

A Festival of Advent LESSONS & CAROLS



St. Helena's Anglican Church
Beaufort, South Carolina

Welcome to Our Service of Holy Communion

Third Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 14, 2025 • 10:30 am

Opening Voluntary: O Come, O Come Emmanuel

arr. Larry Sue

The Handbell Ensemble

Choral Introit

Traditional melody adapted by M. Praetorius (1571-1621)

St. Ambrose (34-397) tr J.M. Neale and others

arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Come, Thou Redeemer of the Earth
The Advent/Christmas Singers

Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,
And manifest thy virgin birth:
Let ev'ry age adoring fall;
Such birth befits the God of all.

Begotten of no human will,
But of the Spirit thou art still
The Word of God in flesh arrayed,
The promised fruit to man displayed.

The virgin womb that burden gained
With virgin honor all unstained;
The banners there of virtue glow;
God in his temple dwells below.

Forth from his chamber goeth he,
That royal home of purity,
A giant in twofold substance one,
Rejoicing now his course to run.

From God the Father he proceeds,
To God the Father back he speeds;
His course he runs to death and hell,
Returning on God's throne to dwell.

O equal to thy Father, thou!
Gird on thy fleshly mantle now;
The weakness of our mortal state
With deathless might invigorate.

Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,
And darkness breathe a newer light,
Where endless faith shall shine serene,
And twilight never intervene.

All laud, eternal Son, to thee
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And holy Ghost for ever more.

Congregation, please stand as we sing:

Procession Hymn 4

Helmsley

Lo! He Comes, With Clouds Descending

The Acclamation

Celebrant: Surely the Lord is coming soon.

People: *Amen. Come Lord Jesus!*

The Celebrant prays:

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And with your spirit.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Collect for the Third Sunday of Advent

O Lord Jesus Christ, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise make ready your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient toward the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world, we may be found a people acceptable in your sight; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Bidding Prayer

Carol: Prepare the Way of the Lord

Taizé

The Cherub Choir

Lesson 1: *God creates man and woman to live in obedience to him in the Garden of Eden.*

Genesis 2:4-9, 15-17

Pew Bible, page 2

Katie Vernon, Lector

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Carol: Jesus Christ, the Apple Tree

Elizabeth Poston (1905-1987)

Text anonymous

The St. Helena's Choristers and The Advent/Christmas Singers

The tree of life my soul hath seen,
Laden with fruit, and always green:
The tree of life my soul hath seen,
Laden with fruit, and always green:
The trees of nature fruitless be
Compared with Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel:
By faith I know, but ne'er can tell,
His beauty doth all things excel:
By faith I know but ne'er can tell
The glory which I now can see
In Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought,
And pleasure dearly I have bought:
For happiness I long have sought,
And pleasure dearly I have bought:
I missed of all, but now I see
'Tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil,
Here I will sit and rest a while:
I'm weary with my former toil,
Here I will sit and rest a while:
Under the shadow I will be,
Of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit does make my soul to thrive,
It keeps my dying faith alive;
This fruit does make my soul to thrive,
It keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to be
With Jesus Christ the apple tree.

Lesson 2: Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden.

Genesis 3:1-22

Austin Stout, Lector

Pew Bible, page 2

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Congregation, please stand as we sing:

Carol: Father Eternal, Ruler of Creation
Laurence Housman (1865-1959), alt.

Geoffrey Shaw (1879-1943)

1 Fa - ther e - ter - nal, Ru - ler of cre - a - tion,
2 Rac - es and peo - ples, lo, we stand di - vid - ed,
3 En - vious of heart, blind - eyed, with tongues con - found - ed,
4 Lust of pos - ses - sion work - eth des - o - la - tions;
5 How shall we love thee, ho - ly hid - den Be - ing,

1 Spi - rit of life, which moved ere form was made,
2 and, shar - ing not our griefs, no joy can share;
3 na - tion by na - tion still goes un - for - given,
4 there is no meek - ness in the powers of earth;
5 if we love not the world which thou hast made?

1 through the thick dark - ness cov - ering ev - ery na - tion,
2 by wars and tu - mults love is mocked, de - rid - ed;
3 in wrath and fear, by jea - lous - ies sur - round - ed,
4 led by no star, the ru - lers of the na - tions
5 Bind us in thine own love for bet - ter see - ing

1 light to our blind - ness, O be thou our aid:
2 his sav - ing cross no na - tion yet will bear:
3 build - ing proud towers which shall not reach to heaven:
4 still fail to bring us to the bliss - ful birth:
5 thy Word made flesh, and in a man - ger laid:

Refrain
thy king - dom come, O Lord, thy will be done.

Congregation, please be seated.

Lesson 3: The Spirit of the Lord will rest upon the Holy One.

Isaiah 11:1-6

Pew Bible, page 575

Lauren Ivens, Lector

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

The Advent/Christmas Singers

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming as men of old have sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright amid the cold of winter,
When half spent was the night.
Isaiah 'twas foretold it the Rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it the Virgin Mother kind.
To shew God's love aright she bore to men a Saviour,
When half spent was the night.

Lesson 4: *God promises that a child shall be conceived who will be known as "God with us".*

Isaiah 7:10-15

Pew Bible, page 572

Jim Egan, Lector

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Carol: Emmanuel Will Come

Becki Slagle Mayo (b. 1956)

The St. Helena's Choristers

We wait, we hope, we long for the Messiah!
We wait, we hope, we long for the King.
Open the gates to the city, prepare a way for the Lord.
Emmanuel will save us! Emmanuel will come!

We wait, we hope, we long for the Messiah!
We wait, we hope, we long for the King.
Lift up your heart, for the Light will come.
Lift up your heart to the Lord.
Emmanuel will save us! Emmanuel will come.

Waiting, hoping, longing for the King.
Waiting, hoping, longing for the King.

Make a path in the wilderness, make a way for the Lord.
Emmanuel will save us! Emmanuel will come.

We wait, we hope, we long for the Messiah.
We wait, we hope, we long for the King.
We long for the king. We long for the King.

Lesson 5: *The one who is to rule Israel will be born in the village of Bethlehem.*

Micah 5:2-4

Pew Bible, page 779

Stellena Mumma, Lector

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Congregation, please stand as we sing:

Carol: 62

St. Louis

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Congregation, please be seated.

Lesson 6: *God promises a new heaven and a new earth.*

Isaiah 65:17-25

Pew Bible, page 624

Rion Salley, Lector

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Carol: Matin Responsory

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594)

Words from the Office of Matins

The Advent/Christmas Singers

I look from afar: and lo,
I see the power of God coming,
and a cloud covering the whole earth.

Go ye out to meet him and say:

Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over they people Israel?

High and low, rich and poor, one with another,

Go ye out to meet him and say:

Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep,

Tell us, art thou he that should come?

Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come to reign over thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

I look from afar: and lo,

I see the power of God coming,
and a cloud covering the whole earth.

Go ye out to meet him and say:

Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over they people Israel?

Please stand for the reading of Gospel.

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Lesson 7: *St. John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation.*

John 1:1-14

Pew Bible, page 886

Rev. Tom Cannon, Deacon

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Of the Father's Love Begotten

The Homily

The Rev. Shay Gaillard

The Confession of Sin

BCP, page 112

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker and judge of us all: We acknowledge and lament our many sins and offenses, which we have committed by thought, word, and deed against your divine majesty, provoking most justly your righteous anger against us. We are deeply sorry for these our transgressions; the burden of them is more than we can bear. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may evermore serve and please you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant concludes:

The Absolution

BCP, page 113

The Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Announcements

Offertory Anthem: In Dulci Jubilo

German 14th century
(harm. Bartholomew Gesius, 1601)

The Advent/Christmas Singers

In dulci jubilo now sing with hearts aglow!
Our delight and pleasure lies in praeseptio,
Like sunshine is our treasure Matris in gremio.
Alpha est et O! Alpha es et O!

O Jesu, parvule, for thee I long alway;
Comfort my heart's blindness, O puer optime,
With all thy loving-kindness, O princeps gloriae,
Trahe me post te! Trahe me post te!

O Patris Caritas! O Nati lenitas!
Deeply were we stained Per nostra crimina:
But thou for us hast gained Coelorum gaudia
O that we were there!

Ubi sunt gaudia in any place but there?
There are angels singing Nova cantica,
And there the bells are ringing in Regis curia.
O that we were there!

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise him, all creatures here below;
 Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Liturgy of the Table

Please stand as you are able.

The Sursum Corda

BCP, page 115

Sanctus

Hymnal, 764

Kneeling or seated as you are able.

The Prayer of Consecration

BCP, page 116

The Lord's Prayer

BCP, page 118

The Fraction

BCP, page 118

Prayer of Humble Access

BCP, page 119

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

During Communion

Congregation, please join in singing:

Agnus Dei

Hymnal, 765

Communion Anthem

Trad. Italian Carol
arr. Larry Sue

From Starry Skies Descending
The Handbell Ensemble

Hymn 7

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Veni emmanuel

Hymn 13

Prepare the Way, O Zion!

Messiah

Hymn 1

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Stuttgart

The Post Communion Prayer

BCP, page 121

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us, through this Sacrament, of your favor and goodness towards us: that we are true members of the mystical body of your Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of your everlasting kingdom. And we humbly ask you, heavenly Father, to assist us with your grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all the good works that you have prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

BCP, page 121

Procession Hymn 10

Nun Komm, Derr Heiden Heiland

Savior of the Nations, Come

Dismissal

Officiant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Closing Voluntary: Meditation on “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Paul Fey

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Announcements

Story of the Season today at 5:30 pm in the church. Come experience the story of Christ’s incarnation and return through music, scripture, storytelling, and the arts.

Poinsettia Orders– If you would like to place a memorial or thanksgiving poinsettia in the church for Christmas, please pick up an order form in the narthex or Parish Hall lobby. The deadline to order is this Monday, December 15.

Advent Prayer & Pilates - Ladies, join us for our beloved Advent Prayer & Pilates beginning this Tuesday at 9 am in the Latimer room. You will be led through both Pilates movements and meditative scripture/prayers that will still your heart and soul during this Advent season. Chairs will be available for those not wishing to practice on a mat. A nursery will be available! There is no fee, but if you wish to donate a 5-pack of resistance bands, Martha Kester will be delivering them to Good Neighbor Medical clinic where she helps assist patients.

All mid-week activities have concluded for the year and will resume in 2026.

High altar flowers are given to the glory of God
by Lin Mix in loving memory of Joseph Anthony Mix, William Devlin McCormick,
William Laird and Jessie Mary McCormick, Bronislaus John and Armella Mix,
Nancy Stevens Mix, Elizabeth and John Valantiejus, Deeda, Hjordi and Susie.

Side altar flowers are given to the glory of God
by Mitchell and Cathryn Griffith in loving memory of their parents,
Jack and Margaret Griffith and Bill and Elaine Horn.

The Paschal Candle wreath is given to the glory of God
in thanksgiving for the partners of the clergy and staff of St. Helena's
for their unwavering support of the work of the church.

The front door Advent wreaths are given to the glory of God
by Andy and Elinor Borgert
in thanksgiving for their children and parents.

The side door Advent wreaths are given to the glory of God
by Fran and Gray Sanders in thanksgiving for their grandchildren,
Tyler, Sanders and Gibson O'Neal, Taylor, Harper and LG Squires,
and Collins, Gray, Ann Gray, Scottie and Davis Sanders.

The Parish Hall door Advent wreaths are given to the glory of God
by Eleanor and Ken Burns in loving memory of
Alline Burns, Carew Rice III and Eleanor Cain Stutler.

This Week's Prayer List

Please pray for all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or other adversity, especially the following:

For those in our parish family: Richard and Doris Bland, Eleanore Brough, Sam and Nancy Chesnutt, Carroll Crowther, Mary Lou Cullen, Jim Egan, Frank Giammona, Lynn Gibson, Chris Goodson, Beth Grace, Leila Harris, Henderson Family, Bill Johnston, Bonnie Markle, Caroline Milne, Ed Moneagle, Dee Moss, Margy Oehlert, Jo Panayotoff, Rod Parker, John Payne, Bev Peutz, Chuck and Annie Pollak, Fran Sanders, Ric Schwank, Marcia and Rich Seymour, Hamp Simkins, Nelle Smith, Ed and Sandy Stephan, Carla Stout, and Shirley Sutton.

For extended family or friends of our parish family: William Acker, Steele and Stephanie Anderson, Rev. Paul Anobile, Sandy Ballington, Julie (Hyle) Bleier, Dora Bonetti, Wendy Burchfield, Joyce Carr, David Carter family, Tad and Katie Carver, Chloe Clark, Joesph Credle, Leslie Custer, Lisa Duress, Lederle Eberhardt, Susan Eitnier, Ann and Suzanne Finch, Finley, Good Shepherd Academy in South Sudan, Pat Gould, Sue Green, David Hagins, Anita Hammerbeck, Jason Hamshaw, Barbara Harper, Bray Hefner, Hanna Irby, Shanna Jackson, David Kinlaw, Georgia Linam, Carolyn Lyson, Macynski Family, Cameron Martin, Zoran and Annie Misic, Tom Moore, Linda Morris, Sandra Myrick, Steve Ninemire, Fran Norman, Sienna Perez, Debbie Pollak, Pete Pratt, Doug Pulsifer, **Eli Rausch**, Bill Rector, Connie Brooks Rettig, Joseph Ritchie Sr, Christian Rooney, Todd Roseneau, Linda Seigler, Frank and Becci Seuberling, Connie Chesnutt Simmons, Lisa Spera, **Gabriel St. George**, Chase Sullivan, Shanna Sullivan, Tom Truman, Lucus Vanderzee, Carolyn Vitolo, Taylor Ward, Reed Watts, Terry Whitehead, and the Young Life Ministry.

For these expectant parents: Morgan and Beau Brown, Reagan and Stafford Carter, **Ford and Danielle Collins**, and Laura and John Wise.

For all our U.S. service members defending our country, especially those who are deployed overseas: Connor Brazinski, Trey Crowley, and Flannery Woodward Macynski.

Participating in the Service:

The Rev. Shay Gaillard, Rector
The Rev. Hunter Jordan, Associate Rector
The Rev. Dr. Emil Klatt III, Associate Rector
The Rev. Tom Cannon, Deacon
Holton Johnson, Director of Music Ministry
Eugenia Henderson, Music Ministry Assistant
The Advent/Christmas Singers
The Handbell Ensemble
The Cherub Choir
The St. Helena's Choristers
Katie Vernon, Austin Stout, Lauren Ivens, Jim Egan,
Stellena Mumma, and Rion Salley, Lectors
John Davis, Jennifer Wharton, and John Parker, LEMS
Lance Gooding, Bill DeLoache, Ryan Braley, and Lamar Nix, Ushers

Our Vision

St. Helena's will boldly proclaim the saving Gospel
and Lordship of Jesus Christ, and through
intentional discipleship, will raise up servant
leaders and Gospel communities in Beaufort and
beyond, seeing the Kingdom come.

Welcome!

Whether you are visiting or looking for a new church home, we rejoice that you are here to worship with us today. Please take a moment to connect with us so that we might welcome you more personally. Please scan the QR code below or sign our online guestbook at www.sthelenas1712.org/guestbook. We look forward to saying hello!



Nursery: Children ages kindergarten and older are encouraged to worship with their families in the church. A nursery is available in Tyndale Hall for children ages 4 and under during the 10:30 am service. An usher can direct you to Tyndale Hall.