

GRACE CHURCH IN PROVIDENCE

The Mission of Grace Church is to build, by the grace of God, a loving and joyful community which lives the Gospel through worship, proclamation, and service to each other, to downtown Providence, and beyond.



THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST CHRISTMAS EVE

~ VOICES OF GRACE – VIRTUAL WORSHIP ~
DECEMBER 24, 2020

MUSIC BEFORE THE SERVICE

Cradle Song

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

MINUIT, CHRÉTIENS, c'est l'heure solennelle,
Où l'Homme Dieu descendit jusqu'à nous pour
effacer la tache originelle et de Son Père arrêter
le courroux.

Le monde entier tressaille d'espérance
En cette nuit qui lui donne un Sauveur.
Peuple à genoux, attends ta délivrance.
Noël, Noël, voici le Rédempteur!

*Midnight, Christians, is the solemn hour,
when God as man descended unto us to erase the stain of
original sin and to end the wrath of His Father.*

*The entire world thrills with hope
on this night that gives it a Saviour.
People, kneel down, await your deliverance. Christmas,
Christmas, here is the Redeemer!*

Words: Placide Cappeau (1808-1877)

Music: Adolphe Adam (1803-1956)

Nicholas Halar, Baritone



WHEN BLOSSOMS FLOWERED 'mid the snows Upon a winter night,
Was born the Child, the Christmas Rose, The King of Love and Light.
The angels sang, the shepherds sang, The grateful earth rejoiced;
And at His blessed birth the stars Their exultation voiced.
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Again the heart with rapture glows To greet the holy night,
That gave the world its Christmas Rose, Its King of Love and Light.
Let ev'ry voice acclaim His name, The grateful chorus swell.
From paradise to earth He came That we with Him might dwell.
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Words: 'Gesù Bambino', Italian Carol

Music: Pietro Yon (1886-1943)

Brad Kleyla, Tenor; Olivia Kleyla, French Horn



WELCOME, WELCOME, DEAR REDEEMER, welcome to this heart of mine;
Lord I make a full surrender, ev'ry pow'r and thought be thine;
Thine entirely, through eternal ages thine.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving spirit into ev'ry troubled breast!
Let us all in thee inherit, let us find thy promised rest.
Lord Almighty, let us find thy rest. Amen.

Words: William Mason (1725-1797)

Music: César Franck (1822-1890)

Please stand to sing

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN 83

Stanzas 1-3 & 6 only

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

Stanza 6 on the following page →

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
 born this happy morning;
 Jesus, to thee be glory given;

Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others
Music: Adeste fideles, present form of melody att. John Francis Wade (1711-1786); harm. The English Hymnal, 1906
Arranged: Sir David Willcocks (1919-2015)

THE ADVENT WREATH PRAYERS

Sung by the Choir

CHRISTMAS

*Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, King of Peace:
to you be praise and glory for ever!*

The new light of your incarnate word
gives gladness in our sorrow,
and a presence in our isolation.

Fill our lives with your light,
until they overflow with gladness and praise.
Jesus our Saviour and Kin of the ages.
Blessed be God for ever.

Words: from The Promise of His Glory, 1990
Music: Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Sung by the Choir

GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH, and on earth peace, good will towards all.
We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Setting: The Mass of the Quiet Hour, George Oldroyd (1886-1951)



THE COLLECT

The Rector

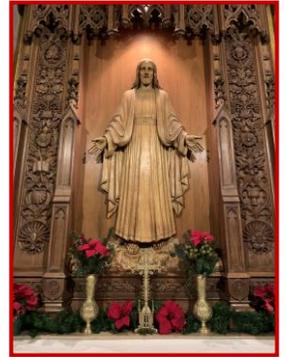
O GOD, YOU HAVE CAUSED THIS HOLY NIGHT to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

Read by Anaezi Modu, Vestry Member

THE PEOPLE WHO WALKED IN DARKNESS have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.



The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN, Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder.
And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Words: Isaiah 9:6

Music: from Messiah, Part the First, HWV 56, George Frederic Händel (1685-1759)

*Recorded live in December 2019 with the Choir & Choristers of Grace Church,
accompanied by the Providence Baroque Chamber Orchestra, and conducted by Sarah Hughes.*

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

Read by The Rev. Hartwell Hylton, Deacon

IN THOSE DAYS A DECREE WENT OUT FROM EMPEROR AUGUSTUS that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the

glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.



The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

VERBUM CARO FACTUM ES; habitavit in nobis.
 Notum fecit Dominus salutare suum.
 Prope in vocavit me Pater meus es tu.
 Alleluia.

*Word-made-flesh, thou art welcome; come to dwell among
 us. Thus hath God made known his salvation.
 Nearby he calleth me; Thou the Father, I thy Son.
 Alleluia.*

Words: John 1:14

Music: 15th c. English Carol, ed. Richard Proulx (1937-2010)

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Canon Jonathan Huyck, *Rector*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Led by Adrienne Southgate, Senior Warden

Please join in responding to each petition saying:

Hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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,
 forever and ever. Amen.**



HYMN 111

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
 at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
 heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
 birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885)
 Music: *Stille Nacht*, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910)

THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING

The Rector

MAY ALMIGHTY GOD, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

MAY GOD, WHO SENT HIS ANGELS to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

MAY GOD, WHO IN THE WORD MADE FLESH joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **Amen.**

AND THE BLESSING OF GOD ALMIGHTY, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**



The Wardens, Vestry, Clergy
and Staff of Grace Church
would like to wish you a
Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year!



GRACE CHURCH IN PROVIDENCE

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