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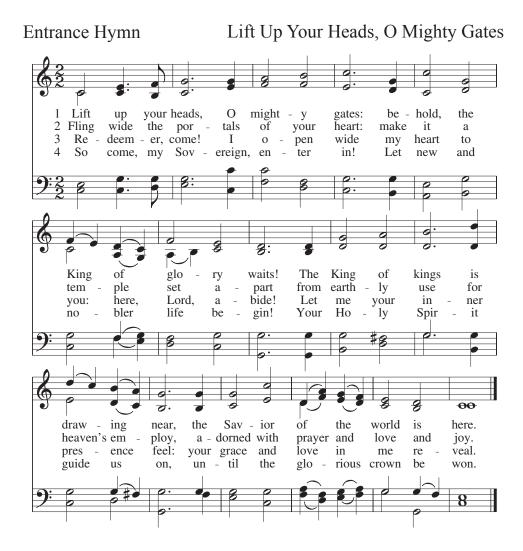
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Entrance Antiphon

Psalm 25.1-3

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.



WORDS: George Weissel (1590-1635); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878); para. Psalm 24:7-10 MUSIC: Thomas Williams' Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789

TRURO L.M.

Penitential Act

Confiteor

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

All strike their breast, saying:

through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;

therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

May almighty God have mercy on us, Priest

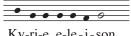
forgive us our sins,

and bring us to everlasting life.

People Amen.

Or the priest may use the alternate form of the Penitential Rite with three invocations, after which all sing:

Kyrie (5.00 pm, 9.00 am and 11.00 am Masses: Repeat after the cantor)









Collect



LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Jeremiah 33.14-16

The days are coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and Judah. In those days, in that time, I will raise up for David a just shoot; he shall do what is right and just in the land. In those days Judah shall be safe and Jerusalem shall dwell secure; this is what they shall call her: "The LORD our justice."

Lector: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**





Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths, guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior, and for you I wait all the day.

Good and upright is the LORD; thus he shows sinners the way. He guides the humble to justice, and teaches the humble his way.

All the paths of the LORD are kindness and constancy toward those who keep his covenant and his decrees. The friendship of the LORD is with those who fear him, and his covenant, for their instruction.



Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 3.12-4.2

Brothers and sisters: May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we have for you, so as to strengthen your hearts, to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones. Amen.

Finally, brothers and sisters, we earnestly ask and exhort you in the Lord Jesus that, as you received from us how you should conduct yourselves to please God – and as you are conducting yourselves – you do so even more. For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



Show us, Lord, your love; and grant us your salvation. *Response*.

Gospel

Luke 21.25-28, 34-36

Deacon: The Lord be with you. **People: And with your spirit.**

Deacon: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on earth nations will be in dismay, perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand.

"Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life, and that day catch you by surprise like a trap. For that day will assault everyone who lives on the face of the earth. Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord. **People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Homily



Profession of Faith (spoken slowly and reverently)

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,

Bow profoundly during these two lines:

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.

The Bidding Prayers

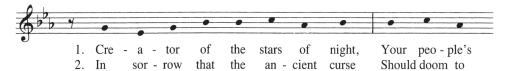
The offering is for the support of the parish. You may donate online using the link below:

Please Click Here to Make a Donation to Saint Mary's Church

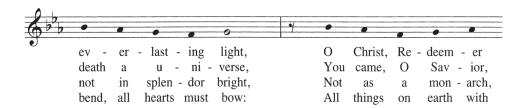
To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

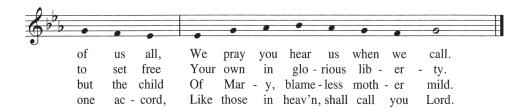
Offertory Hymn

Creator of the Stars of Night



3. When this old world drew on toward night, You came; but 4. At your great Name, O Je - sus, now All knees must





- Come in your holy might, we pray, Redeem us for eternal day; Defend us while we dwell below From all assaults of our dread foe.
- 6. To God Creator, God the Son, And God the Spirit, Three in One, Praise, honor, might, and glory be From age to age eternally.

Text: Conditor alme siderum, Latin 9th C.; Tr. The Hymnal 1982, © 1985, The Church Pension Fund Tune: CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM, LM; Mode IV; Acc. by Gerard Farrell, OSB, b.1919, © 1986, GIA Publications, Inc.

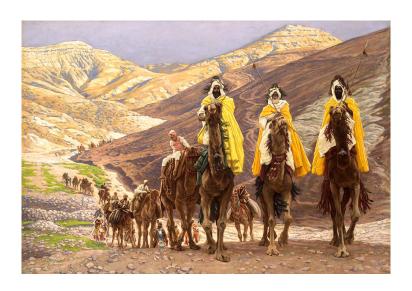


Offertory Anthem

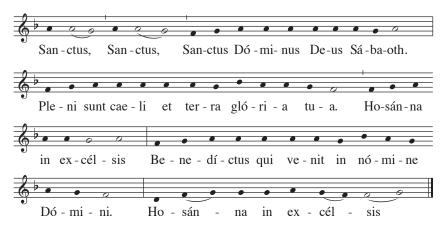
The Brightness of Thy Rising

Maurice Greene

The Gentiles shall come to thy light; and kings to the brightness of thy rising.



Sanctus



Music: Vatican Edition XVIII; acc. by Richard Proulx

Communion Rite

Priest At the Savior's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare 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.

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 Savior, Jesus Christ.

People For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

Priest Lord Jesus Christ.

who said to your Apostles:

Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,

look not on our sins,

but on the faith of your Church,

and graciously grant her peace and unity

in accordance with your will.

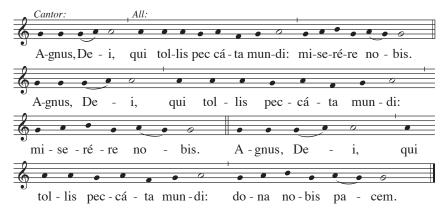
Who live and reign for ever and ever.

People Amen.

Priest The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People And with your spirit.

Agnus Dei



Music: Vatican Edition XVIII; acc. by Richard Proulx



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.

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

Communion Antiphon

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.



AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Lord Jesus, I love you above all things.
How I long to receive you with my brothers
and sisters at the table you have prepared.
But since I cannot at this moment receive you in
the holy sacrament of your Body and Blood,
I ask you to feed me with the manna of your Holy Spirit
and nourish me with your holy presence.
I unite myself completely to you;
never permit me to be separated from your love.
Amen.

Communion Motet

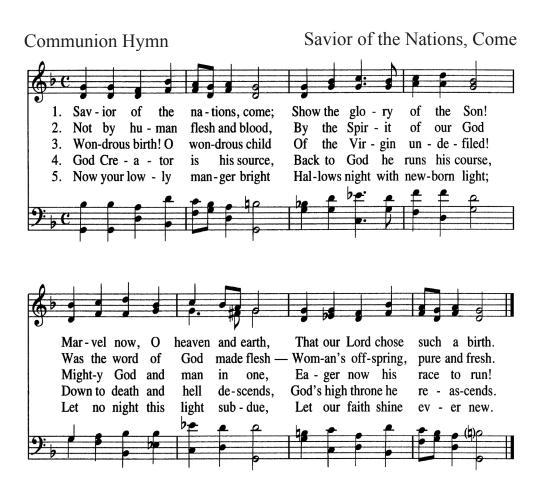
Gloria sei dir gesungen

JS Bach

Gloria sei dir gesungen mit menschen und Englischen Zungen, mit Harfen und mit zimbeln schon. Von zwölf Perlen sind die Pforten an deiner Stadt sind wir Konsorten der Engel hoch um deinen Thron. Kein Aug hat je gespürt, kein ohr hat je gehört, solche freude. Des sind wir froh, io, io! Ewig in dulci jubilo.

Let "Gloria" be sung to you with the tongues of men and of angels, even with harps and with cymbals. Of twelve pearls are the gates in your city where we are consorts of the angels high around your throne. No eye has ever perceived, no ear has ever heard such joy. Of this, we are glad; we exclaim! In sweet jubilation, eternally.





Text: Veni, Redemptor gentium; Ascr. to St. Ambrose, 340-397; Tr. sts. 1-3a, William Reynolds, 1812-1876; Sts. 3b-5, Martin L. Seltz, 1909-1967, alt. Tune: NUN KOMM DER HEIDEN HEILAND, 77 77; Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, Wittenberg, 1524; Harm. by Melchior Vulpius, c.1560-1615





Priest The Lord be with you.People And with your spirit.

Priest May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People Amen.

Deacon Go in peace.

People Thanks be to God.

During Mass at St Mary's, the priest and people face the same direction at the altar, a custom that was once universal in the Catholic Church but until recently has been rare in the Ordinary Form of the Roman Rite. For an explanation of this practice, please visit our parish website, smcgvl. org, and look for the link entitled *Facing East to Pray*.

Please join us
Today at 5.00 pm
For
Solemn Vespers
Of the
First Sunday of Advent

Page one: Saint Mary's Catholic Church, Greenville, SC.

Page nine: James Tissot. Journey of the Magi. (19th century).

Page twelve: Duccio. The Nativity with the Prophets Isaiah and Ezekiel. (1308).

Page thirteen: Lorenzo Monaco. Adoration of Magi. (15th century).

from the office of readings for the first sanday of advent

We do not preach only one coming of Christ, but a second as well, much more glorious than the first. The first coming was marked by patience; the second will bring a crown of a divine kingdom.

In general, what relates to our Lord Jesus Christ has two aspects. There is a birth from God before the ages, and a birth from a virgin at the fullness of time. There is a hidden coming, like that of rain on fleece, and a coming before all eyes, still in the future.

At the first coming he was wrapped in swaddling clothes in a manger. At his second coming he will be clothed in light as in a garment. In the first coming he endured the cross, despising the shame; in the second coming he will be in glory, escorted by an army of angels. We look then beyond the first coming and await the second. At the first coming we said: *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord*. At the second we shall say it again; we shall go out with the angels to meet the Lord and cry out in adoration: *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord*.

The Savior will not come to be judged again, but to judge those by whom he was judged. At his own judgment he was silent; then he will address those who committed the outrages against him when they crucified him and will remind them: *You did these things, and I was silent*.

His first coming was to fulfill his plan of love, to teach men by gentle persuasion. This time, whether men like it or not, they will be subjects of his kingdom by necessity. Malachi the prophet speaks of the two comings. *And the Lord whom you seek will come suddenly to his temple:* that is one coming.

Again he says of another coming: Look, the Lord almighty will come, and who will endure the day of his entry, or who will stand in his sight? Because he comes like a refiner's fire, a fuller's herb, and he will sit refining and cleansing.

These two comings are also referred to by Paul in writing to Titus: The grace of God the Savior was appeared to all men, instructing us to put aside impiety and worldly desires and live temperately, uprightly, and religiously in this present age, waiting for the joyful hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. Notice how he speaks of a first coming for which he gives thanks, and a second, the one we still await.

That is why the faith we profess has been handed on to you in these words: *He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.*

Our Lord Jesus Christ will therefore come from heaven. He will come at the end of the world, in glory, at the last day. For there will be an end to this world, and the created world will be made new.

- From a catechetical instruction by Saint Cyril of Jerusalem, bishop (b. 376; d. 444)

from the pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

It was December, and another Christmas was at our throats. That was the dim view of all things Yule taken by the English humorist P.G. Wodehouse, and it is a sentiment most of us can readily understand. To avoid the frenzy which induces that feeling, we need to grasp what the Grinch perceived with wonder from the summit of Mount Crumpit: That Christmas "came without ribbons; it came without tags. It came without packages, boxes or bags." And the very best way to arrive at this insight is to keep a holy Advent.

The twin peaks of the liturgical year are Easter and Christmas, and both of these celebrations are preceded by a period of preparation. The purple of penance must come before the gold of glory revealed in Christ's Birth and Resurrection, and this is where the cultural and secular observance of Christmas can get in the way of a good Advent. On the radio and at the mall, Christmas has already been at our throats for some time, but today is just the first Sunday of Advent. And on December 26th when the Church is only beginning to celebrate the liturgical season of Christmas, evergreen trees will begin to pile up on the curb and Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer will disappear until next Halloween. Let's just say STOP!

We now have four weeks in which to ponder the profound mystery of Christ coming to us for our salvation. In the past he did come to suffer and die for us. In the present he does come in Word and Sacrament to strengthen us in holiness. And in the future he will come in glory to judge the living and the dead. All three of these "advents" are part of this beautiful season of the liturgy, and if we attend to the Church's rhythm of prayer, penance and preparation, then when Christmas Eve arrives, we will not be exhausted; we will be elated.

So, how to do this? 1) Get an Advent wreath and light it at home each night while praying the Collect from Mass that day. 2) Pray the Liturgy of the Hours, particularly each Sunday afternoon at 5 pm here in the church. 3) Come to Mass on weekdays as often as possible during Advent. Weekday Mass has a quiet, meditative quality that steals into our hearts and minds, and Advent is deeply enriched by Mass each day. 4) Encourage your family and friends to think of things other than packages, boxes or bags. Make a donation in someone's name to Catholic Charities or Catholic Relief Services. Write a letter to someone you love to tell them so. Volunteer to serve someone in need. 5) Go to Confession so that your Christmas Communion will truly be holy.

December is at hand, but another Christmas need not be at our throats. It can be in our hearts with joy beyond all telling if we prepare to celebrate the Birth of the Messiah with a worthy Advent.

Father Newman