reynolds Krauth, 1845–1925, alt.
Tune: ES IST EIN 'ROS' ENSTSPRUNGEN, 7 6 7 6 6 7 6; *Geistliche Kirchengesang*, Cologne, 1599; harm. by Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

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✠ HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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✠ MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
 we pro - claim your Death, O Lord, un - til you come a - gain.

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✠ GREAT AMEN

A - men, a - men, a - men.
 A - men, a - men, a - men.

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✠ THE LORD'S PRAYER

✠ LAMB OF GOD

Cantor, then all: *Repeat ad lib.*

Have mer - cy on us.

Cantor: *All:*

Grant us peace. Grant us peace.

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COMMUNION HYMN: AWAKE! AWAKE AND GREET THE NEW MORN

1. A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, For
 2. To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
 3. In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, When
 4. Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, Though

an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for
 man - u - el comes a - sing - ing; His hum - ble song is
 all the world is de - spair - ing, As morn - ing light so
 dark the win - ter and cheer - less, The ris - ing sun shall

soon* he is born, Be - hold the Child of our long - ing!
 qui - et and near, Yet fills the earth with its ring - ing.
 qui - et and free, So warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
 crown you with light; Be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, To bring all hearts to -
Mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul And hymns of lov - ing -
Then shall the mute break forth in song, The lame shall leap in
Love be our song and love our prayer And love our end - less



geth - er, He o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door And
kind - ness, The thun - der of his an - thems roll To
won - der, The weak be raised a - bove the strong, And
sto - ry. May God fill ev - 'ry day we share And



lives now in - side us for ev - er.
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

*During the Christmas season: "now"

Text: Marty Haugen, b.1950
Tune: REJOICE, REJOICE, 9 8 9 8 8 7 8 9; Marty Haugen, b.1950
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✠ HYMN OF THANKSGIVING



O Sac - ra - ment most Ho - ly, O Sac - ra - ment di -



vine All praise and all Thanks gi - ving, be ev - ry mo - ment thine.

RECESSIONAL HYMN: PEOPLE LOOK EAST

BESANÇON



1. Peo - ple, look East. The time is near of the
2. Fur - rows, be glad, though earth is bare. One more
3. Stars, keep the watch when night is dim. One more
4. An - gels, an - nounce on this great feast, him who



1. crown - ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are
2. seed is plant - ed there: give up your strength the seed to
3. light the bowl shall brim. Shin - ing be - yond the frost - y
4. com - eth from the East. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley



1. a - ble. Trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
2. nour - ish. That in course the flow'r may flou - rish. Peo - ple, look
3. wea - ther, bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
4. hum - ming with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look



1. East and sing to - day: Love, the Guest, is on the way.
2. East and sing to - day: Love, the Rose, is on the way.
3. East and sing to - day: Love, the Star, is on the way.
4. East and sing to - day: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: 87 98 87, *The Oxford Book of Carols*, 1928; Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965, © 1957, Eleanor Farjeon.
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PRAYER OF ST. MICHAEL, THE ARCHANGEL



St. Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle. Be our protection against the
wickedness and snares of the Devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do
thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the
power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil
spirits, who prowl about the world seeking
the ruin of souls. Amen.