



The Fourth Sunday of Advent
20 December 2020

11 AM The Liturgy of the Word



The Cathedral
Church of **Saint John**
the **Divine**

125
YEARS

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Reverend Pamela Cooper-White, *Officiant*

The Right Reverend Andrew ML Dietsche

XVI Bishop of New York

The Right Reverend Clifton Daniel III

10th Dean, Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine

The Cathedral Choir

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659 Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685–1750)

Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen, Op. 122, No. 8 Johannes Brahms
(1833–1897)

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Officiant Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People You come to your people and set them free.

OPENING HYMN

Sung by All.

1 Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath sprung!
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind,
 3 O Flower, whose fra-grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the air,

Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as seers of old have sung.
 with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the Vir - gin Mo - ther kind.
 dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor the dark-ness ev - ery where;

It came, a blos - som bright, a - mid the
 To show God's love a - right, she bore to
 true man, yet ve - ry God, from sin and

cold of win - ter, when half spent was the night.
 us a Sa - vior, when half spent was the night.
 death now save us, and share our ev - ery load.

Words: St. 1-2 German, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker (1851–1934). St. 3, Friedrich Layritz (1808–1859):
 tr. Harriet Reynolds Krauth Spaeth (1845-1925); ver. Hymnal 1940

Music: *Es ist ein Ros*, melody from *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1599; harm. Michael Praetorius (1571–1621)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

PURIFY our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People Amen.

A READING FROM THE SECOND BOOK OF SAMUEL

WHEN the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever. (7:1-11, 16)

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE 15*Said responsively.*

The Song of Mary

Magnificat

- Lector* My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;
People for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
- Lector* From this day all generations will call me blessed:
People the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.
- Lector* He has mercy on those who fear him
People in every generation.
- Lector* He has shown the strength of his arm,
People he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
- Lector* He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
People and has lifted up the lowly.
- Lector* He has filled the hungry with good things,
People and the rich he has sent away empty.
- Lector* He has come to the help of his servant Israel,
People for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
- Lector* The promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children for ever.
- Lector* Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
People as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.

A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

IN the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her. (1:26-38)

Officiant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

ANTHEM

Gabriel's Message Basque Carol, arr. David Willcocks
(1919-2015)

THE angel Gabriel from heaven came,
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
"All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honor thee,
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,
"My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name."
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say,
"Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)

A RITE IN DEFIANCE OF DARKNESS
COLLECT

Dean Let us pray.

A period of silence is kept.

The Dean says

ALMIGHTY God, who by the radiance of your Son's appearing brightened a world overshadowed by sin: Help us to resist the works of death and to proclaim the Gospel of life. We ask it in the name of Jesus, the Light of the World, who came among us and comes among us still, and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God now and for ever.

Assembly Amen.

A period of silence is kept.

**THE RECORD OF THE SHOOTING,
THE RECORD OF THE MAN WHO DIED**

Reader 1 From *The New York Times*, December 13th and December 15th, 2020.

A period of silence is kept.

Reader 2 A man was fatally shot by the police after he opened fire near a crowd of hundreds of people gathered for a Christmas concert on Sunday afternoon on the steps of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in Morningside Heights.

Reader 1 It was not immediately clear if the gunman was shooting at anyone in the crowd, but the church said in a Facebook post that he appeared to be firing into the air. No one else was struck by gunfire.

Reader 2 Police Commissioner Dermot F. Shea said at a news conference outside the church that the man had a gun in each hand and opened fire from behind a marble pillar in front of the church's large [bronze] doors, which were decorated with Christmas wreaths.

long pause

Three officers who were working nearby returned fire, striking the gunman at least once in the head.

long pause

Commissioner Shea said a motive for the shooting was not yet clear, but according to several witnesses, the man had yelled, "Kill me."

Reader 1 He had a history of violent offenses, including shooting at police officers and a woman in 1990. He had several arrests spanning 30 years and was wanted for threatening someone with a gun over the summer, the police said.

pause

Reader 2 When he came out of prison in 1995, [the shooter,] Mr. [Luis] Vasquez was angry and grew distant. The conviction had cost him his status as a legal resident of the United States.

pause

Corrections records show the state turned him over to immigration authorities twice, once in 1994 and again in 2007, when he was arrested on an undisclosed parole violation.

pause

By the time he climbed the steps to the cathedral... his anger had been simmering for years, his sister said. "He was so damaged," she said. "And slowly, he just distanced himself completely."

A lengthy period of silence ensues.

LITANY

<i>Litanist 1</i>	To each petition of the litany, let the people say: Deliver us, O God. From the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.	<i>Litanist 2</i>	From disdain for the police and from all the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.
<i>Assembly</i>		<i>Assembly</i>	
<i>Litanist 1</i>	From the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.	<i>Litanist 1</i>	From police brutality and from all the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.
<i>Assembly</i>		<i>Assembly</i>	
<i>Litanist 1</i>	From the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.	<i>Litanist 2</i>	From death and from all the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.
<i>Assembly</i>		<i>Assembly</i>	
<i>Litanist 2</i>	From the violence around us, and the violence within us; from the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.	<i>Litanist 1</i>	From everything that plagues this world; from the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.
<i>Assembly</i>		<i>Assembly</i>	
<i>Litanist 1</i>	From poverty and despair, from hopelessness and rage; from the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.	<i>Litanist 2</i>	From everything that plagues this city; from the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.
<i>Assembly</i>		<i>Assembly</i>	
<i>Litanist 2</i>	From empty hearts and empty eyes, from empty lives and empty dreams; from the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.	<i>Litanist 1</i>	From everything that plagues the neighborhood we call home; from the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.
<i>Assembly</i>		<i>Assembly</i>	
<i>Litanist 1</i>	From gunshots and stabbings, from batterings and torture; from the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.	<i>Litanist 1</i>	From the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.
<i>Assembly</i>		<i>Assembly</i>	
<i>Litanist 2</i>	From homelessness and unemployment, from wantonness and greed; from the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.	<i>Litanist 1</i>	From the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.
<i>Assembly</i>		<i>Assembly</i>	
<i>Litanist 1</i>	From mental illness and confusion, from stigma and judgment; from the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.	<i>Litanist 1</i>	From the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.
<i>Assembly</i>		<i>Assembly</i>	
<i>Litanist 2</i>	From hunger and malnutrition; from isolation and despair; from the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.	<i>Litanist 1</i>	From the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.
<i>Assembly</i>		<i>Assembly</i>	
<i>Litanist 1</i>	From COVID and conspiracy theories; from denial and dying alone; from the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.	<i>Litanist 1</i>	From the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.
<i>Assembly</i>		<i>Assembly</i>	
<i>Litanist 2</i>	From illiteracy and incomprehension, from dropping out and expulsion; from the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.	<i>Litanist 1</i>	From the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.
<i>Assembly</i>		<i>Assembly</i>	
<i>Litanist 1</i>	From gun violence and all the works of darkness, deliver us, O God.		
<i>Assembly</i>			

COLLECT

The Bishop says

SOURCE of light and life, you give us breath,
and to you all flesh returns.
Touch with the cleansing of your Presence
this place where blood has been shed.
Where there is grief,
bring your comfort.
Where there is horror,
shower your calm.
Where there is desecration,
breathe your sanctifying Spirit.
Open our eyes to see this place, marred by violence,
as sacred ground still,
a place where you dwell.
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Christ,
who took upon him our mortal flesh,
and whose precious blood we shed,
but who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit
one God, for ever and ever.

Assembly Amen.

THE BLESSING

The Officiant pronounces a blessing,
and the People respond

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, And or - der all things,
3 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind All peo - ples in one
4 O come, thou Day - spring, come and cheer Our spi - rits by thine



Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here Un -
far and nigh; To us the path of know - ledge show, And
heart and mind; Bid en - vy, strife, and quar - rels cease; Fill
ad - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, And



til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - jice! Re - jice! Em -
cause us in her ways to go.
the whole world with heav - en's peace.
death's dark shad - ows put to flight.



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

Words: Laurence Hull Stookey (1986)

Music: *Veni Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, *Processionale*, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811–1890)

THE DISMISSAL

Officiant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Three Short Preludes Edward Cuthbert Bairstow (1874–1946)

III. *Veni Emmanuel*

Thanks to Jie Yi, Christopher Cloudus, and Goura Rivera for producing the hymn videos.

ONLINE SERVICES**MONDAY–SATURDAY**

8:30 AM Morning Prayer

5:30 PM Evening Prayer

WEDNESDAY

8:30 PM Compline

SUNDAY

11 AM Liturgy of the Word

INTERCESSIONS

The Cathedral Community intends to pray the following intercessions at all services in the course of the week. Congregants are always invited to name their intercessions aloud during the Prayers of the People.

IN the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for mission agencies and their ministry throughout the Anglican Communion, including the Mothers' Union around the world. In the New York Diocesan Calendar of Intercession, we pray for St. Martin's & St. Luke's Church, Manhattan.

For all those who are sick or in distress or any trouble:

Donna
Carla
Harlan
Ana & William Cress
Manny Lampidis
Rodolfo Bolaños
Francisco Bahena

For those who rest in Christ and for all the dead:

Paolo Biasutti
Maggie
Maria De Jesus Diaz Bolaños
Luis Manuel Vasquez Gomez
Robert Caldwell
Wilma Frye

UPCOMING EVENTS**THURSDAY, 24 DECEMBER, 4 PM****FRIDAY, 25 DECEMBER, 11 AM****Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services.**

This year, the Cathedral's Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services will be held online at stjohndivine.org and facebook.com/StJohnDivineNYC. On Christmas Eve, join us for a Service of Lessons and Carols, which will premiere on our website, Facebook page, and YouTube channel at 4 PM and will be viewable later in the evening across all of our online platforms. The Bishop of New York will preside, and the Dean of the Cathedral will offer a reflection.

Following the format of the Cathedral's usual Sunday and Feast Day services during the time of COVID, we celebrate a Service of the Word virtually at 11 AM on Christmas Day. The Dean of the Cathedral presides, and the Bishop of New York preaches.

CLERGY

The Right Reverend Andrew ML Dietsche, D.D.
Bishop of New York

The Right Reverend Allen K. Shin
Bishop Suffragan of New York

The Right Reverend Mary D Glasspool
Bishop Assistant of New York

The Right Reverend Clifton Daniel III, D.D.
Dean of the Cathedral

The Reverend Canon Patrick Malloy, Ph.D.
Sub-Dean and Canon for Liturgy and the Arts

The Reverend Canon Steven Lee, M.Div.
Canon Pastor and Vicar, Congregation of Saint Saviour

The Reverend Pamela Cooper-White, Ph.D., Assisting Priest
The Reverend Paul Anthony Daniels II, M.Div., Assisting Priest
The Reverend Deacon Kenton J. Curtis, M.S.W., Deacon

LITURGICAL STAFF

Kent Tritle, M.M., Director of Cathedral Music
Raymond Nagem, D.M.A., Associate Director of Music
Bryan L. Zaros, M.M., Associate Choirmaster
Peter Ennis, Chief Sacristan
Douglass Hunt, Organ Curator
Samuel Kuffuor-Afryie, B.M., Organ Scholar
Christina Kay, M.M., Music Administrator
Jie Yi, D.M.A., Music Administrator

CATHEDRAL PRODUCTIONS STAFF

Christian Mardones, Director, Cathedral Productions
Issac Lopez, Interim Production Coordinator & House Manager
Matthew Jacome, Interim Head Carpenter
Melissa Mizell, Lighting Designer
Kate Conover, Head Electrician
Kelly Wilson, Audio Tech

ONGOING PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES**THE CATHEDRAL REGATHERS**

Whether in person or on our website, there are many ways to join the Cathedral community and stay in touch. The Cathedral is now open 9:30 AM – 3 PM Mondays – Fridays and 9:30 AM – 5 PM Saturdays – Sundays. Admission for sightseeing is \$5. All those seeking individual prayer, reflection, meditation, or Columbarium visits will be welcomed without charge. Our online community resources and programs, including streaming worship services, messages from the Dean, virtual tours, music recitals, and children's activities, and contact information for Cathedral clergy, are just a few clicks away at stjohndivine.org.

**CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY CARES (CCC)
SUNDAY SOUP KITCHEN**

During this time, the CCC Soup Kitchen remains open each Sunday, serving bagged meals to those in need. For more information or to volunteer, contact Thomas Perry at tperry@stjohndivine.org. Your support and contributions are greatly appreciated as we continue to serve our most vulnerable community members.

THE CONGREGATION OF SAINT SAVIOUR

Chartered in 1992, the Congregation of Saint Saviour is a 400-member strong community of believers who support the Cathedral with our time, talent, and money. We serve as lay ministers, ushers, vergers, readers, acolytes, choir members, and outreach volunteers. Although the Cathedral remains closed to large gatherings, we have created a vibrant online community with opportunities for worship, Bible study, and fellowship. To learn more about 'the heart of the Cathedral,' visit www.saintsaviour.org, or reach out to our Canon Pastor, Steven Lee, at slee@stjohndivine.org.

IMMIGRATION AND SANCTUARY RESOURCES

The Cathedral is a house of worship for all, regardless of immigration status. If you, or members of your family, community or parish, need assistance navigating life as an immigrant of any legal status, we hope to connect you with the resources you need. For information on upcoming programs and more resources from the city and Diocese, visit stjohndivine.org.

SERMONS ARCHIVE NOW ONLINE

Visit the Cathedral's website to stream or download audio from past 11 AM Sunday Choral Eucharist sermons and listen on the go. Visit stjohndivine.org/spiritual/sermons-archive/ to listen and download.

**The Cathedral Church of
Saint John the Divine**

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