

GRACE CHURCH IN NEW YORK
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Holy Eucharist: Rite I
December 1, 2024 at eleven o'clock A.M.

PRELUDE Wake, awake for night is flying

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

HYMN 57 Lo! He comes, with clouds descending

(All stand to sing the hymn)



1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
 2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
 3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on



our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
 dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
 daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
 thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the



saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
 nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
 ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
 power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine



train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
 ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
 own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY AND SUMMARY OF THE LAW

KYRIE, HYMNAL S-91 (*Sung by all, each line three times*)

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy 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 quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

FIRST LESSON Jeremiah 33:14-16 (*Please be seated.*)

Joann Hill

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."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 25:1-9 *Ad te, Domine, levavi* (*To be sung by the choir*)

Anglican Chant (Goss)

Unto thee, O Lord, will I lift up my soul;
my God, I have put my trust in thee:
O let me not be confounded,
neither let mine enemies triumph over me.

For all they that hope in thee shall not be ashamed;
but such as transgress without a cause shall be put to confusion.

Show me thy ways, O Lord,
and teach me thy paths.

Lead me forth in thy truth, and learn me:
for thou art the God of my salvation;
in thee hath been my hope all the day long.

Call to remembrance, O Lord, thy tender mercies,
and thy loving-kindnesses, which have been ever of old.

O remember not the sins and offences of my youth;
but according to thy mercy think thou upon me,
O Lord, for thy goodness.

Gracious and righteous is the Lord;
therefore will he teach sinners in the way.

Them that are meek shall he guide in judgment;
and such as are gentle, them shall he learn his way.

All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth,
unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.

SECOND LESSON 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Jason Slibeck

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

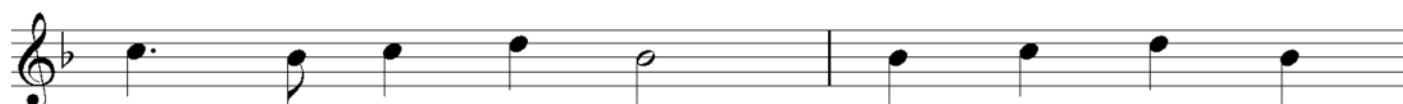
People **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN 54 Savior of the nations, come!

During the singing of the hymn, children (ages 4-12) are encouraged to meet at the chancel steps, then follow the Children's Chapel leaders to the chantry.



1 Sa - vior of the na - tions, come! Vir - gin's
2 Won - drous birth! Oh, won - drous child of the
3 Thus on earth the Word ap - pears, grac - ing
4 Come, O Fa - ther's sav - ing Son, who o'er



Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, both
Vir - gin un - de - filed! Might - y God and
his cre - a - ted spheres; hence to death and
sin the vic - tory won. Bound - less shall your



heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.
Ma - ry's son, ea - ger now his race to run!
hell de - scends, then the heaven - ly throne a - scends.
king - dom be; grant that we its glo - ries see.

Words: Martin Luther (1483-1546) after Ambrose of Milan (340-397); tr. William M. Reynolds (1812-1876) and James Waring McCrady (b. 1938)
St. 3-4, Copyright ©1982, James Waring McCrady. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music: *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*, melody from
Erfurt Enchiridia, 1524; harm. Melchoir Vulpinus (1560?-1616)

THE GOSPEL Luke 21:25-36

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

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 be to thee, O Christ.**

SERMON (*Please be seated*)

THE REVEREND JAMES H.B. MORTON III

THE NICENE CREED (*To be said by all, standing*)

Book of Common Prayer p. 326

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.
 With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
 He 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

(Remain standing)

Book of Common Prayer p. 392

Lector In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Lector For all people in their daily life and work;
People ***For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.***

Lector Remembering especially Joseph our President; Kathleen our Governor; and Bill our Mayor, we pray for this community, the nation, and the world;
People ***For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.***

Lector For the just and proper use of your creation;
People ***For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.***

Lector For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
People ***For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.***

Lector For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
People ***For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.***

Lector For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, Presiding Bishop, Andrew, Allen, and Mary, Bishops in New York, and all bishops and other ministers;
People ***For all who serve God in his Church.***

Lector For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.
For justice, peace, and freedom in this and every place, especially in the troubled regions of the world.
For victims of natural disasters around the globe.
For all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad, for all victims of war, and all others we name either silently or aloud.

Lector Hear us, Lord;
People ***For your mercy is great.***

Lector We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life, especially, these particular blessings that the people of Grace Church have named:

Lector We will exalt you, O God our King;
People ***And praise your Name for ever and ever.***

Lector We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Lector Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
People ***Who put their trust in you.***

Lector We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

THE CONFESSION

(To be said by all)

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

THE PEACE
Celebrant
People

(All stand)
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And with thy spirit.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please be seated)

THE HOLY COMMUNION

AT THE OFFERTORY, ANTHEM

Anonymous (16th century)

Rejoice in the Lord alway, and again I say rejoice. Let your softness be known unto all men: the Lord is e'en at hand. Be careful for nothing: but in all prayer and supplication, let your petitions be manifest unto God with giving of thanks. And peace of God which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesu. Amen.

Philippians 4:4-7

DOXOLOGY

(To be sung by all, standing)

OLD 100th

**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.**

Online worshippers may use the Virtual Offering Plate to make their gifts.

<https://gracechurchnyc.org/donation-support/>

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Remain standing)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Because thou didst send thy beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS, HYMNAL S-114 (To be sung by all)

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of

Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -

- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth

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

All may kneel after singing the Sanctus.

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. AMEN. to thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

**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.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -
 way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
 on us. O Lamb of God, that
 ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have
 mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of
 God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
 world, grant us thy peace.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following invitation

The gifts of God for the People of God. Take and eat them in remembrance that Christ died for thee, and feed on him in thy hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

THE ADMINISTRATION

The bread of the Eucharist is administered from two standing stations at the chancel steps. Please wait for an usher to release your pew. Approach the altar from the center aisle in two lines. Return to your pew using the side aisle to your right or left.



1 Once he came in bless - ing, all our ills re - dress - ing;
 2 Still he comes with - in us, still his voice would win us
 3 Thus, if thou canst name him, not a - shamed to claim him,
 4 One who thus en - dur - eth bright re - ward se - cur - eth.



came in like-ness low - ly, Son of God most ho - ly;
 from the sins that hurt us, would to Truth con - vert us:
 but wilt trust him bold - ly nor dost love him cold - ly,
 Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, from our sins re - lease us;



bore the cross to save us, hope and free - dom gave us.
 not in tor - ment hold us, but in love en - fold us.
 he will then re - ceive thee, heal thee, and for - give thee.
 let us here con - fess thee till in heaven we bless thee.

COMMUNION ANTHEM*Craig Phillips (b. 1961)*

Teach me, my God and King,
 In all things Thee to see,
 And what I do in anything
 To do it as for Thee.

All may of Thee partake;
 Nothing can be so mean,
 Which with this tincture—"for Thy sake"—
 Will not grow bright and clean.

A servant with this clause
 Makes drudgery divine;
 Who sweeps a room as for Thy laws,
 Makes that and th' action fine.

This is the famous stone
 That turneth all to gold;
 For that which God doth touch and own
 Cannot for less be told.

George Herbert (1593-1632)

The Celebrant and People say together:

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(Please kneel)*

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in, through Jesus Christ our Lord to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING

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 wor - thy 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 - pare 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: Philip Nicolai (1556-1608); tr. Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944) Copyright ©1982, Carl P. Daw, Jr. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
 Music: *Wachet auf*, melody Hans Sachs (1494-1576); adapt. Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); arr. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

DISMISSAL *The people respond: Thanks be to God.*

POSTLUDE Fuge in g-moll, BWV 578

Johann Sebastian Bach

+ + +

Serving Today

The Adult Choir

Susan Yacarino, *Acolyte*

Joann Hill, Jason Slibeck, Cathy Minuse, *Readers*

Rachel Kuhns, Jason Slibeck, Shingmin Lai, Austin Berger, *Ushers*

Shingmin Lai, *Altar Guild*

Michael LaVoie, *Grace Productions*

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TODAY

The Liturgical Season of Advent begins today. The word Advent derives from the Latin *adventus*, meaning arrival, or approach. In our worship, the hymns and Scripture readings take on a mysterious, urgent tone as we anticipate the coming of Christ. One-by-one we light the four candles of the Advent wreath. The Gospel readings shift to Luke, the liturgical color is blue and we begin a new Church Year.

Sunday Forum is on break – The forum will resume next week in the reception room and on zoom.

Come and Make a Wreath! Celebrating with an Advent wreath during the weeks prior to Christmas is a great way to keep our thoughts focused on the coming of Christ, and to start a faithful at-home tradition with children during the hustle and bustle of the season. On the first Sunday of Advent, after the 9 am and 11 am services we'll have all the materials ready for you in Tuttle Hall. All are welcome! Experienced wreath-makers are encouraged to help others! Sign up as a volunteer by contacting the Rev. Julia Offinger at joffinger@gracechurchnyc.org. (Sugg. donation per wreath: \$25.)

Advent Calendars Available – The Grace Church Women (GCW) will be selling Advent Calendars during the coffee hour that follows both of the morning services. They are available at the Welcome Table for \$5.00 each.

Coffee and Fellowship takes place today in Tuttle Hall following the 9 am and 11 am services. Come enjoy coffee, conversation, and a variety of treats that have been provided.

Dec 1, 8, 15, & 22 - The Annual Advent Collections for local charities begin on Sunday, Dec 1st, with a collection of travel size toiletries for the Seamen's Church Institute Christmas at Sea project. On Sunday, Dec 8th, we will collect hats, scarves, and gloves for the Church of the Ascension Food Pantry. On Sunday, Dec 15th, we'll collect new men's underwear (larger sizes – L, XL, XXL) for the Bowery Mission (no t-shirts please). On Sunday, Dec 22nd, we'll collect toddler toys and clothing through Room to Grow's Amazon Wish List (<https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/1OMPLXE8LSSRR>). NOTE: Donations will be collected in the baskets at the back of the church at all services for the first three Sundays, but donations for Room to Grow should be made through their Amazon Wish List ONLY. Please give generously this Advent!

2025 Annual Pledge Campaign: “And I Mean to be One Too” - On November 3rd, we launched the 2025 Annual Pledge Campaign at all three services. All parishioners and friends of Grace Church are asked to support the work of Grace Church by making an annual pledge. Some will turn in the pledge cards received by mail or found in the pews. Others will begin a time of prayerful reflection to consider what God is calling them to do. In this way we not only support the church, but give thanks to God for all the blessings of life. To make your pledge, please fill out the pledge envelope, place it in the offering plate today, or return it to the parish office as soon as you can. You may also make your pledge at: 2025 Pledge Form | Grace Church in New York at <https://gracechurchnyc.org/2025-pledge-form/> (You have all of 2025 to make your payments!) Questions about pledging? Contact Travis Kennedy at tkennedy@gracechurchnyc.org or 212-254-2005.

Transforming Questions – Class Follows 6 pm Service – Join us for a ten-week course where participants will get to engage with Christianity's fundamental questions. Together we will wrestle with topics like: Who is Jesus? Does God answer prayer? Why do bad things happen? Led by The Rev. James Morton, we'll meet on Sunday evenings immediately following the 6 pm Eucharist in the Chantry. Using Scripture and conversation to complement our study, this 60-minute weekly class will journey through topics central to our faith. No advanced reading is necessary to participate! Refreshments served. The dates for the class are Sept. 22, 29, Oct. 20, 27, Nov. 3, 17, 24, Dec. 8, 15, & 22.

6 pm Sunday and Wednesday Worship in the Chantry – If you cannot be here on Sunday mornings, note that every week we offer two evening opportunities for worship. The Sunday and Wednesday 6 pm services in the Chantry include Holy Eucharist, sermon, and lively hymn singing accompanied by our Steinway grand piano.

Canterbury Downtown Campus Ministry for College Students – Canterbury Downtown is an open and inclusive Episcopal campus ministry for students of Manhattan colleges. Students of all religious and cultural backgrounds are invited to share in a faith-based community, connect with one another, and grow together in Christ. During the academic year, students gather for worship, conversation, and a complimentary meal with Canterbury Downtown Chaplain, The Rev. Megan E. Sanders, following the Sunday 6 pm service at Grace Church. All college students welcome.

COMING SOON

Nov 6, 13, 20, & Dec 4 – Good-bye Mark, Hello Luke – Wednesday evening adult Christian formation. As we approach Advent Sunday on December 1, the year of reading through the Gospel of Mark will conclude, and we will switch to Luke. What are the significant differences between these two Gospels, and how can they both serve to deepen our devotion to Jesus? Join us on four Wednesdays, 6:45 pm in the reception room. Refreshments are served.

Dec 6 & 7 – Choral Society Christmas Concerts – The Choral Society and Orchestra's annual Christmas Concerts take place in the Church on Friday, December 6 at 8:00 pm and Saturday, December 7 at 3:00 pm, under the direction of John Maclay, who marks his 25th season as music director. This year's program features Mozart's Mass in C, KV 262 (“Missa longa”), with seasonal favorites and audience carol sing. Tickets required (\$32 general admission) and available at www.thechoralsociety.org.

Dec 8 & 15 – The Sunday Forum – Advent Prophets – Video Conversations with St. George’s, Hanover Square, London – In the season of Advent, we tune our ears to the voices of the prophets who herald the coming of Christ. Joining with members of our London Link parish, St. George’s, Hanover Square, we will focus our study on Isaiah on Dec. 8 and John the Baptist on Dec. 15. The clergy will facilitate these conversations both weeks at 10 am in the Reception Room. Coffee and breakfast treats are served.

Dec 8 – An Advent Procession with Carols Readings of scripture foretelling the coming of Christ are interspersed with beautiful music of the season from the four corners of the church. Sung by The Adult Choir at 4 pm in the Church.

Dec 11 – The Community Carol Sing – All are welcome to come sing favorite Christmas Carols with the Choristers in this festive annual event. 12:15 – 12:45 pm in the Church.

Dec 12 – 20s & 30s Pub Theology – The fall season of 20s & 30s Pub Theology will take place Oct 17, Nov 21, and Dec 12 at 6 pm in the third-floor lounge of the Parish House. We’ll explore intersections of the divine and the natural world aided by poets, mystics, and scripture. No advanced reading is necessary! Wine, cheese, and non-alcoholic beverages will be served. Email the Rev. James Morton (jmorton@gracechurchnyc.org) to RSVP.

Dec 15 – A Ceremony of Carols by Benjamin Britten will be offered by The Girls’ Choir with Alumni of the Choir and members of The Adult Choir at 4 pm in the Church.

Dec 21 – Volunteer Day at The Red Door Place – Help us prepare a meal for our neighbors at The Red Door Place at The Church of the Village, our food ministry partner. There are two available shifts, 8:30 to 11:45 am and 11:30 to 2:30 pm. Email the Rev. James Morton (jmorton@gracechurchnyc.org) if you would like to attend.

Jan 12 – Amahl and the Night Visitors, and a Spaghetti Supper – At 4 pm in the church the Adult Choir will be singing the wonderful Epiphany drama, Amahl and the Night Visitors by Gian Carlo Menotti. The event will be followed by a big spaghetti supper for everyone in Tuttle Hall from 5–7 pm. The dinner is free and will be a celebration of our 2025 Annual Campaign (which will be paying for the dinner). It will be an excellent opportunity to bring your completed 2025 pledge envelope, if you haven’t already done so. A free-will offering will be collected in support of the event.

Jan 26 – Newcomers' Lunch – New to Grace Church? Interested in learning more about this community and how to get involved? On January 26 at 12:30 pm come for lunch in the Reception Room, meet a few new friends, and learn about the many offerings at Grace Church. RSVP to the Rev. Julia Offinger.

EVERY SUNDAY

9 am, 11 am Worship Services in the Church and 6 pm in the Chantry. The 11 am service is video streamed every week.

The Sunday Forum – Between the services in the Reception Room (and over Zoom) starting around 10 am, we delve into theological and contemporary topics in depth.

Children’s Chapel – During the 11 am service children ages 4-12 are invited to start church with their parents in the pews and then join Father James or Mother Julia in the chantry for a time of learning and prayer. Children will return during the announcements.

Nursery Care – The nursery (next to the Sunday School classroom, across Tuttle Hall) is open from 8:30 am – 12:30 pm. Adults can sign children ages 0-4 in and out at their convenience. The nursery is professionally staffed according to Safe Church guidelines.

Coffee Hour – Coffee and fellowship takes place in Tuttle Hall following the 9 and 11 am services.

Activity Corner for Children – In the north aisle of the church you will find coloring supplies, and books for children to use during the service. Please return all materials before you leave, and help us keep the area clean for future families.

Hymns from Grace – Held in the church during open hours and on the Organ Meditation YouTube Channel at 4:00 pm - 45-minutes of favorite hymns, anthems and voluntaries played on the Bicentennial Organ.

EVERY WEEK

Monday – Centering Prayer (over Zoom) – 12:15-12:45 pm – Christian silent prayer that prepares us to receive the gift of God’s presence. Led by Currie Estreich, MA, Spiritual Direction, the General Theological Seminary. For Zoom access, please see The Weekly Epistle or email the Rev. Julia Macy Offinger at joffinger@gracechurchnyc.org.

Tuesday-Friday – Bach at Noon – Held in the church during open hours and on the Organ Meditation YouTube Channel at 12:20 pm - 30 minutes of music by J.S. Bach, played on the Bicentennial Organ.

Wednesday – Women’s Bible Study – 10:30 am on Zoom with the Rev. Julia Offinger. Contact Julia for Zoom instructions.

Wednesday – 6 pm Eucharist in the Chantry

Saturday – Weekend Organ Meditation – Held in the church during open hours and on the Organ Meditation YouTube Channel at 4:00 pm - 45-minutes of diverse music played on the Bicentennial Organ.

Enter, Rest, Pray (CHURCH IS OPEN) Monday - Saturday from noon – 5 pm.

OUTREACH

Food Donations for The Red Door Place – Our food ministry partner, The Red Door Place at The Church of the Village, is a vital pantry/soup kitchen serving those in need supporting the social safety net in our neighborhood. Donations are desperately needed. Non-perishable food item(s) may be dropped off in the collection baskets in the narthex when you visit Grace Church during open hours. Clothing donations are not needed for this ministry.

Fresh Direct (or Other Reusable) Bags Needed – The Red Door Place is also seeking donations of Fresh Direct or other reusable bags to support its ministries. If you’d like to donate bags, you can place these in the collection baskets in the narthex with the food items.

Knitters and non-knitters unite! Love to knit, curious how to start, or just want to dust off those old needles and plunge into purling again? We want you! We are looking for all levels of knitters to help grow our partnership with Seamen’s Church Institute and the Christmas at Sea program by knitting heart-made hats, scarves, and mittens. If you are interested, please contact Ashleigh Madureira at amadureira1@gmail.com. Just include your name, the # of adults/children in your household that may be interested, and the level(s) of experience. No experience is OK!

Help Ukrainian Families – Episcopal Relief & Development is working to provide humanitarian assistance to the more than 2 million people who have had to leave Ukraine. Specifically, their partner ACT Alliance is helping families on the Hungarian border, and their Anglican partners are mobilizing both an immediate and long-term response in Poland, Romania and Hungary. Your emergency gift will provide cash, blankets, hygiene supplies and other needs as this crisis unfolds. Visit <https://support.episcopalrelief.org/ukraineresponse> to make a donation today.

PARISH LIFE

Altar Flowers – Every Sunday the flowers on the altar assist our prayers by reminding us of the beauty of God’s creation. The gift of flowers is a wonderful way to remember a departed loved one, or give thanks for a happy occasion such as a birthday or an anniversary. The flowers not only brighten our Sundays, but remain on the altar most of the week for school chapels and open door hours. The cost for sponsoring the arrangements on both sides of the cross is \$350. But donors can also go in together and jointly sponsor a Sunday. Either way, we will list the givers and the occasions in the Sunday bulletin. Please note that during Advent and Lent we observe those seasons with simpler arrangements that do not include flowers. That said, many other Sundays are available for flower donors to claim. If you are interested, please email Mickey Hawley in the parish office, mhawley@gracechurchnyc.org.

Become a Worship Leader – Readers, ushers, and altar guild members play vital roles in all our services here at Grace Church. If you feel called to help us lead worship and are interested in learning more about any of these opportunities, email the Rev. James Morton at jmorton@gracechurchnyc.org and he can help you connect to a ministry that suits you.

Wear your nametags! – Nametags can be found on the boards in Tuttle Hall. Newcomers are encouraged to visit our welcome table during coffee hour to create their own nametags. If you are a pledging member and do not see your nametag on the boards in Tuttle Hall, please send Travis Kennedy an email at tkennedy@gracechurchnyc.org so he can make you one.

20s & 30s at Grace Church – We have a very active group of parishioners in their twenties and thirties here at Grace who meet regularly for Pub Theology and other seasonal events. If you are interested in connecting with us, please email the Rev. James Morton and he will add you to our email list.

Baptism at Grace Church – The sacrament of baptism takes place during a weekly, public worship service about once a month. If you are interested in baptism for yourself or a child, please first be in touch with The Rev. Julia Offinger at joffinger@gracechurchnyc.org to discuss next steps. Attendance at one class prior to your chosen baptism date is required.

Grace Cares – Would you like a visit at home or at the hospital? Do you need assistance in getting to church or an appointment? Are you struggling and in need of a friendly phone call? Would you like the Sunday lessons read to you or the service bulletin brought to you? Would you like to receive communion in your home? Grace has a pastoral care team that provides these services and more. Contact the Rev. Julia Macy Offinger at joffinger@gracechurchnyc.org.

Restrooms are available on the 1st floor of the parish house, through the north aisle door near the baptismal font.

Nut-Free Fare – To ensure the safety of all our parishioners, every precaution is taken to provide food that is nut-free at coffee hours and other receptions. If you are bringing treats for others to enjoy, please make sure they are nut-free.

Safe Church – Grace Church is committed to providing its members, staff, and visitors with a place that is free of abuse and harassment. If you have observed, or personally experienced sexual or other forms of harassment, or other concerning behavior while attending activities, classes, or events held at Grace Church, or on our shared campus with Grace Church School, we encourage you to notify us. Please visit <https://gracechurchnyc.org/safechurch/> where you will find a direct means of providing feedback.

Assistive Listening System - During Sunday morning worship services, Grace Church provides an assistive listening system (ALS) for visitors with hearing loss. For information on how to connect to our FM radio transmitter, visit <https://gracechurchnyc.org/assistive-listening/> If you already have your listening equipment, tune in to frequency 87.6 mHZ on your FM dial.



Give Via Venmo – If you don't have cash on you, but still want to give to Grace Church, you can Venmo your donation by searching for our page (@GraceChurchNYC) or by scanning this QR code using the camera on your phone. Use the "What's it for?" line to tell us the specific project or program you want to support.



venmo

SCHEDULE OF CHRISTMAS EVE/DAY SERVICES

CHRISTMAS EVE, December 24

4:00 pm Christmas Pageant

Featuring our cast of friendly beasts, angels, shepherds, and villagers.

Doors open at 3:30 pm. The service will be livestreamed.

7:30 pm Festive Music for Violin, Trumpet, & Organ

A Christmas Fantasia by Malcolm Archer

Cynthia Roberts, John Thiessen, & Patrick Allen

8:00 pm A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

The Choir of Men and Boys with the Girls' and Adult Choirs. Sermon by the Rector.

The service will be livestreamed.

10:30 pm Festive Music for Violin, Trumpet, & Organ

A Christmas Fantasia by Malcolm Archer

Cynthia Roberts, John Thiessen, & Patrick Allen

11:00 pm Candlelight Choral Eucharist

The Adult Choir. Sermon by the Rector.

CHRISTMAS DAY, December 25

11:00 am Holy Eucharist with Carols

The Adult Choir. Sermon by the Rector.

EPIPHANY, January 12

4:00 pm Amahl & the Night Visitors

The Adult Choir.

Thank you to those who have joined the 2025 Annual Campaign at Grace Church!

(as of November 27, 2024)

Daniel Ayers & Anthony Seguino	Mary L. Jenkins
Beverly Banks	Charles Johnston & John Crocker
Julia Bates & Peter Vail	Travis Brock Kennedy
Mrs. J. Peter Benet	Harry Krauss
Bonnie & John Berringer	Jade Ostner & Eric Lee
Kimberly & Stephen Biehle	Martin B. Lee
Nicholas Birns & Isabella Smalera	Ernesto Loperena
Ginger Blake-Paoli & Dennis Paoli	Maggie & Dieter Metzger
Christopher Blume	Sophia & Andre Moura
Meg & Owen Boger	Jaana Rehnstrom
Andrew Bragen	Anne Rieselbach & Grant Marani
Gia & Jackson Browning	Anastasia & Kevin Rotheroe
Marjorie Buckley	Jennifer San Cartier
Ann Burrows	Emily & Christopher Sarro
Lee & Winthrop Chamberlin	Vincent Scarpati
Julio C. Chavez de Mendoza	Lisa Semmens
Sarah Cogan & Douglas Evans	Chris Shoemaker
Matthew Davis & Logan Sachon	Barbara Sievert
Cathy DePasquale & Matthew Tuell	Sara Queen & Jason Slibeck
Olivia Douglas & David DiDomenico	Callie & Mark Sowinski
Nancy Dobi	Catherine Minuse & Henry Stevenson
Helen Du Bois	Gregory Straub
Elana Foundos	Linda T. Suarez
Ansley Galjour	Michael Taglieri
Amanda & James Gomez	Adele & John Talty
Sophia & Greg Gushee	Nathan Urquhart
A. Christine Harland	Nancy Walcott
Colin Heywood	Stacie & Don Waring
Susan Fales-Hill & Aaron Hill	Kristin Whitehurst
Martha Hirschman & Samuel Keany	May Yu