ANTHEM: “People Look East”

People look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O'Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Francois Couperin

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

* THE GLORIA PATRI

GLORY be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun. Reignent Square

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Prayer

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barkley Browder

ANGEL’S ANNOUNCEMENT

People: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

People: What I can I give him: give him my heart.

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

People: Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hal, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

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THE BLESSING OF THE CRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
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The Worship of God

The Hanging of the Greens

ORTHAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

HENDRIK ANDRIESEN

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

FRANCOIS COUPERIN

CHORAL INTROIT

FRENCH MODELY, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

TAVENER, CRAIG, ELIZA CRAIG, AND GILLAM PARKER

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

ELIZABETH EDWARDS

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. People: Glory to God in the highest!

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

MARK PICHOWICZ

THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

LYNN SHAW BAILEY AND BECKI STAGLE MAYO

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray, Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

ISAIAH 60:1-6

BILL BULLUCK

PRAYER

CONELIA SINGLETARY

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

BARTLEY BROWER

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

STUART TODD

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” HYNDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

NANCY PORTER

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

GUSTAV HOLST/ARR. DONALD MOORE

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

HOPE REESE

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

MARK PICHOWICZ

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

BILL BULLUCK

BRENT WATKINS

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

CASEY MCAULIFFE

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

MATTHEW H. CORL

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

CASEY MCAULIFFE
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Bryan L. Hanson

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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
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BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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* Congregation stands.

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Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

*LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

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COME, MESSIAH, CME!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

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MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

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Gustav Holst/Jarr. Donald Moore

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

* PRAY FOR ALL THE WORLD

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE

Brent Watkins

ANTHEM: “Drumheller”

Brent Watkins

People, look east. It is time near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!
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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
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MEDITATION:  
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People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

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People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

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FRANCOIS COUPERIN

FRANS BERGMAN

CHORGEBUND DER STADT KÖLN

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

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People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

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People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENCY SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Ghost, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAVER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSIOIN OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

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Come and worship, come and worship

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bullock

PRAYER Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY Barkley Browder

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FORFERTORY PRAYER Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation Mark Pichowicz

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MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

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ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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Lakeside Baptist Church
1501 Sunset Avenue
Rocky Mount, North Carolina 27804
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**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

*The First Sunday of Advent*

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

Casey McAuliffe, drum

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

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Minister: How shall we prepare your hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

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Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

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**The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths**

Carlos Medley (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

*  PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Veni Emmanuel

*  LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

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**The Doxology**

Regent Square

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

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Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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November 29, 2015

**The Worship of God**

**The First Sunday of Advent**

Eleven O’Clock

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

**Organ Prelude:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

**Organ Meditation:** Tiers en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

**Choral Introit:** French Melody, 15th Century

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* **Processional Carol 119:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Veni Emmanuel

(Repetition will be sung when the organist begins playing.)

* **Lighting of Advent Wreath**

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**Litany of Preparation**

Elizabeth Edwards

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* **The Gloria Patri**

Regent Square

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**The Old Testament Lesson:** Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

**Prayer**

Cornelia Singletary

**The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy**

Barkey Browder

* **The Doxology**

The First Noel

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**The Blessing of the Creche**

Casey McAuliffe

**Anthem:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**The Blessing of the Christmas Tree**

Brent Watkins

**Anthem:** “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for felling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today. Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

**The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths**

Stuart Todd

**Carol Medley** (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

**Hyfrydol**

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

Mendelssohn

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**The Blessing of the Poinsettias**

Nancy Porter

**Anthem:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I we re a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

**Offertory Prayer**

Hope Reese

**Organ Offertory:** Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* **The Glory of God**

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

**The Blessing of the Creche**

Casey McAuliffe

**Anthem:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on “Freu dich sehr”  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the November 29, 2015

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

on the way. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. Rejoice!

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, glory be to God the Son, glory be to God the Spirit, ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAZER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greeneries and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moon, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give my heart. What I can give him: give my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL: 148  “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”
Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

People Look East
Hal H. Hopson
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such
birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God
in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out
our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All
praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
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Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by
shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins
of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES
Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church
are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.
Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bulluck

PRAYER
Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells
Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY
(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
ENDELSSOHN

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”
MENDELSJOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”
Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

* THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Come and worship, come and worship

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God the Father, Praise God the Son, Praise God the Holy Spirit. Ever three and ever one.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRIMSON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Choral Introit: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Veni Emmanuel

* Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* Litany of Preparation

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Glorification

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship. Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becky Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today.

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

Carol Medley (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

Hyfrydol

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

Antehm: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Francois Couperin

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

Offertory Prayer

Hope Reese

Organ Offertory: Improvisation

Mark Pichowitz

The First Noel

* The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

Antehm: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” 
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: 
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” 
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” 
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr 
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CHORAL INTROIT

Francois Couperin

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

Casey McAuliffe, drum

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Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

* CAROL MEDLEY

(Christmas carols and songs)

* THE GLORIA PATRI

* THE DOXOLOGY

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

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Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost for evermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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French Melody, 15th Century

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(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

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Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

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* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

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Isaiah 60:1-6

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Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSJOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

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THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
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Hendrik Andriessen

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Organ MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

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French Melody, 15th Century

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Cornelia Singletary

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ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”
Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bulluck

PRAYER
Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE
Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you, the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE
Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” by Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” by Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.

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Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

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People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr by Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able,
The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the

November 29, 2015

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world

through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI  REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us,

Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray,

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:  Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bulluck

PRAYER  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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The Worship of God

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

November 29, 2015
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Francois Couperin

(Veni Emmanuel)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

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THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” HFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” MENDLESOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part: what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

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Brent Watkins
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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”

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*The Hanging of the Greens*

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

**CHORAL INTROIT** French Melody, 15th Century

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**PRAYER**

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People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: "People Look East"  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

STARRY STRANGER, GUIDING LIGHT

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

BIRDIE, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the old sparrow, thistledown, has found a place to lay her eggs. People look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way.

ANGELS, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ELEVEN O’CLOCK

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiers en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  VENI EMMENTAL

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

LITANY OF PREPARATION  Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship, Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

ELIZABETH EDWARDS, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CASEY MCAULIFFE, drum
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

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Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

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Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

Choral Introit

French Melody, 15th Century

The First Noel

Choir

Casey McAuliffe, drum

The Blessing of the Gravestones

The Blessing of the Greenery

Stuart Todd

TEXT

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The Blessing of the Gravestones

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

Come, O Long-expected Jesus

Hymndol

125 (stanzas 1 & 2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

Moonlight Serenade

150 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

AMEN

“The Place to keep your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barclay Browder
ANTHEM: "O Come, Redeemer of the Earth"  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
"O Come, All Ye Faithful"  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noël, Noël, Noël, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrism Tree

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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* RECESSIO NAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADEST E FIDELES
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015
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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

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VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

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Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
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Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

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REGENT SQUARE

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bullock

PRAayer

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

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Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”
Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God in the highest.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the starry stranger, guiding light, on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today. Love the bird is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Casey McAuliffe, drum

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gailam Parker

The blessing of the greeneries and wreaths

Casey McAuliffe

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King? People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ? People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior? People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God? People: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship. Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promise One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISSON TREE

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYNDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Prayer Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

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People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God
Starly Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary

handbells

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedhar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

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* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo


Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart.

What I can I give him: give him my heart.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the bird is on the way.

Hymnday’s announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

Hyrdyld

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

Mendelssohn

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host.

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Glory be to God in the highest!

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE

Brent Watkins
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MEDITATION:  “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

People:  As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister:  We believe in God.

People:  Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister:  And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People:  Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister:  Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People:  Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister:  We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People:  Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister:  We believe in the church.

People:  The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister:  We believe in the Word of Life.

People:  Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister:  We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People:  That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

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People:  Offering life everlasting!

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People:  Hallelujah!

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE:  Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

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WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

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* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

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REGENCY SQUARE

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

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MEDITATION:  
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The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.


Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth ... peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. Rejoice!

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I we re a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

Glory be to God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE
Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. Rejoice!

* THE GLORIA PATRI REGENT SQUARE

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noël, Noël, Noël, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE
Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

Children of God, look east. One more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. Rejoice!

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* THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISSOM TREE BRENT WATKINS

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. Rejoice!

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* THE DOXOLOGY
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

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People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

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Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, the Worship of God
Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells Casey McAuliffe, drum

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH
ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Moxx for the Parishes Francois Couperin
CHORAL INTROIT French Melody, 15th Century

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” * LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITANY OF PREPARATION Elizabeth Edwards
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King? People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ? People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior? People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God? People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI REGENT SQUARE
Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER
CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo
O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAYER Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, the worship of God and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

THE HANGING OF THE GREENS

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl
A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRIMSON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

CONFESSIO N OF FAITH

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

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Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.

Lakeside Baptist Church
1501 Sunset Avenue
Rocky Mount, North Carolina 27804
ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

The First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2015  Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Messe for the Parishes  Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION  Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI  Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.
Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bulluck

PRAKER  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

The birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flegding time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CASEY MCAULIFFE, DRUM

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greeneries and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  Away in a Manger

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  Hyfrydol

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  Mendelssohn

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS  Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER  Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation  Mark Pichowicz

THEFIRSTNOEL

* THE GLORIA PATRI  Reynolds Square

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

* THE DOXOLOGY  The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE  Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE  Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed: O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

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ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
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* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHANT MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

**ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

OFFERTORY PRAYER Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY The First Noel

PRAYER

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAVER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopkins

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” MENDELSJOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

Nancy Porter

**ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl**

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAVER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopkins

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

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150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

Nancy Porter

**ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore**

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above and bless your Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISM TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

CONFESSON OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.

Lakeside Baptist Church  
1501 Sunset Avenue  
Rocky Mount, North Carolina 27804
The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

VENI IEMMANUEL

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

147 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFYDOL

Starr Todd

125 (stanzas 1 & 2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!”

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

PRAYER

Bill Bulluck

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flegdlig time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

THE GLORIA PATRI

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

Emanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

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CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

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125 (stanzas 1 & 2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Eleven O’Clock

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

**CHORAL INTROIT**

French Melody, 15th Century

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd

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**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

Nancy Porter

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

Casey McAuliffe

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**THE OBSEQUIUM AND LORD’S PRAYER**

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

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**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:**

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

Barkey Browder

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**THE GLORIA PATRI**

Regent Square

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**THE DOXOLOGY**

The First Noel

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

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**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

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**ANTHEM:** “People look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

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**CAROL MEDLEY**

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

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**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

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**ANTHEM:** “Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepening joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

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**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepening joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

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**ANTHEM:** “The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree”

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

Minister: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

Minister: We believe in the church.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

Minister: Messiah! Messiah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015  
Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  
**Hendrik Andriessen**

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  
**Francois Couperin**

CHORAL INTROIT  
**French Melody, 15th Century**

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* **PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”**

**VENI EMMANUEL**

(*The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.*)

* **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and G illam Parker

* **LITANY OF PREPARATION**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* **THE GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. 
*Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

**REGENT SQUARE**

* **THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  
**Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo**

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  
**Bill Bulluck**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

The old, the new, the ever green. Prepare to welcome the God of all ages. 

**Barkey Browder**

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  
**Hal H. Hopson**

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able,

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd

**CAROL MEDLEY** (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  
**AWAY IN A MANGER**

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  
**HYFYDOL**

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  
**MENDELSSOHN**

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  
**Gustav Holst/Jarr. Donald Moore**

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation**

**Mark Pichowicz**

**THE DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  
**Matthew H. Corl**

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE**

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
**The Worship of God**  
**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015  

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
Eleven O'Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT  
French Melody, 15th Century

**ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”**  
Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

**People:** With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

**People:** With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

**People:** With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

**Minister:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

**People:** By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

**Minister:** For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

**People:** With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

**People:** With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

**People:** With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

**Minister:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

**People:** How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

**People:** By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

**Minister:** For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

**People:** Glory to God in the highest!

**THE GLORIA PATRI**  
REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.  
Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

**THE INOCVATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

**O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!”**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:**  
Isaiah 60:1-6  
Bill Bulluck

**PRAYER**  
Cornelia Singletary

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**  
Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is Stary Stranger, Guiding Light on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CASEY MCAULIFFE, DRUM

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**  
Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  
AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  
HYFYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  
MENDELSSOHN

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**  
Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  
Gustav Holst/Jarr. Donald Moore

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**OFFERTORY PRAYER**  
Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation  
Mark Pichowicz

**THE DOXOLOGY**  
THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**  
Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming; the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRISMION TREE**  
Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  Brian L. Hanson
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

CONFESSIO OF FAITH
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Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES

Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYNDYIEN

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSON

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

PORTER

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Noël, Noël, Noël, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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Jody Wright

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Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. 
Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Messe pour les Paroles

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

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Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

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* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

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ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, your deep life in joy; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(From the organ)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


**THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

**PRAYER**

Cornelia Singletary

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today: Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

**CAROL MEDLEY**

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFORDYD

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

**THE DOXOLOGY**

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

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Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; a place to keep you son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOM TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

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People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE:  
“Freu dich sehr”  
Mark Pichowicz

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The Worship of God

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

The Worship of God

Choral Introit: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  Francois Couperin

The Hanging of the Greens

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

The Worship of God

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

People: Come and worship, come and worship


The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


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The Worship of God

The Hanging of the Greens

Rev. Hal H. Hopson

November 29, 2015

Eleven O’Clock

The First Sunday of Advent

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barclay Browder

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

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The Worship of God

The Hanging of the Greens

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The Worship of God

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The Worship of God

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The Worship of God
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Brian L. Hanson

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Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSINAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE:  
“Freu dich sehr”  
Mark Pichowicz

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent
Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

The First Sunday of Advent

The First Sunday of Advent

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
Veni Emmanuel

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gailam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION
Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

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Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
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Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI
Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.
Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bullock

PRAYER
Connelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

People look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS
Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)
147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
Veni Emmanuel

AWAY IN A MANGER

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MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS
Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”
Gustav Holst

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shephced, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY
Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE
Casey McAuliffe

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Matthew H. Corl

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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

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The Worship of God

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People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. People: Glory to God in the highest!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAYER Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” HYFRYDOL
125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” MENDELSSOHN
150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/Jrr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; ‘we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

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People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.
The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH
ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
CHORAL INTROIT: French Melody, 15th Century

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
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Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

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* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

PRAYER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
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THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give me my heart. What I can I give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRELCE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
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People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015  
Eleven O’Clock

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT  
French Melody, 15th Century

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
VENI EMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

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REGENT SQUARE

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CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  
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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  
Bill Bulluck

PRAVER  
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* THE DOXOLOGY

Regent Square

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THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE  
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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”

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Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

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Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISM TREE

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

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Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

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A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISM TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

November 29, 2015
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Eleven O'Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiers en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel; and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
VENI EMMANUEL
(THE CONGREGATION WILL RISE WHEN THE ORGANIST BEGINS PLAYING.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION
Elizabeth Edwards
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI
REGENT SQUARE
Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit. Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.
Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bulluck

PRAYER
Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flegding time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells
Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS
Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
HYFYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS
Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”
Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I we re a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give my heart. What I can I give him: give my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY
THE FIRST NOEL
Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE
Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son.

We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE
Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: "O Come, Redeemer of the Earth"  
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O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1: 1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
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People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth...peace.

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Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

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People: Offering life everlasting!

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

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VENI EMANUEL

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* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

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REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

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THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

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(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

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* THE GLORIA PATRI

* THE DOXOLOGY

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

* THE DOXOLOGY

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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

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BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN
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ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

VENI, EMANUEL

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

FRENCH MELODY, 15TH CENTURY

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

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Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

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Isaiah 60:1-6

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THE BLESSING OF THE CRISMOS TREE

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

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ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

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THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

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THE MEDITATION:  
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People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freude dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ELEVEN O'CLOCK

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiersce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgeing time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” Away In a MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” Mendelssohn

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/a rr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give my heart. What I can I give him: give my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

The First Noel

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believethe in him should not perish but have everlasting life.” Amen.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgeing time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” Away In a MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” Mendelssohn

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/a rr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give my heart. What I can I give him: give my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

The First Noel

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believethe in him should not perish but have everlasting life.” Amen.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.
Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, the worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin

ORGAN MEDITATION: French Melody, 15th Century

The service will begin with the blessing of the greeneries and wreaths. Everyone is invited to join in the singing.

The Hanging of the Greens

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS Stuart Todd

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS Nancy Porter

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holy and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

*THE GLORIA PATRI REGENCY SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship. Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAZER: Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE Brent Watkins

Hal H. Hopson

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE

Brent Watkins

The Hanging of the Greens

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevemore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT

François Couperin

15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gailam Parker

LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

COME, MESSIAH, COME!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

C. Pichowicz

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

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Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God. Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

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COME AND WORSHIP, COME AND WORSHIP


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

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Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hark as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above by heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
The Christmons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“A O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

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**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELS SoHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

THE FIRST NOEL

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WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

Choral Introit

French Melody, 15th Century

Anth. “In the Bleak Midwinter”

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Regent Square

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The OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barclay Browder

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The Worship of God

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The Hanging of the Greens

People, look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

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The Hanging of the Greens

Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. Oh what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”        Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”       Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”       ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr       Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Stars Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
November 29

ELEVEN O’CLOCK

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

Antique, Guiding Light

ON THE Way

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.

People look east and sing today:

Love the bird is on the way.

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

CHORAL INTROIT

Old French Melody, 15th Century

147 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Away in a Manger”

A Holiday

Casey McAuliffe, drum

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

The First Noel

Glory to God in the highest!

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East!”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flegling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Away in a Manger”

A Holiday

Casey McAuliffe, drum

125 (stanzas 1 & 2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

Hyfrydol

150 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn

* THE GLORIA PATRI

R

THE DOXOLOGY

T
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

French Melody, 15th Century

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

Barkey Browder

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFRYDDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSJOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bultuck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLME OF ISRAEL

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bultuck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISSOME
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

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Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiers en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION
Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.
Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bullock

PRAYER
Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

ORGAN MEDITATION: Stacey, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bullock

PRAYER
Cornelia Singletary

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells
Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS
Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
HYFRYDL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”
MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS
Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”
Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below, Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE
Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE
Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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Immanuel: God with us.

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People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us,

Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray,

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

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People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today. Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above the heavens, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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Hendrik Andriessen

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**  
Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  
François Couperin

**CHORAL INTROIT**  
French Melody, 15th Century

**ANTE TABLE RITUAL**  
French Melody, 15th Century

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
Veni Emmanuel

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**  
Elizabeth Edwards

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**  
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**CAROL MEDLEY**  
(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

- 147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  
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In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart. People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God. Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. People: Glory to God in the highest!

### The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”  
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6  
Bill Bulluck

**PRAYER**  
Cornelia Singletary

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**  
Barclay Browder

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE**  
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People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

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Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

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ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

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* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

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O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

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PRAYER

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Benediction and Choral Amen

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VENI EMANUEL

(Congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

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Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

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Elizabeth Edwards

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Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

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THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deeper joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  

ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  

Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WENDRIK ANDRISSEN

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

FRANCOIS COUPERIN

CHORAL INTROIT:
French Melody, 15th Century

OR  come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMmanuel

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL

(Organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

TAVENER, CRAIG, ELIZA CRAIG, AND GILLAM PARKER

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister:

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People:

With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister:

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People:

With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister:

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People:

With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister:

How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People:

By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister:

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People:

Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

LYNN SHAW BAILEY AND BECKI SLAGL MAYO

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

BILL BULLOCK

PRAYER

CONERLIA SINGLETARY

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

BARKLEY BROWDER

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

HAL H. HOPSON

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CASEY MCAULIFFE, DRUM

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WRATHS

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFYRDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

NANCY PORTER

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

GUSTAV HOLST/ARR. DONALD MOORE

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I we re a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

HOPE REESE

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

MARC PHICOWICZ

* THE DOXOLOGY

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW. PRAISE GOD ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW.

PRAISE GOD ABOVE YE HEAVENLY HOST. PRAISE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY GHOST.

NOEL, NOEL, NOEL, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

CASEY MCAULIFFE

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

MATTHEW H. CORL

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

BRENT WATKINS
Advent
at
Lakeside

ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”

Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the Earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”

Jody Wright

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We believe in the Word of Life.

Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

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Offering life everlasting!

Bursting forth with hope!

Hallelujah!

Let us offer our lives to God.

In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

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Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

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French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* **PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”**

VENI EMMANUEL

(Repetition will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**

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REGENT SQUARE

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**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

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Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

Mark Michowicz

**THE DOXOLOGY**

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Corinella Singletary, handbells
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Pray God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

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ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.
ANTHEM: "O Come, Redeemer of the Earth"  
Brian L. Hanson

O, come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: "Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope"  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega. Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth...peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSINAL CAROL 148: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Choral Introit: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God. Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

** REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

PRAYER: Isaiah 60:1-6

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: Here is the living Bread: give it to me. Here is the living Water: give it to me.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE DOXOLOGY

** THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISM TREE

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fleglding time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” HYFYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” MENDELSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

THE GLORIA PATRI R

THE DOXOLOGY T

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISM TREE

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fleglding time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” HYFYDOL

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Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

THE GLORIA PATRI R

THE DOXOLOGY T
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”       Brian L. Hanson
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:       Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION:       “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”       Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts. Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:    “O Come, All Ye Faithful”       ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Veni Emmanuel (The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.
Come and worship, come and worship

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

The OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

Barkley Browder

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” A WAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” HYFYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” Mendelssohn

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/Fr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation Mark Pichowicz

THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noël, Noël, Noël, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

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The Blessing of the Chrsim Tree

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: "O Come, Redeemer of the Earth"  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: "Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope"  
Jody Wright

CONFESSIOI OF FAITH
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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
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Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the first O’clock hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH  ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

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(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

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LITANY OF PREPARATION  Elizabeth Edwards

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Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
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Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
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CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:  Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bullock

PRAYER  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

OFFERTORY PRAYER  Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY  THE FIRST NOEL

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE  Brent Watkins
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Brian L. Hanson

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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
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People: 
Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: 
Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: 
Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: 
Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: 
The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: 
Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: 
That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: 
Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: 
Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: 
In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015  
**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  
**HENDRIK ANDRIESSEN**

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**CHORAL INTROIT**  
_Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes_  
_François Couperin_  
**15th Century**

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* **PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
**VENI EMMANUEL**  
**The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.**

* **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**  
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.  
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.  
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.  
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.  
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* **THE GLORIA PATRI**  
**REGENT SQUARE**  
Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.  
Come and worship, come and worship  

* **THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”  
_Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo_  
O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6  
_Bill Bulluck_  
**PRAYER**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**  
_Barkley Browder_

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”  
_Hal H. Hopson_  
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

**The Worship of God**

**Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish.**  
**People look east and sing today:** Love the rose is on the way.

**The Worship of God**

**Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled.**  
**Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen.**  
**People, look east and sing today:** Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells  
_Casey McAuliffe, drum_  

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**  
_Stuart Todd_

**CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)**

*  **PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
**VENI EMMANUEL**  
**147 (stanzas 1&3):** “Away in a Manger”  
**AWAY IN A MANGER**

*  **125 (stanzas 1&2):** “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  
**HYFRYDOL**

*  **150 (stanzas 1&3):** “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  
**MENDELSJOHN**

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**  
_Nancy Porter_

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”  
_Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore_  
In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**  
_Hope Reese_

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation  
_Mark Pichowicz_  
**THE FIRST NOEL**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.**

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**  
_Casey McAuliffe_

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”  
_Matthew H. Corl_  
A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepened joy in you, the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s Son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE**  
_Brent Watkins_
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  VENI EMMANUEL

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION  Elizabeth Edwards

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* THE GLORIA PATRI  REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

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CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bullock

PRAYER  Corinela Singletary

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We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.”

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRIMSON TREE  Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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Mark Pichowicz

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today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life
to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and
sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please
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the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light
November 29, 2015
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

The Hanging of the Greens

November 29, 2015

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Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

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Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

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Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

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November 29, 2015

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The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

Choral Introit

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* Procesional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Taverner, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* Litany of Preparation

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Gloria Patri

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barclay Browder

Anthem: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the need to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

Carol Medley (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

Anthem: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

Offertory Prayer

Hope Reese

Organ Offertory: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

The Doxology

Everyone

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

Anthem: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrism Tree

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  

Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  

Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  

“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  

Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega. Light of Light, Prince of Peace. King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Immanuel: God with us.

People: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  

“Adeste Fideles”  

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on “Freu dich sehr”  

Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

**November 29, 2015**

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**Hendrik Andriessen**

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

**François Couperin**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

French Melody, 15th Century

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**

**Elizabeth Edwards**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

**People:** With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

**People:** With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

**People:** With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

**People:** By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

**People:** Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

**REGENCY SQUARE**

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

**THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”

**Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo**

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**Bill Bulluck**

**PRAYER**

**Cornelia Singletary**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**Barclay Browder**

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”

**Hal H. Hopson**

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today.

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

**Stuart Todd**

**CAROL MEDLEY** (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

**AWAY IN A MANGER**

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

**HYFYDOL**

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**MENDELSSOHN**

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

**Nancy Porter**

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”

**Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore**

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**Hope Reese**

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

**Mark Pichowicz**

**THE DOXOLOGY**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:**

**Bill Bulluck**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.**

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

**Casey McAuliffe**

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”

**Matthew H. Corl**

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE**

**Brent Watkins**
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel: God with us.

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Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL:  
148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**WORLDs OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

VENI EMMANUEL

**CHORAL INTROIT**

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**THEORY OF PREPARATION**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

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Barkley Browder

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

**THE BLESSING OF THE BIBLES AND WRAPHES**

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

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Nancy Porter

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Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY**

Improvisation

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

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CASEY MAcAULIFFE

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.

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People: Offering life everlasting!

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People: Hallelujah!

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People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the Eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare your hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Regent Square

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CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

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Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

117 (stanzas 1&2): “Go, Tell it on the Mountain”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Veneti Emmanuel

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THE DOXOLOGY

The First Noel

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The Blessing of the Creche

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A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s Son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

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BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

*PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Corinella Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today: Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Corinella Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

A. HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

H. MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

M. CASEY McCAULIFFE

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* THE GLORIA PATRI

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

* THE GLORIA PATRI

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”
Brian L. Hanson
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSIO OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN
* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz
* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.
Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 29, 2015

Eleven O’Clock

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Glory to God in the highest!

THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
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O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

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People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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The Worship of God
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November 29, 2015

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

A. GREAT

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSJOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(to remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

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Nancy Porter

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THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; What can I give him: give him my heart. What can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deep and quiet joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

CHORAL INTROIT

Francois Couperin

15th Century

The Hanging of the Greens

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

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Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

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PRAYER

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Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

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THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

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CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

ENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/J.J. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

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ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

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THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above all principality and power. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTÉ FIDELES
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz
* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.
Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, threath and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today: Rejoice!

THE HANGING OF THE GREENS

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore
In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl
O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bullock

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY Barkley Browder

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISSOM TREE Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow'r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev'ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE Casey McAuliffe

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In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFERTORY PRAYER Hope Reese

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAYER Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY Barkley Browder

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People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&2): “Away in a Manger” A WAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” MENDINGSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

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A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deeper joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE Brent Watkins
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O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


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People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

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ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

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Brent Watkins
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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
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* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN  
* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  

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The Hanging of the Greens 

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel 
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT 
French Melody, 15th Century

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* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” 
VENI EMmanuel

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION 
Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI 
REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, 
Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship 

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” 
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 
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PRAYER 
Cornelia Singletary

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Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS 
Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” 
A WAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
HYFryDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”
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THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS 
Nancy Porter

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Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

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OFFERTORY PRAYER 
Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation 
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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE 
Brent Watkins
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People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES
Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiere en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

*LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holy and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAVER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

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ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst

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* THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&2): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give me my heart. What I can I give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the Earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

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“A Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

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People: GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST!

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REGENT SQUARE

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CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

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The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

STARRY STRANGER, GUIDING LIGHT

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

PERSONS, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” HYFRYDO

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

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In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what can I give him: give me my heart. What I can give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

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ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

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THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

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Brent Watkins
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O come, Redeemer of the Earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE
Brent Watkins

**CAROL MEDLEY**

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

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People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

CHORAL INTROIT: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMEMANUEL

(Venice will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Corinella Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flegling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Corinella Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/J. Howard Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

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Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

Francois Couperin

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

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(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

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Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

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Stuart Todd

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Nancy Porter

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Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
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WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

ORGAN INTROIT: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT: French Melody, 15th Century

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

ODE TO PREPARATION

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

The Blessing of the Greeneries

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

The Blessing of the Advent Wreath

The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree

The Carol Medley

Carols 1 and 3: Away in a Manger

Carols 1 and 2: Come, O Long-expected Jesus

Carols 1 and 3: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Ghost. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flegding time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

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O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:   Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

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People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz
* Congregation stands.

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November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENCY SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit. Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed Starry Stranger, Guiding Light on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CASEY MCAULIFFE, DRUM

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFRYDL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

NANCY PORTER

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give me my heart. What I can I give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Nuél, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepening joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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The Hanging of the Greens

ANTHEM:  "People Look East" Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

The Worship of God

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

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O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
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People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiers en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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Veni Emmanuel

(Their congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedars, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

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Gustav Holst/J. Donald Moore

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HOPE REESE

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

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Benediction and Choral Amen

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

**CHORAL INTROIT**

\[ \text{O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.} \]

* **PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

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**Minister:** How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

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**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”

**PRAAYER**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

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**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”

**PRAAYER**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. 

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

**CHORAL INTROIT**

\[ \text{O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.} \]

* **PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

* **LITANY OF PREPARATION**

**Minister:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

**People:** With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

**Minister:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

**People:** With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

**Minister:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

**People:** With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

**Minister:** How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

**People:** By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

**Minister:** For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

**People:** Glory to God in the highest!

* **THE GLORIA PATRI**

**REGENT SQUARE**

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship. Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* **THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”

**PRAAYER**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

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**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” by Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” by Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” by ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr by Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015  Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION  Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI  REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bulluck

PRAYER  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells
Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS  Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  Gustav Holst/Irrall. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER  Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation  Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY  THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above all angels, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE  Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE  Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevmore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. 
Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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**November 29, 2015**

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Eleven O’Clock

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:**

Venii, Venii, Emmanuel

**HENDRIK ANDRIESEN**

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

**FRANCOIS COUPERIN**

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

**PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119:**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

**VENI EMMANUEL**

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**

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Come and worship, come and worship


**REGENT SQUARE**

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CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

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**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:**

Isaiah 60:1-6

**BILL BULLOCK**

**PRAYER**

Cornelia Singletary

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

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Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Carey McAuliffe, drum

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREETING AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd

**CAROL MEDLEY**

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

Christmas Carol

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSJOHN

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

Nancy Porter

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part: what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:**

Improvisation

**MARK PICHOWICZ**

**THE DOXOLOGY**

* **THE GLORIA PATRI**

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Brent Watkins

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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
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ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CHORAL INTROIT

François Couperin

15th Century

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Casey McAuliffe, drum

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

H YFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

M ENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CHANSON DE NOËL

We will not remain in darkness but will bring forth a star which has shone on the heavens. We will not remain in confusion but will bring forth the peace of God, the Prince of Peace, our King. We will not remain in hopelessness. We will bring back life, salvation, the good news of God!

CHOIR

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

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People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

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REGENT SQUARE

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

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Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

The Blessing of God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepening joy in you; in the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

**November 29, 2015**

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Eleven O'Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

**CHORAL INTROIT**

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


**THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

**PRAYER**

Cornelia Singletary

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

Barkey Browder

**AntHem:** “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd

**CAROL MEDLEY**

(please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/jarr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

**THE DOXOLOGY**

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE**

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whom all advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.


Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic host.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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Lakeside Baptist Church  
1501 Sunset Avenue  
Rocky Mount, North Carolina 27804

Advent at Lakeside
**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT** Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH  
ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  
CHORAL INTROIT: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

**The Worship of God**

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/a rr. Donald Moore

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

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Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

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Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,  
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Come and worship, come and worship  

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CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

The Old Testament is the Word of God which teaches us the Law and shows us the way of salvation in Christ. On this, the First Sunday of Advent, we meditate on the words of Isaiah 60:1-6. The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

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**The Worship of God**

**CAROL MEDLEY**

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: "In the Bleak Midwinter"  
Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give me my heart. What I can give him: give me my heart.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation  
Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

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Casey McAuliffe

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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
ADESTE FIDELES

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE:  
Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
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The Worship of God

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tiers en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Choral Introit: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* Lighting of the Advent Wreath

* Litanies of Preparation

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

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Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

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Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Gloria Patri

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, glory be to God the Son, glory be to God the Spirit, ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship.


The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becky Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barkey Browder

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

Carol Medley (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1 & 2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

Anthem: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Doxology

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above all earthly power, O Christ, the King of Heaven, whose kingdom has no end.

The Blessing of the Creche

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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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Jody Wright

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People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(Elizabeth Edwards)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gailam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth, Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

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(THE CONGREGATION WILL RISE WHEN THE ORGANIST BEGINS PLAYING.)

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ANTHEM: “People Look East”

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People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

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Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDLSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Jarr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

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Luke 1:1-80

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People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*  PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

*  LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*  LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

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O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevmorem. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.  
The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past,  
the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People:  
As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister:  
We believe in God.

People:  
Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister:  
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People:  
Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel: God with us.

Minister:  
Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People:  
Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister:  
We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People:  
Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister:  
We believe in the church.

People:  
The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister:  
We believe in the Word of Life.

People:  
Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister:  
We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People:  
That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister:  
We believe in the resurrection.

People:  
Offering life everlasting!

Minister:  
Bursting forth with hope!

People:  
Hallelujah!

Minister:  
Let us offer our lives to God.

People:  
In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
Mark Pichowicz

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE:  
Fantasia on “Freu dich sehr”  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

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THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS Stuart Todd

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
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Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

THE GLORIA PATRI REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAYER Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY Barkley Bowder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth be bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevemore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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Lakeside Baptist Church
1501 Sunset Avenue
Rocky Mount, North Carolina 27804
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Messe for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAayer

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

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Hal H. Hopson

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

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THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

THE DOXOLOGY

The First Noel

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THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

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Matthew H. Corl

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”        Brian L. Hanson

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THE GOSPEL LESSON:   Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION:   “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

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People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!
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People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:   “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE:  Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz

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Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow'r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the starry stranger, guiding light, on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People, look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

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O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

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Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

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November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT:Tierce en Taille from Masse for the Parishes Francois Couperin

15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Taverner, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

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* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greeneries and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give me my heart. What I can I give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRISMO TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
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O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
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Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the first bird is on the way. People look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

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Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

FAITHFUL SHEPHERDS, Guiding Light

People: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

Minister: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

People: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

Minister: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

People: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

Minister: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAVER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

(Veni Emmanuel)

(Proclamation of the Archangel’s Annunciation)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Here is the King of Glory, Holy, Holy, Holy.

People: Holy be God the Father, Holy be God the Son, Holy be God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Glory to God in the highest!

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

THE DOXOLOGY

The First Noel

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepening joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son.

We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”        Brian L. Hanson
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION:        “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”        Jody Wright

CONFESSIO N OF FAITH
Minister:  Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
People:  As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister:  We believe in God.
People:  Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister:  And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People:  Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. 
Immanuel:  God with us.
Minister:  Jesus!  Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger.  Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People:  Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister:  We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People:  Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister:  We believe in the church.
People:  The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister:  We believe in the Word of Life.
People:  Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister:  We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People:  That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister:  We believe in the resurrection.
People:  Offering life everlasting!
Minister:  Bursting forth with hope!
People:  Hallelujah!
Minister:  Let us offer our lives to God.
People:  In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God.  Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:        “O Come, All Ye Faithful”        ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE:  Fantasia on Freu dich sehr        Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

ENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

*  PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

*  LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISTMINE TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.


Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSINAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

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ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able,

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed
to nourish, that in course the flow'r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the
hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today:

November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please
refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following
the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son
of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world
through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.
Come and worship, come and worship

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us,

Bill Bulluck

Lynparm. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

PRAYER

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Corinela Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able,

The Worship of God

trim, the heart and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

FORBES be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed
to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the
hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today:

November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’Clock

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People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world
through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

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Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.
Come and worship, come and worship

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us,

Lynparm. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

PRAYER

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Corinela Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able,
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevemore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  

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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

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People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ? People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection. Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God? People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

* THE GLORIA PATRI  REGENCY SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bullock

PRAYER  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

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THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  AWA Y IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  MENDELSSOHN

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had blizz, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER  Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation  Mark Pichowi cz

* THE DOXOLOGY  THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl

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ANTHEM: “The Blessing of the Chrism Tree”  Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

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People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**CHORAL INTROIT** French Melody, 15th Century

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

*** PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”**

**VENI EMMANUEL**

**THE CONGREGATION will rise when the organist begins playing.**

*** LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

**Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker**

**MINISTER:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

**PEOPLE:** With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

**MINISTER:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

**PEOPLE:** By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

**MINISTER:** How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

**PEOPLE:** By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

**MINISTER:** For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

**PEOPLE:** Glory to God in the highest!

**THE GLORIA PATRI**

**REGENT SQUARE**

**Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.**

**Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.**

**THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

**O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!”

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

**PRAYER**

**CORNELIA SINGLETARY**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**Barkley Browder**

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells Casey McAuliffe, drum

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

**CAROL MEDLEY** (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&2): “Away in a Manger”

**AWAY IN A MANGER**

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

**HYFRYDOL**

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**MENDELSSOHN**

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

**Nancy Porter**

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”

**GUSTAV HOLST/Arr. Donald Moore**

**In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago.**

**Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**Hope Reese**

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

**MARK PIWOCKICH**

**THE DOXOLOGY**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

**ISAAC BURLINGTON BURTON**

**PRAYER**

**CORNELIA SINGLETARY**

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

**CASEY MCAULIFFE**

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”

**MATTHEW H. CORL**

**A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expect the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your Son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your Son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.**

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE**

**BRENT WATKINS**
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Eleven O'Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

**CHORAL INTROIT**

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

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Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

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THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for you shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION:  “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

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Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
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People: Hallelujah!
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BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

The First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2015

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The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

The Blessing of the Greeneries and Wreaths

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

* Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Hendrik Andriessen

* Lighting of the Advent Wreath

* Litany of Preparation

* The Gloria Patri

* The Doxology

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

The Blessing of the Creche

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People: look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fidgeting time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

* Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

* Carol Medley

* Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

* Organ Offertory: Improvisation

* The Doxology

* The Blessing of the Christmas Tree

OFFERTORY PRAYER

* The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

* The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

* The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

* The Blessing of the Creche

* The Blessing of the Christmas Tree
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

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People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Taverner, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

*LITANY OF PREPARATION
Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
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Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI
REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.
Come and worship, come and worship

* THE INVOCATION AND L ORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bullock

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Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells
Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS
Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
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125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
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THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS
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OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY
THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE
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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE
Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Gloria to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  

ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  

Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O'Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Taverner, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Forrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flegling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFrydol

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MenDelssoHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give my heart. What I can I give him: give my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

THE DOXOLOGY

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deeper joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Justine L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevmore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

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Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

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People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

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ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

CHORAL INTROIT: Veni Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gailm Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: By branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God. Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

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REGENT SQUARE

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Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


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CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSJOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moon, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deeper heart in joy; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

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Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

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People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

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Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!

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People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
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PRAYER
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OFFERTORY PRAYER
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* THE DOXOLOGY
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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISM TREE
Brent Watkins
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BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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Hendrik Andriessen

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ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

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French Melody, 15th Century

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VENI EMMANUEL

(THE CONGREGATION WILL RISE WHEN THE ORGANIST BEGINS PLAYING.)

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

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People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledging time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noël, Noël, Noël, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your son dear.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

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Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AYAW IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DEACON’S PRAYER

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noël, Noël, Noël, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”    Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

MINISTER: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

PEOPLE: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

MINISTER: We believe in God.

PEOPLE: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

MINISTER: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

PEOPLE: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

MINISTER: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

PEOPLE: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

MINISTER: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

MINISTER: We believe in the church.

PEOPLE: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

MINISTER: We believe in the Word of Life.

PEOPLE: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

MINISTER: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

PEOPLE: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

MINISTER: We believe in the resurrection.

PEOPLE: Offering life everlasting!

MINISTER: Bursting forth with hope!

PEOPLE: Hallelujah!

MINISTER: Let us offer our lives to God.

PEOPLE: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”    ADESTE FIDELES

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr    Mark Pichowicz

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Eleven O'Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

**ORCHESTRAL MUSIC:**

Francois Couperin

**147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”**

A Handel

**150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”**

Mendelssohn

**WORSHIP PRAYER**

Elizabeth Edwards

**PRAISE**

Casey McAuliffe, drum

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd

**CAROL MEDLEY**

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

**119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”**

Veni Emmanuel

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

**THE GLORIA PATRI**

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


**THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:**

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nithr Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

**THE DOXOLOGY**

Mark Pichowicz

**THE FIRST NOEL**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepened joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE**

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSON OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

**The First Sunday of Advent**

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENCY SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O, Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

COME, MESSIAH, COME!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAKER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The worship of God

to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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DVENT

Eleven O’Clock

Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

* THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Jarr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAKER

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THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

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The worship of God

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Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
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People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierece en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT
The worship of God

TO NOURISH, THAT IN COURSE THE FLOW’R MAY FLORISH.

People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

The Worship of God

The Opening of the Greens

People, look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

The Hanging of the Greens

Eleven O’Clock

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CHORAL INTROIT
The worship of God
ANTHEM: "O Come, Redeemer of the Earth"  Brian L. Hanson

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MEDITATION:  "Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope"  Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister:  Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

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People:  As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

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People:  Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister:  And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People:  Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel:  God with us.

Minister:  Jesus!  Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger.  Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People:  Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister:  We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People:  Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister:  We believe in the church.

People:  The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister:  We believe in the Word of Life.

People:  Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister:  We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People:  That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister:  We believe in the resurrection.

People:  Offering life everlasting!

Minister:  Bursting forth with hope!

People:  Hallelujah!

Minister:  Let us offer our lives to God.

People:  In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God.  Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  "O Come, All Ye Faithful"  ADESTЕ FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE:  Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz

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The Worship of God

ANTHEM: "People Look East" Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

ANTHEM: "In the Bleak Midwinter" Gustav Holst/ arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER Hope Reese

* THE GLORIA PATRI REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAYER Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY Barkley Browder

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
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Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

PRAYER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY

Mark Pichowicz

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

Cornelia Singletary

Barlkay Browder

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepening joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevemore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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ADESTE FIDELES

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November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent
Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrick Andriessen

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tierece en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

Choral Introit
French Melody, 15th Century

* Procesional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
* Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gilliam Parker

* Litany of Preparation

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

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People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Gloria Patri

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

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The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bulluck

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

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The Worship of God

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The Worship of God

Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

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ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

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French Melody, 15th Century

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VENI EMMANUEL

(Many congregations will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

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Bill Bulluck

PRAKER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFRYDAL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSJOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/or. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRIMSON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”          Brian L. Hanson
O come, Redeemer of the Earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”          Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”          ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr          Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

The First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2015

Eleven O'Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Messe for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

Choral Introit: French Melody, 15th Century

Casey McAuliffe, Drum

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Organist: Mark Pichowicz

* Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* Litany of Preparation

Elizabeth Edwards

* The Glorification

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come!”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barley Browder

Antiphon: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

People, look east! The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSIO OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

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Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
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The Worship of God

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the November 29, 2015

HE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS Stuart Todd

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

The hanging of the Greens

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

STARRY STRANGER, GUIDING LIGHT

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noah, Noah, Noah, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

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Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDLSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevmore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION:  “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz
* Congregation stands.

Advent
at
Lakeside

Lakeside Baptist Church
1501 Sunset Avenue
Rocky Mount, North Carolina 27804
November 29, 2015

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

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**ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson**

_“People Look East”_ Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

**The Worship of God**

To nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

**The Hanging of the Greens**

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**HENDRIK ANDRIESSEN**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Toccata en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

**FRANCOIS COUPERIN**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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**PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”**

**VENI EMManuel**

(To the congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**THE first SUNDAY OF DVENT**

**CAROL MEDLEY**

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

- **PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”**
- **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**
- **THE GLORIA PATRI**
- **THE DOXOLOGY**

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

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**AFFIRMATION**

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**BILl BULLuck**

**PRAYER**

Cornelia Singletary

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

Barclay Browder

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE**

Brent Watkins

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**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” W. AY AW A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” MENDelssohn

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**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

**MARK PICHOWICZ**

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**THE DOXOLOGY**

The Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” 
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevemore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: 
Luke 1:1-80
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” 
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIOAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” 
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr 
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God  
**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

**November 29, 2015**

**The FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
Eleven O’Clock

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  
**HENDRIK ANDRIESSEN**

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiers en Taille from *Mass for the Parishes*  
**FRANCOIS COUPERIN**

CHORAL INTROIT  
French Melody, 15th Century

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
**VENI EM Manuel**

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION  
**ELIZABETH EDWARDS**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI  
**REGENT SQUARE**

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  
**LYNN SHAW BAILEY AND BECKI SLAGLE MAYO**

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray, Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  
**BILL BULLOCK**

PRAYER  
**CORNELIA SINGLETARY**

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  
**BARLEY BROWER**

ANTHEM: “People Look East!”  
**HAL H. HOPSON**

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

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Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  
**BARKLEY BROWER**

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Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

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Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forvermore. Amen.

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega. Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
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People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

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BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiers en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

CHORAL INTROIT

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CASEY MCAULIFFE, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Elizabeth Edwards

NANCY PORTER

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

THE BLESSING OF THE MANGER

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give me my heart. What I can I give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
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O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**Hendrik Andriessen**

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

French Melody, 15th Century

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

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**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

**PRAYER**

**Cornelia Singletary**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

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Hal H. Hopson

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

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(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

Veni Emmanuel

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Hymnody

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

Nancy Porter

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Jarr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I we re a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

**Mark Pichowicz**

**THE DOXOLOGY**

**THE FIRST NOEL**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

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Matthew H. Corl

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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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People: Offering life everlasting!

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People: Hallelujah!

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People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church
are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”  
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

CHORAL INTROIT  
Francois Couperin

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gailm Parker

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI  
REGENCY SQUARE

Glorify to God the Father, glory to God the Son, glory to God the Holy Spirit, ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER  
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  
Bill Bullock

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.
Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:  
Isaiah 60:1-6  
Cornelia Singletary

PRAKER  
Barclay Browder

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  
Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  
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People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

* THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  
Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY  
(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  
A WAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  
HYFRYDL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  
MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS  
Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  
Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER  
Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY  
Mark Pichowicz

PRAYER Cornelia Singletary

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  
Bill Bullock

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  
Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE  
Brent Watkins

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  
Hal H. Hopson

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* THE GLORIA PATRI  
REGENCY SQUARE

Glorify to God the Father, glory to God the Son, glory to God the Holy Spirit, ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

The FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

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Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Runners be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Hendrik Andriessen

THE CONGREGATION will rise when the organist begins playing.

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

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PRAYER

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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

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People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

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Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

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The Worship of God

November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Choral Introit: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Venl Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* Litany of Preparation

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Gloria Patri

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship of light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barkey Browder

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

Anthem: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deep joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree

Brent Watkins

* The Doxology

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

Carol Medley (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-Expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

* Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Veni Emmanuel

* The Litany of Preparation

Elizabeth Edwards

* The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

* The Glorification

Regent Square

Glory be to God in the highest!

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Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

The Blessing of the Holy and the Ivy

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ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

The first Sunday of Advent

The first Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2015

Elevon O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

Choral Introit: French Melody, 15th Century

Casey McAuliffe, drum

Choral Medley (please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Francois Couperin

125: “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

Hyfrydol

150: “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn

Offertory Prayer

Hope Reese

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barkley Broder

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

Antehm: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

Carol Medley (please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Away in a Manger”

Away in a Manger

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150 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn

The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree

Brent Watkins

The First Noel

Theology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God in the highest! Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit. Evermore and evermore. Light of light, our Star, our Sun. Love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your Son, a place to keep your Son. O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

* the Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

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The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAVER

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

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* * *

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

Offertory Prayer

Hope Reese

Organ Offertory: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* The Doxology

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

Antehm: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your Son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your Son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepening joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your Son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree

Brent Watkins

* * *
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

Lake 1:1-80

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gilmur Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAayer

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

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Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYNDYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above in heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTION TREE

Brent Watkins
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Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
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MEDITATION:  
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Jody Wright

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ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH
ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin
CHORAL INTROIT French Melody, 15th Century

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(To the organist will rise when the organist begins playing.)

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Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

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Casey McAuliffe, drum

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Stuart Todd

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125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” Hymnody
150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” Mendelssohn

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

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ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

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ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CASEY MCCAULIFFE, DRUM

Century

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

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PRACTICE CORNER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

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The Hanging of the Greens

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VENI EMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God. Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE BLESSING OF THE CHIRSMON TREE

Brent Watkins

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, but your love it is here now, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepening joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins

* THE DOXOLOGY

Hope Reese

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRACTOR CORNER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Hanging of the Greens

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

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Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God. Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE BLESSING OF THE CHIRSMON TREE

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.


Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSITIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT: Veni, Emmanuel

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gnazl Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

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People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Ghost. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barkley Browder

Prayer

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAKER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells Casey McAuflife, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREEENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’ve the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give my heart. What I can I give him: give my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuflife

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins

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THE BLESSING OF THE GREEENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

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147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSSOHN

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

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THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuflife

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiers en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century  O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  VENI EMANUEL

(For the congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

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Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI  REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.
Come and worship, come and worship

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bulluck

PRAYER  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

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Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS  Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

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OFFERTORY PRAYER  Hope Reece

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation  Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY  THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE  Casey McAuliffe

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE  Brent Watkins
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THE GOSPEL LESSON:       Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION:    “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”      Jody Wright

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
VENI EMANUEL
(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gailm Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION
Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI
REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, glory be to God the Son, glory be to God the Spirit, ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship. Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bulluck

PRAYER
Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the bird is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells
Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS
Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY
(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
ELEANOR DRYDEN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”
MENDELS SoHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS
Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”
Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE
Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRIMSON TREE
Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevemore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

**CHORAL INTROIT**

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that morns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King? People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

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Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior? People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God? People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. People: Glory to God in the highest!

**THE GLORIA PATRI**

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

**THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

COME, MESSIAH, COME!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

**PRAYER**

CORNELIA SINGLETARY

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

BARCLAY BROWDER

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

**Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish.** People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flegdlig time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

**CASEY McAULIFFE, DRUM**

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

**CAROL MEDLEY**

(All remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

ENDELSSOHN

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFRYDL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

**THE DOXOLOGY**

**THE FIRST NOEL**

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE**

**BRENT WATKINS**
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

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The Hanging of the Greens

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

**CAROL MEDLEY**

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): "Away in a Manger"

125 (stanzas 1&2): "Come, O Long-expected Jesus"

150 (stanzas 1&3): "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

*  **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

*  **LITANY OF PREPARATION**

Elizabeth Edwards

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

Casey McAuliffe

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fudging time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

*  **THE GLORIA PATRI**

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

*  **THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:**

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

**PRAYER**

Cornelia Singletary

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

Barkey Browder

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

*  **THE DOXOLOGY**

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God in the highest! Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRISMON TREE**

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

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A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

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*  **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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Jody Wright

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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

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Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

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People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

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People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE:  
“Freu dich sehr”  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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Hendrik Andriessen

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ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

15th Century

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(Repetition will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo


Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Brower

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

NANCY PORTER

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give me my heart. What I can I give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

FAITHFUL Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRÈCHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Veni Emmanuel

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITANY OF PREPARATION Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.
Come and worship, come and worship

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Come, Messiah, come! A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, a place to keep your son dear.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAYER Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells
Casey McMullife, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” HYFYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” MENDELSJOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

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THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY Barkley Browder

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells
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O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
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People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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Eleven O’Clock

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Hendrik Andriessen

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ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Masse for the Parishes
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French Melody, 15th Century

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(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
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125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
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Nancy Porter

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OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
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Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.  
The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past,  
the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People:  
As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister:  
We believe in God.

People:  
Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister:  
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

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Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.  
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WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiers en Taille from Messe pour les Paroisses

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Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed

STARRY STRANGER, GUIDING LIGHT

on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

STUART TODD

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “Away in a Manger”

VHYRDOL

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  
125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  
150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.
ANTHEM: "People Look East" Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

STARRY STRANGER, GUIDING LIGHT

November 29, 2015           Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" VENI EMANUEL

(For congregational singing throughout the service.)*

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gilmour Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

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People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” VENI EMANUEL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” HYFREDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/J. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

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THE FIRST NOEL

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THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTÈ FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.

Advent at Lakeside

Lakeside Baptist Church
1501 Sunset Avenue
Rocky Mount, North Carolina 27804
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT
Francois Couperin
French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION
Elizabeth Edwards

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bulluck

PRAYER
Cornelia Singletary

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ANTHEM: “People Look East”
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People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS
Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY
(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
AWAY IN A MANGER

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MENDELSSOHN

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OFFERTORY PRAYER
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ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
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MEDITATION:  
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People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

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WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Messe pour les Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

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*(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)*

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

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* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

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CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAKER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

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Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.


Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE:  
“Freu dich sehr”  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.
**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMManUEL

VENI EMManUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

Casey McAuliffe

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Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepening joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

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Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

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Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

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**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  Eleven O’Clock

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**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

**CHORAL INTROIT**

**CAROL MEDLEY**

(please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

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*THE GLORIA PATRI*

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Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

*THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER*

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray, Come, Messiah, come!

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

**PRAYER**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

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The Worship of God

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**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

**THE DOXOLOGY**

Mark Pichowicz

The First Noel

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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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People: Offering life everlasting!

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People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

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The Worship of God

ON THE MORNING OF THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, the words of the Scripture foretell the saving work of God.

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

VENI EMANUEL

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Francisco Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

(Congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

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REGENT SQUARE

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* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Messe for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT 15th Century

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VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gailm Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

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Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

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Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Messe for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

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Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gailm Parker

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Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
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Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
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People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

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People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
DESTE FIDELES

Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

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**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

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ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes François Couperin

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PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

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The Worship of God

The Hanging of the Greens

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” NYCPORTER

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepening joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

People look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Hanging of the Greens

November 29, 2015

THe FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” by Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the Earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” by Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.


Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

*BREAD* RECESSONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” by ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr by Mark Pichowicz

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The Worship of God

STARRY STRANGER, GUIDING LIGHT

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

BIRDS, THOUGH YOU LONG HAVE CEASED TO BUILD, GUARD THE NEST THAT MUST BE FILLED. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

STARS, KEEP THE WATCH. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today. Rejoice!

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

PRAYER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

BARKLEY BROWDER

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ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

VENI EMANUEL

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT

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(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAFTER

Cornelia Singletary

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes François Couperin

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Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**The Blessing of the Greens**

OFFERTORY PRAYER Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation Mark Pichowicz

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

* THE GLORIA PATRI R

* THE DOXOLOGY T

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above the heavens, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

November 29, 2015
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT: Tantum Ergo
Francois Couperin

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gailm Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION
Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI
REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, glory be to God the Son, glory be to God the Spirit, ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship. Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bulluck

PRAYER
Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells
Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS
Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS
Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”
Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stables there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give me my heart. What I can I give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY
THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE
Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE
Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

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Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
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ANTHEM: “People Look East”
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH
Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
MINISTER: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the Eternal Christ?
PEOPLE: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

PEOPLE: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
MINISTER: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
PEOPLE: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI
REGENT SQUARE
Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER
CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
LYNN SHAW BAILEY AND BECKI SLAGLE MAYO
O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
BILL BULLOCK

PRAYER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
BARCLAY BRODER

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s Son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make him for a warm heart, we’ll hold your son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE
BRENT WATKINS
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”   Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:   Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION:   “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”   Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
PEOPLE: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
PEOPLE: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
PEOPLE: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
PEOPLE: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
PEOPLE: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
PEOPLE: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
PEOPLE: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
PEOPLE: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
PEOPLE: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
PEOPLE: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”   ADESTE FIDELES
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr   Mark Pichowicz
* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

November 29, 2015

**The First Sunday of Advent**

Eleven O’Clock

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”* Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH*

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

*THE GLORIA PATRI* Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


**THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”* Lyn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

**PRAYER**

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

Hymndol

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

Hymndol

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Francois Couperin

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appears. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

**THE DOXOLOGY**

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Come and worship, come and worship


**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation**

Mark Pichowicz

**PRAYER**

Cornelia Singletary

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“A O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

STARRY STRANGER, GUIDING LIGHT

though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

November 29, 2015

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Eleven O’Clock

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THE HANGING OF THE GREENS

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiers en Taille from Mass for the Parishes François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Corneria Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

People, look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” Edited

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” Mendelssohn

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”    Brian L. Hanson
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”    Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”    ADESTE FIDELES

Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr    Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

* Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
November 29, 2015

**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

**Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church**

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

Choral Introit: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**Litany of Preparation**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Gloria Patri

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


* The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

The old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

**Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

**The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths**

Stuart Todd

**Carol Medley (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)**

147 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Away in a Manger”

Away in a Manger

125 (stanzas 1 & 2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

Hyfrydol

150 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn

**The Blessing of the Poinsettias**

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Jarr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

**Offering Prayer**

Hope Reese

**Organ Meditation**

Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

**The Doxology**

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

**The Blessing of the Creche**

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**The Blessing of the Chrsim Tree**

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSINAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN
* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz
* Congregation stands.
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The Worship of God

November 29, 2015  Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT  Francois Couperin

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  Veni Emmanuel

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION  Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?  People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?  People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever loving, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?  People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of our Lord?  People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.  People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI  Regent Square

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bullock

PRAYER  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

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CASEY MCAULIFFE, DRUM

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY  (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  Away in a Manger

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  HYFYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS  Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER  Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation  Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY  THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOSTREE  Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  Brian L. Hanson

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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

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Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES

Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz
* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH
CHORAL INTROIT: Tierce en Taille from Messe for the Parishes  Francois Couperin

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
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Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:  Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAayer

Cornelia Singletary

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Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAulliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  VENI EMANUEL
125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  HYFREDOL
150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

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Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

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THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAulliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

Choral Introit

French Melody, 15th Century

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

Carol Medley

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

Organo Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedars, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Gloriam Patri

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, glory be to God the Son, glory be to God the Spirit, ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barclay Browder

Anthems: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today.

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

Carol Medley (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

Anthems: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

Offertory Prayer

Hope Reese

Organ Offertory: Improvisation

Mark Pichowitz

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

Anthems: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come. Prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree

Brent Watkins

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSIOON OF FAITH

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Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.


Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIOON CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, the Worship of God Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

HENDRIK ANDRIESSEN

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

FRANCOIS COUPERIN

CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

VENI EMMANUEL

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI  REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY  (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  HANDEL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS  Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give me my heart. What I can I give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER  Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation  Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY  THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise God of all, Praise God in heaven and earth. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

CASEY MCAULIFFE

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY  (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  HANDEL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  MENDELSSOHN

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OFFERTORY PRAYER  Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation  Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY  THE FIRST NOEL

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THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE  Brent Watkins
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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
ADESTE FIDELES

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

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ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, Make your house fair as you are able, The Worship of God Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for feldiging time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells Casey McAuliffe, drum


THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl
O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bullock

PRAYER  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

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THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for feldiging time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells Casey McAuliffe, drum


THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl
O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bullock

PRAYER  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for feldiging time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells Casey McAuliffe, drum


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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bullock

PRAYER  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

**CHORAL INTROIT**

French Melody, 15th Century

*PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

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**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today: Rejoice!

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**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today: Rejoice!

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**ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

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**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your son dear.

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**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your son dear.
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

Eleven O'Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship.


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo


Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is Starry Stranger, Guiding Light on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

ENRIK ANDRISSEN

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYPYROD

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Jarr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air. But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give my heart. What I can give him: give my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY

MARK PICHOWICZ

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80
MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCessional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(Repetition will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

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Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

The Worship of God

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

The Worship of God

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson  
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH  
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

The Hanging of the Greens

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


*

THE INVOCAION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O come, O come, Emmanuel, Messiah, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and your way. Alleluia, alleluia, Lord, we pray.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

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THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

ORGAN MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Hymnody

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst

ANNEH: Donald Moore

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

People: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

THE IN沃VOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRIStMON TREE

Brent Watkins

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nithr Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People, look east and sing today.

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

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Hymnody

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noël, Noël, Noël, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

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Matthew H. Corl

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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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Jody Wright

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Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENE DICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

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The Worship of God

November 29, 2015

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE:  Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH
ORGAN MEDITATION:  Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  Francois Couperin
CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION  Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI  REGENCY SQUARE

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:  Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bulluck

PRAayer  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells  Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  HYFYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  MENDELSJOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS  Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER  Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation  Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY  THE FIRST NOEL

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THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE  Casey McAuliffe

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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  

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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

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People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  

ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  

Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

November 29, 2015
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Messe for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

VENI EMMANUEL

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
VENI EMMANUEL

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION
Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bullock

PRAYER
Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barclay Browder

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People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nith Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells
Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” HYFRYDOL
125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” MENDELSSOHN
150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above all Angels, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister:  
Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

People:  
As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister:  
We believe in God.

People:  
Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister:  
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People:  
Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel:  
God with us.

Minister:  
Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People:  
Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister:  
We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People:  
Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister:  
We believe in the church.

People:  
The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister:  
We believe in the Word of Life.

People:  
Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister:  
We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People:  
That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister:  
We believe in the resurrection.

People:  
Offering life everlasting!

Minister:  
Bursting forth with hope!

People:  
Hallelujah!

Minister:  
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People:  
In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
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**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

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ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd

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147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

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Benediction and Choral Amen

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ELIZABETH EDWARDS, WINNIE RAPER, CORNELIA SINGLETARY, handbells

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* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. The worship of God appears. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, he’ll hold your son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People, look east and sing today. Rejoice!

**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tiers a Taille from Mass for the Parishes  Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  **VENI EMANUEL**

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  **Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker**

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**  Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI  **REGENT SQUARE**

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  **Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo**

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:  Isaiah 60:1-6  **Bill Bulluck**

PRAVER  **Cornelia Singletary**

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  **Barkey Browder**

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ELIZABETH EDWARDS, WINNIE RAPER, CORNELIA SINGLETARY, HANDBELLS  **Casey McAuliffe, drum**

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  **Stuart Todd**

CAROL MEDLEY  **(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)**

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  **AWAY IN A MANGER**

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  **HYFRYDOL**

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  **MENDELSJOHN**

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS  **Nancy Porter**

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  **Gustav Holst/Jarr. Donald Moore**

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air. But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I we re a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give me my heart. What I can I give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER  **Hope Reese**

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation  **Mark Pichowicz**

* THE DOXOLOGY  **THE FIRST NOEL**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE  **Casey McAuliffe**

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  **Matthew H. Corl**

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepening joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE  **Brent Watkins**
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevemore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson
People look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH
ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin
CHORAL INTROIT: French Melody, 15th Century
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” VENI EMMANUEL
(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION
Elizabeth Edwards
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
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REGENT SQUARE
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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAYER
Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barkley Browder

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TAWNING OF THE GRENES

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)
147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” HYFREQDL
150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” MENDELSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS
Nancy Porter

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barkley Browder

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRECHE
Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl
A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRIMSON TREE
Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the Earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSIO OF FAITH

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ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Eleven O’Clock

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WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiersce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

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Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GNGREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greeneries and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Nancy Porter

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

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THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE:  
Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the Son of God?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Offertory Prayer

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bulluck

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

Taverner, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

The Doxology

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrsim Tree

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  Hendrik Andriessen
(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI
REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship.


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER
CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo
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PRAYER
Cornelia Singletary

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Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barkley Browder

“O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRIMSON TREE
Brent Watkins
Advent at Lakeside

ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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People: Hallelujah!

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BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

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The Worship of God

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* THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.


* THE GLORIA PATRI

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

* THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

* PRAYER

Glory be to God in the highest!

* THE DOXOLOGY

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

** ANTHEM: “Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

The oldTestament lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

** THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

PRAayer

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

** ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

** THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

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** THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins

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MEDITATION:  
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Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
ADESTE FIDELES

Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE:  Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
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WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierece en Taille from Messe for the Parishes Francois Couperin

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O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” VENI EMMAUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” NANCY PORTER

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/Jarr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

The First Noel

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”   
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” 
ADESTE FIDELES

Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr

Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven o’clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gailam Parker

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

* ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst

A rustic holiday, a simple, unpretentious time. A time to prepare the house for the coming of the eternal Christ. A time of preparation, reflection, and meditation. A time to remember the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watched, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

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THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

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Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevemore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

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People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent
Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Messe pour les Paroisses

Francois Couperin

Choral Introit

French Melody, 15th Century

Organist: O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

**Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”**

VENI EMMAUEL

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**Litany of Preparation**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

**The Gloria Patri**

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit. Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

**The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer**

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

**The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy**

Barley Browder

Anthem: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed as the wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed as the wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed as the wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed as the wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed as the wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen.

**The Blessing of the Poinsettias**

Nancy Porter

**Anthem: “In the Bleak Midwinter”**

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

**Offertory Prayer**

Hope Reese

**Organ Offertory: Improvisation**

Mark Pichowicz

The First Noel

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.**

**Anthem: “A Place to Keep Your Son”**

Matthew H. Corl

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**The Blessing of the Christmas Tree**

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
Veni Emmanuel
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

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People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bullock

PRAYER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS
Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
HYFYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS
Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”
Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE
Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

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People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

OrGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from MAss for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bulluck

PRAyER

Corinelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flegding time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Corinelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WRATHES

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forvermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  

DESTE IDELES  

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  

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WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENIEMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

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Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gilmarr Parker

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Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

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Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Bill Bulluck

THE ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The worship of God

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The worship of God
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forvermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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People: Offering life everlasting!

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People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

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The Worship of God

The Hanging of the Greens

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ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

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* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION  Elizabeth Edwards

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bullock

PRAYER  Cornelia Singletary

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  Away in a Manger

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  Hyfrydol

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  Mendelssohn

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS  Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER  Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation  Mark Pichowicz

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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
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ADESTE FIDELES

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[Congregation sings]

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
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People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI
REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.
Come and worship, come and worship

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bullock

PRAYER
Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today. Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall have, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells
Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS
Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)
[Congregation sings]

EMMANUEL

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
HAYFDYOL
150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS
Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”
Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY
THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE
Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE
Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80  
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer. And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE:  Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Hans Hiltbrand

ORGAN MEDITATION:  Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

*LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, glory be to God the Son, glory be to God the Spirit, ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1 & 3): Away in a Manger

ENDELSSOHN

125 (stanzas 1 & 2): Come, O Long-expected Jesus

HFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1 & 3): Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Francois Couperin

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRIMSON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

THE HANGING OF THE GREENS

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

HENDRIK ANDRIESEN

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

FRANCOIS COUPERIN

CHORAL INTROIT (The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

French Melody, 15th Century

119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

LYNN SHAW BAILEY AND BECKI SLAGLE MAYO

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

BILLY BULLUCK

PRAYER

CORNELIA SINGLETARY

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

BARKLEY BROWER

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

HAL H. HOPSON

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CASEY MCAULIFFE, DRUM

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greeneries and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDLESOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

NANCY PORTER

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

GUSTAV HOLST/ARR. DONALD MOORE

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

HOPE REESE

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

MARK PICHOWICZ

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRÈCHE

CASEY MCAULIFFE

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

MATTHEW H. CORL

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for you shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISSOM TREE

BRENT WATKINS
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  Brian L. Hanson
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:   Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION:    “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

CONFESSIO OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN
* ORGAN POSTLUDE:  Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz
* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”
Hal H. Hopson
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

The Hanging of the Greens

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the Lord?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Choir

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore
In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. 

The Blessing of the Greeneries and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

THE CAROL MEDLEY

CAROL MEDLEY – Century
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barkley Browder
The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

The Blessing of the Chrism Tree

Brent Watkins

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo
O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl
A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make him for a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Bill Bulluck

PRAVER

Cornelia Singletary

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

Glorify from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl
A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make him for a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

* THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISM TREE

Brent Watkins

ANTHEM: “People Look East”
Hal H. Hopson
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.
ANTHEM: "O Come, Redeemer of the Earth"  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevmore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. 
The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, 
the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
"O Come, All Ye Faithful"  
ADESTE FIDELES

Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE:  
Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.
Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  Eleven O’Clock
The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  Francois Couperin

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION  Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI  Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

COME, MESSIAH, CAME!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bulluck

PRAYER  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  Away in a Manger

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  Hymnody

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  Mendelssohn

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS  Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER  Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation  Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY  The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE  Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

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PRAYER  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE  Brent Watkins

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum
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Brian L. Hanson

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

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People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

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* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOcation and LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

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VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

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THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE

Brent Watkins

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSJOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

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THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above all angels, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
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O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

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People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
Deidre Sumrall

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE:  
Fantasia on “Freu dich sehr”  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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Eleven O’Clock

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WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

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Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

NOVEMBER 29, 2015

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

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Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

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O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
O Come, All Ye Faithful  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O'Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Choral Introit: French Melody, 15th Century

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

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November 29, 2015

The Worship of God

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

**PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”**

(Choros will rise when the organist begins playing.)

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

**THE GLORIA PATRI**

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship

**THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

**PRAYER**

Cornelia Singletary

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

Barcly Browder

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furlows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

**Carol Medley** (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

- O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- * Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
- * Lighting of the Advent Wreath
- * Litany of Preparation
- * The Gloria Patri
- * The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer
- * Christmas Carol Medley
- * The Blessing of the Poinsettias
- * The Blessing of the Creche
- * The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths
- * The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

Casey McAuliffe

Antihem: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hails, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE**

Brent Watkins

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furlows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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November 29, 2015

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE**

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” Adeste Fideles

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Eleven O’clock**

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**Hendrik Andriessen**

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**FRANCOIS COUPERIN**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

**VENI EMANUEL**

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

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* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

**Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker**

---

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

**Elizabeth Edwards**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

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* THE GLORIA PATRI

**REGENT SQUARE**

Glory be to God the Father, glory be to God the Son, glory be to God the Spirit, ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship. Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

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* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”

**Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo**

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

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**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**Bill Bulluck**

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**PRAYER**

**Cornelia Singletary**

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**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**Barkley Browder**

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**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”

**Hal H. Hopson**

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

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**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

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**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”

**Matthew H. Corl**

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepening joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s Son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE**

**Brent Watkins**
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
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People: Offering life everlasting!

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Adeste Fideles

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCENS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tis en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

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(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

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* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us.

Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Corinella Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

* THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

A WAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below, Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A waking, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall; such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.


Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

Lakeside Baptist Church
1501 Sunset Avenue
Rocky Mount, North Carolina 27804

Advent at Lakeside

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

**The First Sunday of Advent**

November 29, 2015

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

**Choral Introit**

Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

(Open for the organist begins playing.)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

MINISTER: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

PEOPLE: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

MINISTER: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

PEOPLE: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

MINISTER: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

PEOPLE: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

MINISTER: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

PEOPLE: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

MINISTER: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

PEOPLE: Glory to God in the highest!

GLORIA PATRI

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

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Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAVER

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

The Hanging of the Greens

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

THE FIRST NOEL

PRAY ME WITH FROM ALL BLESSINGS NOW. PRAISE GOD ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW. PRAISE GOD ABOVE HEAVENLY HOST. PRAISE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY GHOST.

NOEL, NOEL, NOEL, NOEL, BORN IS THE KING OF ISRAEL.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

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Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

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Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

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Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O'Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Choral Introit: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barkley Browder

The Blessing of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

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Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

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Hymns

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

Carol Medley

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

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The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

Anthem: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

Anthem: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barclay Browder

Anthem: “People Look East”

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People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today: Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

The Doxology

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

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Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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* Congregation stands.

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November 29, 2015

The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHANON INTROIT

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

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Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

PRAYER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CASEY MCAULIFFE, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY

(Repetition the congregation rises when the organist begins playing.)

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Choir and handbells

CASEY MCAULIFFE, drum

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

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THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall bring, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CASEY MCAULIFFE, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHANON INTROIT

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE INVOCAION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

PRAYER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall bring, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CASEY MCAULIFFE, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY

(Repetition the congregation rises when the organist begins playing.)

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Choir and handbells

CASEY MCAULIFFE, drum

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

PRAYER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall bring, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CASEY MCAULIFFE, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Carol Medley

(Repetition the congregation rises when the organist begins playing.)

Antiphon: “Away in a Manger”

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give my heart. What I can I give him: give my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOM TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson  

O come, Redeemer of the Earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.  
The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past,  
the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.  
Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.  
Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
VENI EMMANUEL

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gilmill Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION
Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI
REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Stagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bullock

PRAKER
Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
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REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”
Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him a gift. What I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY
THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noël, Noël, Noël, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE
Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE
Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: "People Look East" Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able,
The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed
to nourish, that in course the flow'r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the

hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today:
The Hanging of the Greens

Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall

brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing
today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life
to earth. Set ev'ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and
sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
AWAY IN A MANGER
125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
HYFRYDL
150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”
MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had

fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels

o'er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden

bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; or I were a Wise Man, I would do my part: what I can
give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above the height of time and space, in the church, the temple, the court, the city, the
world, the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed
one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel's greeting,
"O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God's son." We know good news
dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRICHSON TREE

Brent Watkins

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your

love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart,
a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, "Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his
coming, the coming of our Lord." We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come;
prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you;
the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed
one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel's greeting,
"O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God's son." We know good news
shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we'll make for him a warm heart, we'll hold your own son
dear.
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz
* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.
Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

Choral Introit: French Melody, 15th Century

Stanzas 1 & 3: Away in a Manger

Amen

119: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Veni Emmanuel

* Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gilliam Parker

* Litany of Preparation

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Gloria Patri

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


* The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is a Starry Stranger, Guiding Light on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

Carol Medley (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

Away in a Manger

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

Hyfrydol

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

Antehm: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; What I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

Offertory Prayer

Hope Reese

Organ Offertory: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  

CONFESSION OF FAITH

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

People: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

People: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  

*BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the first sun is on the way. God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

The Hanging of the Greens

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ? People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God. People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

The Invitation and Lord’s Prayer

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

PRAKER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISM TREE

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fletching time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

PORTER

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. The world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISM TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the Earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of Light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
The First Sunday of Advent
Eleven O'Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

Organ Meditation: Tiers en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
François Couperin

Choral Introit: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Veni Emmanuel

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

* Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gilmor Parker

* Litany of Preparation

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Glória Patri

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.
Come and worship, come and worship

* The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bulluck

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barclay Browder

The First Sunday of Advent

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The worship of God

To nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’Clock

T HE FIrST  UNDAY OF ADVENT

People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

Carol Medley (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

Mendelssohn

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

Anthem: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

Offertory Prayer

Hope Reese

Organ Offertory: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* The Doxology

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

Anthem: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deeper joy in you, the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree

Brent Watkins

 Anthem: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrors be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flegding time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. The stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.
The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bulluck

PRAVER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells
Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
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Mendelssohn

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

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Gustav Holst/Jr. Donald Moore

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

* Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Glory be to God in the highest!

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

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Matthew H. Corl

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

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People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

CHORAL INTROIT

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today. Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Choral Medley

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

** ANTHEM: “Immanuel”

People: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God. Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

PRAYER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

** ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hal, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

** ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today. Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Bryan L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the Earth, and manifest your virginal birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of Light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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November 29, 2015

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Organist: Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Organist: Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Organist: Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the

hour when wings are frozen God for feldgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall

brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Jrr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had

fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden

bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. Oh what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can

give him: give me my heart. What I can I give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* O) DOXOLOGY

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Joining in your spirit, our deepening joy in your love, the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins

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Hal H. Hopson

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

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THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

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bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. Oh what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can

give him: give me my heart. What I can I give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* O) DOXOLOGY

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Joining in your spirit, our deepening joy in your love, the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
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Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSINAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES
Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz
* Congregation stands.

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, glory be to God the Son, glory be to God the Spirit, ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship.


THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Brent Watkins

Bill Bulluck

Cornelia Singletary

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

Hal H. Hopson

People: look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Jarr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

THE DOXOLOGY

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

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Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the Earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

The FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

VENI EMANUEL

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Taverner, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today: Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanza 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanza 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFYDOL

150 (stanza 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Jarr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stably there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above and all others around. Praise God above he heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRIMSON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevemore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
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VENI, VENI, EMANUEL

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Tierce en Taille

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CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

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Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God? People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

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* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, glory be to God the Son, glory be to God the Holy Spirit, ever three and ever one.

Glory and worship, come and worship.


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

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ANTHEM: “People Look East”

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People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God
The Hanging of the Greens

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

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Bill Bulluck

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

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Matthew H. Corl

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins

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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

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People: Offering life everlasting!

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People: Hallelujah!

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ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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Advent at Lakeside

Lakeside Baptist Church
1501 Sunset Avenue
Rocky Mount, North Carolina 27804
November 29, 2015

**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

**CHORAL INTROIT** French Melody, 15th Century

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Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

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Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the Messiah?

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PRAYER

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Casey McAuliffe, drum

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

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ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

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French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

By Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

Minister: O Promise One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Prayer: Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

November 29, 2015

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

Veni Emmanuel

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

Hyfrydol

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Jarr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air. But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Praise Father, Son, Holy Ghost.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be your Son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Eleven O’Clock

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  
**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells  
**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  
**CHORAL INTROIT:** French Melody, 15th Century

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd  
**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

Nancy Porter  
**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

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**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson  
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

**PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

*VENI EMMANUEL*  
(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gilliam Parker  
**LITANY OF PREPARATION**

**THE DOXOLOGY**

*THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

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**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd  
**CAROL MEDLEY** (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

**HYFYDOL**

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Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz  
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Casey McAuliffe  
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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

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VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Jane Buell

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

TIERCE EN TAILLE

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT: O come, O come, Emmanuel

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

Hendrik Andriessen

CHORAL INTROIT: O come, O come, Emmanuel

VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL

Organ: Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary

HANDBELLS: Casey McAuliffe, drum

Chorale: Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Organ: Stuart Todd

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

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ANTHEM: “People Look East”

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Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

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CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

HYFRYDOL

MENDELSJOHN

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

PORTER

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

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BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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**THE GLORIA PATRI**

**THE DOXOLOGY**

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Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedars, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**PRAYER**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

**THE DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE**

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:   
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

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THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  Stuart Todd

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  VENI EMANUEL

(There is congregational singing; see page 151 of the hymnal for the words of the carol.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION  Elizabeth Edwards

** Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
** People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

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** Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
** People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI  REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bulluck

PRAYER  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

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THE BLESSING OF THE CRISMON TREE  Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.


Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WAVDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierece en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

(Reception will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

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People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

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People: Glory to God in the highest!

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

MMANUEL

WAY IN A

MANGER

ENDELSSOHN

125 (stanzas 1&3): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
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ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT: O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

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Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

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REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” VENI EMANUEL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

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In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
November 29, 2015

The Worship of God

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tiers en Talle from Mass for the Parishes

Choral Introit

The first Sunday of Advent

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

*The Glorification

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


*The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

On the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flegding time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

Carol Medley (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

Antiphon: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give my heart. What I can give him: give my heart.

Offertory Prayer

Hope Reese

Organ Offertory: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

The Doxology

The First Noel

*The Glorification

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above heaven and earth.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

Antiphon: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for you shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: To God to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more plant is planted there. Give up your strength the plant to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFREDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give me my heart. What I can I give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. C. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the Earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: "People Look East"  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

The First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2015

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Choral Introit

* Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* Litanies of Preparation

* The Gloria Patri

* The Doxology

* The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

* The Cheer of the Creche

* The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

* The Blessing of the Christmas Tree

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flogging time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

Carol Medley (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  Away in a Manger

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  Hyfrydol

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  Mendelssohn

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

Antehm: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

Offertory Prayer

Hope Reese

Organ Offertory: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

The First Noel

The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit. Ever three and ever one.

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

Antehm: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS Stuart Todd

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bullock

PRAayer

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “Peace Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flegling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells Casey McAuliffe, drum
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”

Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.


Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Francois Couperin

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give my heart. What I can I give him: give my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deeper joy in you; our deeper joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISM TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

**The First Sunday of Advent**  Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE:  Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION:  Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  Taverner, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**The Blessing of the Greeneries and Wreaths**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI  Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

**The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer**

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bullock

PRAYER  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

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Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  Away in a Manger

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  Hymnody

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  Mendelssohn

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS  Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER  Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation  Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY  The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE  Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepening joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISSON TREE  Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
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Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

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* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

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Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

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REGENT SQUARE

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THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

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ELIZABETH EDWARDS, WINNIE RAPER, CORNELIA SINGLETARY, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

A MANDELSON

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

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THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

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Matthew H. Corl

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

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Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

Choral Introit

French Melody, 15th Century

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

Choral Medley

(please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Veni Emmanuel

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

Litany of Preparation

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

The Gloriation of God

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come!”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barlkey Browder

Anthem: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

November 29, 2015

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

Choral Introit

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Veni Emmanuel

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

Litany of Preparation

Elizabeth Edwards

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The Worship of God

November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

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The Worship of God
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECENSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Eleven O'Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

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Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

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Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bulluck

PRAYER
Corinella Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

* THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY
(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
HYFYDOL
125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
MENEDELSSOHN
150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS
Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Casey McAuliffe

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth sturdy hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

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* THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

CASEY MCAULIFFE

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deeper joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

* THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTÉ FIDELES

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

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Minister: What I can I give him: give him my heart. People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

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* THE DOXOLOGY

Glory be to God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

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CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

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Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

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WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Organist: Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CHORAL INTROIT

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAKER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

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ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevemore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gills Keeper

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God. Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’s PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Fourrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way.

Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

AMEN: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give my heart. What I can I give him: give my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOLXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRACE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” by Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

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People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

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BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

TENOC O Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

VENI, EMANUEL

ELIZABETH EDWARDS, WİNNEE RAPER, CORNELIA SINGLETARY, HANDBELLS

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

STUART TODD

ANTHEM: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

GUSTAV HOLST

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

BILLY BUllUCK

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

BARKLEY BROWDER

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flegdlig time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

Comes O Come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI, EMANUEL

(Erroneous: The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

TAVENER, CRAIG, ELIZA CRAIG, AND GILLIAM PARKER

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

ELIZABETH EDWARDS

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

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BILL BULLUCK

PRAYER

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THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&2): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

GUSTAV HOLST

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFREDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

TAVENER, CRAIG, ELIZA CRAIG, AND GILLIAM PARKER

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

ELIZABETH EDWARDS

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

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Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

BILL BULLUCK

PRAYER

CORNELIA SINGLETARY

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

BARKLEY BROWDER

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&2): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

TAVENER, CRAIG, ELIZA CRAIG, AND GILLIAM PARKER

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

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People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

LYNN SHAW BAILEY AND BECKI SLAGLE MAYO

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

BILL BULLUCK

PRAYER

CORNELIA SINGLETARY

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

BARKLEY BROWDER
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost for evermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. 

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(Veni, Veni, Emmanuel)

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

*LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

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ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart. Join the procession. Light the candles. Pray the words. Make the blessing. Sing as you go. Pray for all that love Christ. Pray for all who love Christ.

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepening love in you, the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, "O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son." We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

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Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

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People: Offering life everlasting!

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BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

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Taverner, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gilmel Parker

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3)：“Away in a Manger”

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MENDELSSOHN

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Nancy Porter

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In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels, o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give me my heart. What I can give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

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French Melody, 15th Century

Francois Couperin

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15

CAROL MEDLEY

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CASEY MCAAULIFFE, DRUM

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

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CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

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Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“A Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/a rr. Donald Moore

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am?

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bullock

PRA YER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

THE DOXOLOGY

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevemore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiers en Taille from Mass for the Parishes**

François Couperin

**CHORAL INTROIT**

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

**THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

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People: Glory to God in the highest!

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

* 147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

* 125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFYDOL

* 150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSJOHN

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/J. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reece

**ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation**

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

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Casey McAuliffe

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People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAVER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRISMON TREE**

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

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People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADSTE FIDELES
Benediction and Choral Amen
* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz
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* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION  Elizabeth Edwards

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:  Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bullock

PRAAYER  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

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* THE GLORIA PATRI  THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bullock

THE BLESSING OF THE CRISMON TREE  Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” 
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

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People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSINAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

Tierece en Taille from Messe for the Parishes

François Couperin

**CHORAL MEDLEY**

French Melody, 15th Century

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd

**CAROL MEDLEY**

Century

**ANTHEM:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

H. H. Hopson

**THE GLORIA PATRI**

**THE DOXOLOGY**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

Casey McAuliffe, drum

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

Casey McAuliffe

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”

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Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

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**ANNEW:** “People look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.”

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**STARS, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!”

**WORSHIP OF GOD BEGINS WITH THE MUSIC OF THE ORGAN AND OFFERS TIME FOR MEDITATION AND REFLECTION. PLEASE REFRAIN FROM CONVERSATION WHICH WOULD DISTURB OTHERS AND TURN OFF OR SILENCE ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES. FOLLOWING THE SERVICE, SHARE YOUR FRIENDSHIP WITH THOSE AROUND YOU. WIRELESS HEARING AIDS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX.**
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson
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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

(Liturgy of Preparation)

People: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

Minister: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

PRAVER

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flegling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

THE DOXOLOGY

Mark Pichowicz

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.


Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Choral Introit

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* Lighting of the Advent Wreath

* Litany of Preparation

* The Gloria Patri

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

Hyfrydol

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

Mendelssohn

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give my heart. What I can I give him: give my heart.

Offertory Prayer

Hope Reese

Organ Offertory: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* The Doxology

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noël, Noël, Noël, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deeper joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrismos Tree

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost for evermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE:  Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH  François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT  Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  François Couperin

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  Veni Emmanuel

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION  Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI  Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:  Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bullock

PRAYER  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fiddling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells  Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&2): “Away in a Manger”  Away in a Manger

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  HYF RyDol

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  Mendelssohn

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS  Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  Gustav Holst/Jarr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER  Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation  Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY  The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below, Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE  Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE  Brent Watkins
Advent at Lakeside

Lakeside Baptist Church
1501 Sunset Avenue
Rocky Mount, North Carolina 27804

ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the Earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost for evermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O'Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hans Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes François Couperin

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of Holy Ghost?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flegding time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today. Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” CRADLE SONG

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” HYFYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.

People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart.

THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

MENDELSSOHN

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
BRIAN L. HANSON

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
JODY WRIGHT

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People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“ADESTE FIDELES”  

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE:  
“Freu dich sehr”  
MARK PICHOWICZ

* Congregation stands.

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November 29, 2015

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**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

Eleven O’Clock

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

**CHORAL INTROIT**

French Melody, 15th Century

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Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

**People:** By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

**People:** Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship.


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

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Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo


Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

**PRAYER**

Cornelia Singletary

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**THE BLESSING OF THE PINESETTIAS**

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Jarr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part: what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRÈCHE**

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, awaiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you, the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE**

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

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Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

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People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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*Starry Stranger, Guiding Light*

November 29, 2015

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**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  
**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  
**CHORAL INTROIT**  
French Melody, 15th Century

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd

**CAROL MEDLEY**  
(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

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**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

Nancy Porter

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”  
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

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The Worship of God

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bullock

PRAYER
THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE Ivy

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship

Light of light: our Star, our Sun

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

PRAYER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for feldging time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Eleven O’Clock

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Matthew H. Corl

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come!”

PRAYER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

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Eleven O’Clock

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

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Eleven O’Clock

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

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Eleven O’Clock

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz
* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary

handbells

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

Francois Couperin

ORGAN MEDITATION

Tierce en Taille from Messe pour les Parishes

Francois Couperin

ORDINATION PATTERN: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

John Rutter

CHORAL INTROIT

Christmas Carol

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

(Choirs will assemble for the introit)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Taverner, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LIGHTING OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

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People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

Come and worship, come and worship.


REGENT SQUARE

* THE INVOCKATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us.

Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Corinella Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barry Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

* LIGHTEN THE WREATH

Lisa Givens

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

(Choirs will assemble for the introit)

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Northwestern Carol

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Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

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* LIGHTEN THE WREATH

Lisa Givens

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* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

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(Choirs will assemble for the introit)

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Northwestern Carol

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People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
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Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
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People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“A Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE:  
Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Evan O’Clock

November 29, 2015

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from *Mass for the Parishes* (147 (stanzas 1 & 3): "Away in a Manger"

Francois Couperin

*Casey McAuliffe, drum*

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

Casey McAuliffe

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**ANTHEM:** "People Look East"  Hal H. Hopson

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**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

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**ANTHEM:** "A Place to Keep Your Son"  Matthew H. Corl

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

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**ANTHEM:** "In the Bleak Midwinter"  Gustav Holst

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give me my heart. What I can I give him: give me my heart.

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**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

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**THE DOXOLOGY**

The First Noel

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.*

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**ANTHEM:** "A Place to Keep Your Son"  Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy is you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hal! you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE**

Brent Watkins

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**THE BLESSING OF THE BLOOD OF CHRIST**

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

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**PRAYER**

Cornelia Singletary

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

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**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 56:1-5

Bill Bulluck

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**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

Barkeyl Browder

---

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd

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**CAROL MEDLEY** (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1 & 3): "Away in a Manger"

125 (stanzas 1 & 2): "Come, O Long-expected Jesus"

150 (stanzas 1 & 3): "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

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**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

Nancy Porter

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**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** "Come, Messiah, Come"  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

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**PRAYER**

Cornelia Singletary

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

---

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

Barkeyl Browder

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISSON TREE**

Brent Watkins

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**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

Barkeyl Browder

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISSON TREE**

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISSON TREE**

Brent Watkins

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISSON TREE**

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
VENI, VENI, EMANUEL

WENDRICK ANDRISSSEN

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiers en Taille from Messe pour les Parishes
TIERE EN TAILLE

FRANCOIS COUPERIN

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

(THE CONGREGATION WILL RISE WHEN THE ORGANIST BEGINS PLAYING)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gailm Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

OFFERTORY OMBRE: Improvisation

MARK PICHOWICZ

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

NOEL, NOEL, NOEL, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be your Son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

HAL H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

GUSTAV HOLST/ERRAND

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

MARK PICHOWICZ

* THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

BARKLEY BRODWER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

LYNN SHAW BAILEY AND BECKI SLAGE MAYO

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder
O come, Redeemer of the Earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH  ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

LITANY OF PREPARATION  Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI  REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bulluck

PRAYER  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flogging time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE  Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE  Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus!  Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger.  Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God.  Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Choral Introit

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* Litany of Preparation

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Gloria Patri

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barkey Browder

* Anthem: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able,

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

Carol Medley (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

H. W. YFWYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

934: Mendelssohn

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

Anthem: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

Offertory Prayer

Hope Reese

Organ Offertory: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* The Doxology

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

Anthem: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corr

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you, the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevemore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH
ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin
CHORAL INTROIT French Melody, 15th Century
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.
Come and worship, come and worship

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.
Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAVER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

WRDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl
A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSJOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE FIRST NOEL

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.
Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAVER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

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Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

WRDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

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Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past,
the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”

Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

WORDS OF THE ADVENT

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

PERCHEN

* PROCessional CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITany OF PREPARATION

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

OFFERTORY PRAYER

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

HANDLING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

THE BLESSING OF THE CRISMON TREE

ANTHEM: ““People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CASEY MCAULIFFE, drum

** CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

** THE GLORIA PATRI

** THE DOXOLOGY

** THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

* THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

PRAyER

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your son dear.

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Brent Watkins

** THE DOXOLOGY

* THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

PRAyER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSINAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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November 29, 2015

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above he heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE

Brent Watkins

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

HOPE REESE

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above he heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Veni Emmanuel

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

*LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of ceder, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O come, O come, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barckley Browder

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Away in a Manger” Veni Emmanuel

125 (stanzas 1 & 2): “Come, O Long Expected Jesus” Hyfrydol

150 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” Mendelssohn

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what can I give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flegdging time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

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Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
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Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
**The Worship of God**

*Starry Stranger, Guiding Light*

November 29, 2015  

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE:  

VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL  

VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL  

VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL

Hendrik Andriessen

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

CHORAL INTROIT:  

TIERCE EN TAILLE FROM MASS FOR THE PARISHES

FRANCE COUPERIN

CHURCH MUSIC:  

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESIONAL CAROL II:  “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

VENI EMANUEL

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* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**

Minister:  

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People:  

With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister:  

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People:  

With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister:  

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

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With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister:  

How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People:  

By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister:  

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People:  

Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.  

Come and worship, come and worship.  


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becky Slagle Mayo

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFYDOL

150 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

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Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

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ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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French Melody, 15th Century

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* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION
Elizabeth Edwards

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ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRISMON TREE
Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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ANTHEM: “People Look East”  
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

** LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

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Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Casey McAuliffe

The bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give me my heart. What I can I give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

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Matthew H. Corl

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Brent Watkins
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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

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November 29, 2015

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ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

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VENI EMMANUEL

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

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The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

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The Worship of God

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HANDEL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

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People: Offering life everlasting!
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People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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Eleven O’Clock

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ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son
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(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

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PRA CHER

Cornelia Singletary

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Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall

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today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life
to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and
sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” Away in a Manger

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had
fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels
o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden
bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I
give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your
love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart,
place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his
coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come;
prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you;
the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed
one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting,
“O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s Son.” We know good news
shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son
dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOM TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
November 29, 2015

**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

**The First Sunday of Advent**

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

**Organ Prelude:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

**Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church**

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

**Organ Meditation:** Tierce en Taille from *Mass for the Parishes* Francois Couperin

**Casey McAuliffe, drum**

**(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)**

**The Processional Carol 119:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Veni Emmanuel

**Elizabeth Edwards**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

**The Gloria Patri**

Regent Square

**The Doxology**

The First Noel

**The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy**

Barkley Browder

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

**The Worship of God**

**The Hanging of the Greens**

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson  
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevemore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Lake 1:1-80  
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright  

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People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.  
Minister: We believe in God.  
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.  
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.  
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.  
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.  
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.  
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.  
Minister: We believe in the church.  
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.  
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.  
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.  
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.  
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.  
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.  
People: Offering life everlasting!  
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!  
People: Hallelujah!  
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.  
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES  
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN  
* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz  
* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O'Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  
VENI EMMANUEL  
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT  
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
VENI EMMANUEL  
(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gailam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedars, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling thesaving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.  
Come and worship, come and worship  

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  
Gustav Holst

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago.  
Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss.  
O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart.  
What I can I give him: give him my heart.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

Children's ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Stagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

The OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:  
Isaiah 60:1-6

PRAYER

Bill Bulluck

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  
BARLEY BROWER  
Cornelia Singletary

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flegdlig time has chosen.  
People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  
Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  
HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  
MENDELSSOHN

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THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS  
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What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE  
Casey McAuliffe

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Matthew H. Corl

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We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.”  
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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISSOM TREE  
Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

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Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.
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People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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November 29, 2015

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” VENI EMANNUEL

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

MINISTER: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bullock

PRAYER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Bar克ley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, starry Stranger, Guiding Light on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” EPHEMANN

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hali, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”          Brian L. Hanson
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such
birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God
in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out
our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All
praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Ghost forevmoremore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:      Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION:           “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past,
the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by
shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins
of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:      “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz
* Congregation stands.
ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiers en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

CHORAL INTROIT: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

COME, MESSIAH, COME!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

PRAYER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISM TREE

Brent Watkins

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.}

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noël, Noël, Noël, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISM TREE

Brent Watkins

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

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Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

Casey McAuliffe, drum

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

Casey McAuliffe

CAROL MEDLEY

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

Händel

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

The Blessing of the Greens

ORDAN MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greeneries and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

Handel

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

Hyfrydol

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

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* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Elizabeth Edwards

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

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* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

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* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

PRAYER

Bill Bulluck

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

The old days were gone, the old days are ended, the old days are gone, the old days are ended. A new day is dawning, a new day is dawning, an age of glory. And the world’s going to learn this day that God’s coming to claim his glory. And the world’s going to learn this day that God’s coming to claim his glory. Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

The blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

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ANTHEM: “The Blessing of the Chrism Tree”

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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Starry Stranger, Guiding Light
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ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, the Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the first Sunday of Advent hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH
ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Messe for the Parishes Francois Couperin
CHORAL INTROIT 15th Century French Melody

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

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CONFESSOR PRAYER

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER
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Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bullock

PRAYER
Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barkyler Browder

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells
Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS
Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS
Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in Jesus Christ, the only Son of God.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

The FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

VENI EMMANUEL

Casey McAuliffe, drum

The Blessing of the Greens and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

November 29, 2015

11:00 A.M.

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

The OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, the worship of God.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed has come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

Eleventh O’Clock hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst

Come, O Long-expected Jesus

Hymnody

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, the worship of God.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed has come to thee, O Israel.
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION:  “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

CONFESSIO OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.
The Worship of God  
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light  

November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent  
Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  
Francois Couperin

Choral Introit  
French Melody, 15th Century

Choir:

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Gloria Patri

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo


Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barклey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

Carol Medley  
(please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

Organ: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

147 (Stanzas 1 & 3): “Away in a Manger”

A

150 (Stanzas 1 & 3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

Antem: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

Offertory Prayer

Hope Reese

Organ Offertory: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

Antem: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrsim Tree

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore: Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic host.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

**The First Sunday of Advent**

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

**Ornament Prelude:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church**

**Organ Meditation:** Tiersce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

**Choral Introit:** French Melody, 15th Century

**The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy**

**The Blessing of the Poinsettias**

**The Blessing of the Advent Wreath**

**The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths**

**The Doxology**

**The Grace**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer**

**Children’s Anthem:** “Come, Messiah, Come!”

**The Old Testament Lesson:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**Prayer**

**The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy**

**Anthem:** “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth.

Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. Rejoice!

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrors be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth.

Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd

**CAROL MEDLEY** (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

Nancy Porter

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Jarr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

**THE DOXOLOGY**

**THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”

**Old Testament Lesson:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**Prayer**

**The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy**

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE**

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE:  Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Christ the Lord is come

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

15th Century

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

VENI EMANUEL

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

(Reception will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

The Organist

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.


Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for a fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings a new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today: Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells
Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HAYRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Jarr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Coral

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
**The Worship of God**  
**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

**November 29, 2015**

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  
**HENDRIK ANDRIESEN**

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**CHORAL INTROIT:** Tierce en Taille from Messe pour les Paroisses  
**FRANCOIS COUPERIN**

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* **PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
**VENI EMMANUEL**

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**  
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**  
**ELIZABETH EDWARDS**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pin and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* **THE GLORIA PATRI**  
**REGENT SQUARE**

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,  
Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.  
Come and worship, come and worship  

* **THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”  
**LYNN SHAW BAILEY and Becki Slagle Mayo**

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6  
**BILL BULLOCK**

**PRAYER**  
**CORNELIA SINGLETARY**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**  
**BARLEY BROWDER**

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”  
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

Rejoice!

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  
**HENDRIK ANDRIESEN**

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Messe pour les Paroisses  
**FRANCOIS COUPERIN**

**CASEY MCAULIFFE,** drum

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**  
**BARKLEY BROWDER**

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**  
**CASEY MCAULIFFE**

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”  
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISSON TREE**  
**BRENT WATKINS**
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:     Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION:   “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.


Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:     Adeste Fideles

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent
Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

Choral Introit

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* Litany of Preparation

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: By branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: By the coming of Emmanuel, by his coming in the flesh.

* The Gloria Patri

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, glory be to God the Son, glory be to God the Holy Spirit. Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship. Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barclay Browder

Antehm: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

Carol Medley (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

Hyfrydo

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

Mendelssohn

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Potter

Antehm: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Jarr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I we re a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

Offertory Prayer

Hope Reese

Organ Offertory: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

The First Noel

The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above the heavens, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

Antehm: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you, the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”
Brian L. Hanson
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
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People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiers en Taille from Messe for the Parishes  
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT  
French Melody, 15th Century  
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
VENI EMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION  
Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI  
REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,  
Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.  
Come and worship, come and worship  

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  
Bill Bulluck

PRAYER  
Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  
Barclay Browder

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**  
Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  
HYFYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  
MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  
Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  
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In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER  
Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation  
Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY  
THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

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ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRIMSON TREE**  
Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega. Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O'Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

ORGAN MEDITATION: French Melody, 15th Century

GLORIOUS OFFERING

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

* THE DOXOLOGY

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

* THE INOCVATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

PRAVER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People, look east and sing today. Rejoice!

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister:  
Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People:  
As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister:  
We believe in God.

People:  
Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister:  
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People:  
Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister:  
Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People:  
Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister:  
We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People:  
Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister:  
We believe in the church.

People:  
The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister:  
We believe in the Word of Life.

People:  
Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister:  
We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People:  
That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister:  
We believe in the resurrection.

People:  
Offering life everlasting!

Minister:  
Bursting forth with hope!

People:  
Hallelujah!

Minister:  
Let us offer our lives to God.

People:  
In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

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Eleven O’Clock

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Toccata en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Corinna Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Away in a Manger”

HAYFORD

125 (stanzas 1 & 2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” 
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

Choral Introit

French Melody, 15th Century

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

* Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Veni Emmanuel

* Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* Litany of Preparation

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Gloria Patri

Regent Square

* The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come.

Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barclay Browder

Anthem: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

Carol Medley

(please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

Veni Emmanuel

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

Gustav Holst

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

Anthem: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone, snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

Offertory Prayer

Hope Reese

Organ Offertory: Improvisation

Math Pichowicz

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise ye Lord, praise ye Lord, praise with the highest praise.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

Anthem: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

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Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the first Sunday of Advent eleventh o’clock hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin

Choral Introit: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* Procesional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* Lighting of the Advent Wreath Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

Litany of Preparation Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Gloria Patri

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

Prayer Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. The star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths Stuart Todd

Carol Medley (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” Hymndl

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” Mendelssohn

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” Mendelssohn

The Blessing of the Poinsettias Nancy Porter

Anthem: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

Offertory Prayer Hope Reese

Organ Offertory: Improvisation Mark Pichowicz

* The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche Casey McAuliffe

Anthem: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming; the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSINAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
VENI EMANUEEL

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Messe for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEEL

(THE congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.
Come and worship, come and worship

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lutheran Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray, Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAZER

Corinna Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flegdging time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give my heart. What I can I give him: give my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray, Come, Messiah, come!

The world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRIMSON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”       Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION:        “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”       Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”       ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr       Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
November 29, 2015

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiers en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

CHORAL INTROIT: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Children’s anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come” by Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

ANTHEM: “People Look East” by Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east, and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

* ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

* THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

PRAAYER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

CAROL MEDLEY

(Organist will begin playing.)

* THE DOXOLOGY

The worship of God ends with the Doxology:

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” by Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE

BRENT WATKINS
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the Earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed: O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevmore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

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Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.


Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015
The FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Eleven O’Clock

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The Binding of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
VENI EMANUEL
(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gail Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION
Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI
REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bulluck

PRAYER
Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flegding time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells
Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS
Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
HYFRYDOL
125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
MENDELSSOHN
150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS
Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”
Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part: what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY
THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above heaven, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE
Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepening joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE
Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”       Brian L. Hanson
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:        Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION:          “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”        Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
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People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Offered and sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: He was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:       ADESTE FIDELES
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN
* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freude dich sehr       Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015
The FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock
The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

HAL H. HOPSON

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

People: Glory to God in the highest!

THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAWER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Brent Watkins

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God for he is ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega. Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSINAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today. Love the bird is on the way.

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**The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths**  Stuart Todd

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

**The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy**  Barkley Browder

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

**The Blessing of the Chrsim Tree**  Brent Watkins
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION:          “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:   "O Come, All Ye Faithful" ADESTE FIDELES
* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN
* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz
* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.  

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. People look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

Peace be within your hearts. 

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Veni Emmanuel

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

(Organist will be playing) 

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Taverner, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

* THE GLORIA PATRI

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

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* THE GLORIA PATRI

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE

Brent Watkins

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God  
**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

*The First Sunday of Advent*  
Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

### The Hanging of the Greens

**Organ Prelude:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  
*Hendrik Andriessen*

**Organ Meditation:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  
*Francois Couperin*

**Choral Introit:** French Melody, 15th Century  
*French Melody, 15th Century*

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

- *Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**  
*Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker*

**Litany of Preparation**  
*Elizabeth Edwards*

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

**People:** With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

**People:** With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

**People:** With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

**People:** By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

**People:** Glory to God in the highest!

- *The Gloria Patri*

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

*Regent Square*

- *The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer*

*Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”*  
*Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo*

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

*The Old Testament Lesson:*  
*Isaiah 60:1-6*  
*Bill Bulluck*

*Prayer*  
*Cornelia Singletary*

**The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy**  
*Barclay Browder*

### Anthems

- **“People Look East”**  
  *Hal H. Hopson*

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. To nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

- **“Carols Medley”**  
  *Stuart Todd*

Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.

**Carol Medley**  
*Casey McAuliffe, drum*

- **“Proceessional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”**  
  *Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.**

**Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noah, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.**

**The Blessing of the Creche**  
*Casey McAuliffe*

**Anthem:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”  
*Matthew H. Corl*

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree**  
*Brent Watkins*
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent From God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSINAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

The Hanging of the Greens

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: By branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God. Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!


ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flegding time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set e’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today, Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

OFFERTORY PRAYER: Improvisation Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE Brent Watkins

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” VHYFDYL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE DOXOLOGY T

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

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Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES

Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz

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The Worship of God

November 29, 2015

**The First Sunday of Advent**

Eleven O'Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

**Organ Prelude:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church**

**Choral Introit**

French Melody, 15th Century

*Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*  
*Venecian*  

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**Litany of Preparation**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

**The Glória Patri**

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,  
Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


**The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer**

**Children’s Anthem:** “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

**The Old Testament Lesson:** Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

**Prayer**

Cornelia Singletary

**The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy**

Barclay Browder

Anthem: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

**The Doxology**

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

**The Blessing of the Creche**

Casey McAuliffe

Anthem: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come: prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hal, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**The Blessing of the Chrsim Tree**

Brent Watkins

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  
HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  
MENDELSJOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

**Organ Offertory:** Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

*The Doxology*

**The Blessing of the Poinsettias**

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  
Franz Schubert

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

**The Blessing of the Chrsim Tree**

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION:    “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

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Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
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People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT: Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

* THE GLORIA PATRI

* THE DOXOLOGY

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

PRAYER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*  LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

*  LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give me my heart. What I can give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

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Barkley Browder

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The Worship of God

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Brent Watkins
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ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

Eleven O’Clock

**The First Sunday of Advent**

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

**ORGAN MEDITATION**

Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

**CHORAL INTROIT**

French Melody, 15th Century

**The Blessing of the Greens and Wreaths**

Stuart Todd

**Children’s Anthem:** “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

**The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer**

Bill Bullock

**The Old Testament Lesson:** Isaiah 60:1-6

Cornelia Singletary

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**Anthem:** “People Look East”

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The Worship of God

**Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there.**

**People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.**

**The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths**

Stuart Todd

**Carol Medley**

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**The Blessing of the Poinsettias**

Nancy Porter

**Anthem:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

**Organ Offertory:** Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

**The Doxology**

The First Noel

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.**

**Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

**O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.**

**We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, dear.**

**The Blessing of the Creche**

Casey McAuliffe

**Anthem:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree**

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION:  “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

December 29, 2015

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  Veni Emmanuel

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pray the Church together with the whole Church, that we may serve you, O Lord, in all truth and in all justice.

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us. Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

PRAVER

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

For a whole world is as a frosty moor, a wasteland dead, but all you open heart will know the Spring’s approach.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

* REGENT SQUARE

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us. Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  Gustav Holst/Jarr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give my heart. What I can I give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

CORAL MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

MINISTER: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

MINISTER: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

MINISTER: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

MINISTER: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

THE BLESSING OF THE CRISMON TREE

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deeper joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins

* THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

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ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come!”  Lynn Maria and Becki Slagle Mayo

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ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

A watchful, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deeper joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

MINISTER How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

MINISTER: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

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MINISTER: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

The Glória Patri

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. When do you we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barkley Browder

The Worship of God

“The First Sunday of Advent” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give me my heart. What I can I give him: give me my heart.

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Hymnody

Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give me my heart. What I can I give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrism Tree

Brent Watkins

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
VENI EMMANUEL

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

ORSANS OF CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Taverner, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND L ORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today. Love the bird is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFRYDL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepening joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angels’ greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:     Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:    “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.


Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:    “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.  Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
November 29, 2015

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Eleven O'Clock

**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**Hendrik Andriessen**

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**Elizabeth Edwards**

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

**Francois Couperin**

**CASEY MCAULIFFE, DRUM**

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

**Stuart Todd**

**THE BLESSING OF THE Poinsettias**

**Nancy Porter**

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”

**Hal H. Hopson**

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**Hendrik Andriessen**

**Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells**

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

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**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**Bill Bulluck**

**PRAZER**

**Cornelia Singletary**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**Barkley Browder**

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”

**Matthew H. Corl**

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

**Casey McAuliffe**

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”

**Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore**

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**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**Hope Reese**

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

**Mark Pichowicz**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**Bill Bulluck**

**PRAZER**

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE**

**Brent Watkins**
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

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Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

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Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

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People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSINAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Eleven O’Clock

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**Hendrik Andriessen**

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tiers en Taille from Messe for the Parishes

**Francois Couperin**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* **PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

**VENI EMANUEL**

* **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and GILLAM PARKER

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* **THE GLORIA PATRI**

**REGENT SQUARE**

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* **THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”

**Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo**

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**Bill Bulluck**

**PRAYER**

**CONIELA SINGLETARY**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**Barkley Browder**

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

**Casey McAuliffe**

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”

**Hal H. Hopson**

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today. Look the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

* **THE GLORIA PATRI**

**THE DOXOLOGY**

The blessing of the greenery and wreaths

**Stuart Todd**

**CAROL MEDLEY** (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

**A WAY IN A MANGER**

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

**HYFRYDL**

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**MENDLESOHN**

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

**Nancy Porter**

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”

**Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore**

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**Hope Reese**

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

**Mark Pichowicz**

* **THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**Bill Bulluck**

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**PRAYER**

**CONIELA SINGLETARY**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**Barkley Browder**

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRISMON TREE**

**Brent Watkins**

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”

**Matthew H. Corl**

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRISMON TREE**
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevemore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**Hendrik Andriessen**

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**FRANK DE GRUCHY**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

**Francois Couperin**

**CHORAL INTROIT:** French Melody, 15th Century

**French Melody, 15th Century**

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* **PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”**

**VENI EMMANUEL**

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

**Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker**

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**

**Elizabeth Edwards**

* Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

**People:** With branches of cedars, the tree of royalty.

* Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

**People:** With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

* Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

**People:** With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

* Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

**People:** By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

**Minister:** For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

**People:** Glory to God in the highest!

* **THE GLORIA PATRI**

**REGENCY SQUARE**

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

**THE INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER**

**LYNN SHAW BALEY AND BETH SLAGLE MAYO**

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

**COME, MESSIAH, COME!**

**Bill Bulluck**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**Cornelia Singletary**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**Barclay Broder**

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”

**Hal H. Hopson**

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

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Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the first sun of God appears. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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**Stars, keep the watch.** When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today. Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

**Casey McAuliffe, drum**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**Barkley Brown**

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**Gustav Holst**

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**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

**Stuart Todd**

**CAROL MEDLEY** (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

**Nancy Porter**

**ANTHEM:** “Visit Me, O Lord”

**Donald Denley**

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

**Casey McAuliffe**

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”

**Matthew H. Corl**

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A Voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE**

**Brent Watkins**

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the first sun of God appears. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

People look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today. Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

**Casey McAuliffe, drum**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HANGING OF GREENERY AND WREATHS**

**Barkley Brown**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**Barkley Brown**

**ANTHEM:** “Away in a Manger”

**Gustav Holst**

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I offer—come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN
* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz
* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

Ô come, Ô come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “Ô Come, Ô Come, Emmanuel”
VENI EMMANUEL

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS
Stuart Todd

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS
Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”
Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER
CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bulluck

PRAYER
Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CASY McAULIFE, drum

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
Frances Havergal

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
HYFORD

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”
F. Mendelssohn

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS
Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”
Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. How can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

NOEL, NOEL, NOEL, NOEL, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE
Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE
Brent Watkins

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

NOEL, NOEL, NOEL, NOEL, born is the King of Israel.
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION:  “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

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Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.


Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

*B RECESSINAL CAROL 148:  “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God  
**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

**November 29, 2015**  
**The First Sunday of Advent**  
Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

**Organ Prelude:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  
**Hendrik Andriessen**

**Organ Meditation:** Tiere en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  
**Francois Couperin**

**Choral Introit:** French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
**Veni Emmanuel**

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* Lighting of the Advent Wreath  
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Giliam Parker

* Litany of Preparation  
**Elizabeth Edwards**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Gloriam Patri  
**Regent Square**

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.  
Come and worship, come and worship  

* The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

**Children’s Anthem:** “Come, Messiah, Come”  
**Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo**

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

* The Old Testament Lesson:  
**Isaiah 60:1-6**  
**Bill Bulluck**

**Prayer**  
**Cornelia Singletary**

**The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy**  
**Barkey Browder**

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”  
**Hal H. Hopson**

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elethabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells  
**Casey McAuliffe, drum**

**The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths**  
**Stuart Todd**

**Carol Medley** (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  
**AWAY IN A MANGER**

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  
**HYFRYDL**

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  
**MENDELSSOHN**

**The Blessing of the Poinsettias**  
**Nancy Porter**

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”  
**Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore**

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give my heart. What I can I give him: give my heart.

**Offertory Prayer**  
**Hope Reese**

**Organ Offertory:** Improvisation  
**Mark Pichowicz**

**The Doxology**  
**The First Noel**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

**The Blessing of the Creche**  
**Casey McAuliffe**

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”  
**Matthew H. Corl**

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**The Blessing of the Chrsim Tree**  
**Brent Watkins**
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.


Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People look east, the time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

TENANT SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ELEVEN O’CLOCK

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Venin, Venin, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT

VENI EMANUEL

Vinicius Andriessen

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Taverner, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

* OSMOND

OFFERTORY PRAYER

* THE DOXOLOGY

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give me my heart. What I can give him: give me my heart.

HOPE REESE

* THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins

THE GLORY OF GOD IN THE HIGHEST!
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

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Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary

handbells

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Glory be to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE


Minister: We pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Look the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today:

Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today. Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of might Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

VENI EMMANUEL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give my heart. What I can I give him: give my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

THE FIRST NOEL

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for his warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.  
The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People:  
Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People:  
Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People:  
Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People:  
Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People:  
The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People:  
Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People:  
That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People:  
Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People:  
Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People:  
In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT

Francois Couperin

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gilliam Parker

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barlkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of joyous Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

AWAY IN A MANGER

HYFRYDL

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give me my heart. What I can I give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you, the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80  
MEDITATION:  “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismos we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth ... peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: As we share symbols, let us confess our creeds.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
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The Worship of God

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

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Barclay Browder

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Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation Mark Pichowicz

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MEDITATION:  “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

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People: Hallelujah!
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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH
ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiersce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  Francois Couperin
CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

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(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

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CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bullock

PRAYER  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells  Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzae 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  AYYA IN A MANGER

125 (stanzae 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzae 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  MENDELSOSHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS  Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give my heart. What I can I give him: give my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER  Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation  Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY  THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE  Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE  Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

THE MEDITATION:  “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
November 29, 2015

**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**Hendrik Andriessen**

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tiere en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

**François Couperin**

**CHORAL INTROIT** French Melody, 15th Century

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

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**PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”**

**Veni Emmanuel**

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

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**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

**Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker**

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**

**Elizabeth Edwards**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

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**THE GLORIA PATRI**

**REGENT SQUARE**

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


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**THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”

**Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo**

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**Bill Bulluck**

**PRAYER**

**Cornelia Singletary**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**Barclay Browder**

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**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”

**Hal H. Hopson**

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

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**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

**Stuart Todd**

**CAROL MEDLEY** (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

**AWAY IN A MANGER**

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

**HYFRYDDOL**

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**MENDELSJOHN**

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

**Nancy Porter**

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”

**Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore**

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

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**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**Hope Reese**

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

**Mark Pichowicz**

**THE DOXOLOGY**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**Bill Bulluck**

**PRAYER**

**Cornelia Singletary**

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

**Casey McAuliffe**

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”

**Matthew H. Corl**

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE**

**Brent Watkins**
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevemore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz
* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

CHORAL INTROIT

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

ANTHEM: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’Clock

People look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able,

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

The Blessing of the Presence

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

CHORAL INTROIT

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

ANTHEM: “Away in a Manger”

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

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Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

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* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTI FIDELES
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent
Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Choral Introit: French Melody, 15th Century

Concerto in G minor

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

(Veni Emmanuel)

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gailm Parker

* Litany of Preparation

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedars, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holy and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Gloria Patri

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.
Come and worship, come and worship

* The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bulluck

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells
Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

Carol Medley (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

Antehm: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

Offertory Prayer

Hope Reese

Organ Offertory: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

The First Noel

* The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

Antehm: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrism Tree

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

* Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God  

October 29, 2015  

**The First Sunday of Advent**  

Eleven O’Clock  

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens  

**Organ Prelude:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  

Hendrik Andriessen  

**Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church**  

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  

Francois Couperin  

Choral Introit: French Melody, 15th Century  

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* Procesional Carol 119: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"  

Veni Emmanuel  

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* Lighting of the Advent Wreath  

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**Litany of Preparation**  

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?  

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?  

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?  

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?  

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.  

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Gloria Patri  

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.  

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer  

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”  

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6  

Bill Bulluck

Prayer  

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy  

Barkey Browder

Anthem: “People Look East”  

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths  

Stuart Todd

Carol Medley (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)  

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  

Hyfrydol

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  

Mendelssohn

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  

The Blessing of the Poinsettias  

Nancy Porter

Anthem: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.  

Offertory Prayer  

Hope Reese

Organ Offertory: Improvisation  

Mark Pichowicz

* The Doxology  

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche  

Casey McAuliffe

Anthem: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree  

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
November 29, 2015
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Eleven O'Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bulluck

PRAYER
Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today. Love the bird is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People, look east and sing today. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells
Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS
Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
AWAY IN A MANGER
125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
HYFRYDOL
150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”
MENDLESOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS
Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”
Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give me my heart. What I can give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE
Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corg

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE
Brent Watkins

ANTHEM: “People Look East”
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east.
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson  
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.  

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright  

CONFESSION OF FAITH  
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.  
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.  
Minister: We believe in God.  
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.  
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.  
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.  
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.  
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.  
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.  
Minister: We believe in the church.  
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.  
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.  
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.  
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.  
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.  
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.  
People: Offering life everlasting!  
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!  
People: Hallelujah!  
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.  
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.  

* RECESSINAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES  
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN  

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz  

* Congregation stands.  

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
VENI EMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION
Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI
REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

COME, MESSIAH, COME!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bulluck

PRAYER
Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells
Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS
Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
HYFYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”
MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS
Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”
Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give me my heart. What I can I give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY
THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above all principality and power.

PRAYERS

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE
Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE
Brent Watkins
Advent at Lakeside

ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ? People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty. Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the Son of God? People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green. Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior? People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection. Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God? People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God. Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER
CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bulluck

PRAayer  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
November 29, 2015

**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  
**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

- French Melody, 15th Century
- Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes (Francois Couperin)
- Improvisation (Mark Pichowicz)

**The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths** (Stuart Todd)

**The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy** (Barkley Browder)

**The Blessing of the Evergreen and Poinsettias** (Nancy Porter)

**The Blessing of the Creche** (Casey McAuliffe)

**The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree** (Brent Watkins)

**The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer**

**Children’s Anthem:** “Come, Messiah, Come” (Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo)

**The Old Testament Lesson:** Isaiah 60:1-6 (Bill Bulluck)

**The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy**

**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”  
**Arr. Donald Moore**

**Organist:** Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, the Worship of God

- Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for feldgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today. Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

**The Word of Welcome and Concerns of the Church**

**Offertory Prayer**

**The Doxology**

**The Gloria Patri**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Organist:** Mark Pichowicz

**The Blessing of the Poinsettias**

**The Blessing of the Son**

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”  
**Arr. Donald Moore**

**Choir Director:** Elizabeth Edwards

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

**The Old Testament Lesson:** Isaiah 60:1-6 (Bill Bulluck)

**The Blessing of the Chrismos Tree**

**ANTHEM:** “Place to Keep Your Son”  
**Arr. Matthew H. Corl**

**Choir Director:** Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.
Advent at Lakeside

ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION:  “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

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Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
**The Worship of God**  
**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015  
**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  
*Venetian*  
**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**CHANSON INTROIT:** O come, O come, Emmanuel  
*French Melody, 15th Century*  
**CHORAL INTROIT:** O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
**VENI EMMANUEL**

* THE GLORIATION OF THE ADVENT WREATH*  
**Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker**

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH*  
**Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells**

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  
**Casey McAuliffe, drum**

**CHORAL INTROIT**  
French Melody, 15 Century

**CAROL MEDLEY**

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”  
*Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore*

**Minister:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

**People:** With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

**Minister:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

**People:** With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

**Minister:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

**People:** With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

**Minister:** How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

**People:** By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

**Minister:** For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

**People:** Glory to God in the highest!

**THE GLORIA PATRI**  
**Regent Square**

**Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.**

**Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.**

**THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”  
*Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo*

**O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.**

**Come, Messiah, come!**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6  
**Bill Bulluck**

**PRAYER**  
**Cornelia Singletary**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**  
**Barclay Browder**

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”  
*Hal H. Hopson*

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**  
*Stuart Todd*

**CAROL MEDLEY**  
*Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.**

**PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” VENI EMMANUEL**

*The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.*

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**  
**Elizabeth Edwards**

**Minister:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

**People:** With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

**Minister:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

**People:** With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

**Minister:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

**People:** With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

**Minister:** How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

**People:** By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

**Minister:** For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

**People:** Glory to God in the highest!

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”  
*Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore*

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**  
*Hope Reese*

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation  
*Mark Pichowicz*

**THE DOXOLOGY**  
**T**

**FIRST NOEL**  
**F**

**PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW**  
**E**

**PRAISE GOD ABOVE ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW**  
**R**

**PRAISE GOD ABOVE HEAVENLY HOST, PRAISE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY GHOST**  
**E**

**NOEL, NOEL, NOEL, born is the King of Israel.**

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**  
*Casey McAuliffe*

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”  
*Matthew H. Corl*

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepening joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE**  
*Brent Watkins*
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” 
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: 
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” 
Jody Wright

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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” 
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr 
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tocque en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

Choral Introit

French Melody, 15th Century

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

Carol Medley (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

125 (stanzas 1 & 2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

Hyfrydol

* Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Veni Emmanuel

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

* Light of the Advent Wreath

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* Litany of Preparation

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Gloria Patri

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


* The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray, Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barkley Browder

* The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

* The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

Anthem: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

* The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree

Brent Watkins

Anthem: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

Carol Medley (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Away in a Manger”

Away in a Manger

125 (stanzas 1 & 2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

Hymndol

150 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

Antem: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give me my heart. What I can I give him: give me my heart.

Offertory Prayer

Hope Reese

Organ Offertory: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

The First Noel

Anthem: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

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The Blessing of the Chrsim Tree

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
VENI EMMAUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gailm Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION
Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI
REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, glory be to God the Son, glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.
Come and worship, come and worship.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:
Isaiah 60:1-6

PRAayer
Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

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Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.
ANTHEM: "People Look East"  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

STARRY STRANGER, GUIDING LIGHT

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the star that ne’er peak and valley hummimg with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Eleven O’Clock

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

VENI EMMANUEL

(Organist will begin playing)

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

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REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

Children’s Chorus

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Corinella Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

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Stuart Todd

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Nancy Porter

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL


Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT French Melody, 15th Century

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(THE congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

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Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gilmor Parker

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People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray, Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRA ay

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for feldging time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanza 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanza 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFRYDL

150 (stanza 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega. Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
Lakeside Baptist Church

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE:  
“Freu dich sehr”  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.
Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
VENI, VENI, EMANUEL
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

The First Noel

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

ORGAN MEDITATION:
Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI, EMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSsoHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, churubim and seraphim gathered in the air. But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Maker, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.
November 29, 2015

**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from *Mass for the Parishes*

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

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People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo


Bill Bulluck

Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Cornelia Singletary

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Barkley Browder

**The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy**

**The Blessing of the Greener and Wreaths**

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greener and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFRYDEL

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MENDELSSOHN

ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come!”

Matthew H. Corl


Cornelia Singletary

Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Bill Bulluck

Come, Messiah, come!

**Prayer**

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

**The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy**

**The Blessing of the Greener and Wreaths**

Stuart Todd

**THE BLESSING OF THE MEETING AND WREATHS**

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give me my heart. What I can I give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God in the highest. Praise God in the highest.

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

Casey McAuliffe

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRIMSON TREE**

Brent Watkins

ANTHEM: “People Look East!”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Burrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

Rejoice!
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

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Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

Benediction and Choral Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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Hal H. Hopson

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CHORAL INTROIT
Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Eleven O’Clock

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THE WORSHIP OF GOD

STARRY STRANGER, GUIDING LIGHT

People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS
Stuart Todd

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”
Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

WORSETH OF GOD

THE HANGING OF THE GREENS

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gilmor Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION
Elizabeth Edwards

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* THE GLORIA PATRI
REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bulluck

PRAYER
Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY
THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noah, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE
Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the Earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let every age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

The First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2015

Eleven O’Clock

The First Sunday of Advent

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Toccata en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Choral Introit: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

(Repetition will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Taverner, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* Litany of Preparation

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Gloriam Patri

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slate Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noël, Noël, Noël, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today.

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

Carol Medley (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

Hyfrydol

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

Mendelssohn

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

Antehm: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stred hard as iron, water like a stone: snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels over the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

Offertory Prayer

Hope Reese

Organ Offertory: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

The Doxology

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noël, Noël, Noël, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

Antem: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

November 29, 2015

The FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE:  Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION:  Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  Veni Emmanuel

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION  Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

OFFERTORY PRAYER  Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY:  Improvisation  Mark Pichowicz

* THE GLORIA PATRI  Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE IN VOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:  Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bullock

PRAYER  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  HYFYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS  Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER  Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY:  Improvisation  Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY  THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noël, Noël, Noël, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE  Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISM TREE  Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSIOAN OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

November 29, 2015

Eleven O’Clock

**THE WORSHIP OF GOD BEGINS WITH THE MUSIC OF THE ORGAN AND OFFERS TIME FOR MEDITATION AND REFLECTION.**

**THEREFORE:**

Pray, refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices.

**FOLLOWING THE SERVICE, SHARE YOUR FRIENDSHIP WITH THOSE AROUND YOU.**

**WIRELESS HEARING AIDS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX.**

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**ANTHEM:** "People Look East"  Hal H. Hopson

*TRIM THE HEARTH AND SET THE TABLE. PEOPLE LOOK EAST AND SING TODAY: LOVE THE GUEST IS ON THE WAY.*

**THE WORSHIP OF GOD**

**FURROWS BE GLAD. THOUGH EARTH IS BARE, ONE MORE SEED IS PLANTED THERE.**

**GIVE UP YOUR STRENGTH THE SEED TO NOURISH, THAT IN COURSE THE FLOW’R MAY FLOURISH.**

*PEOPLE LOOK EAST AND SING TODAY: LOVE THE ROSE IS ON THE WAY.*

**BIRDS, THOUGH YOU LONG HAVE CEASED TO BUILD, GUARD THE NEST THAT MUST BE FILLED.**

*EVEN THE NOVEMBER 29, 2015*

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**THE KEEPING OF THE GREENS**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tiers en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  Francois Couperin

**CHORAL INTROIT:** French Melody, 15th Century

*OCOME, OCOME, EMANUEL,*

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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**THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

Casey McAuliffe

---

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE**

Brent Watkins

---

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson


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**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd

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**CAROL MEDLEY**

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

**119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”**

VENI EMANUEL

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**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

Isaiah 60:1-6

**PRAYER**

Cornelia Singletary

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**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

Barkey Browder

---

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

Nancy Porter

---

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

---

**THE DOXOLOGY**

The First Noel

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation  Mark Pichowicz

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**THE GLORIA PATRI**

Regent Square

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**THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

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**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

Casey McAuliffe

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE**

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

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Jody Wright

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Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

Stuart Todd

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15

(Carlton Famerican)

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

CAROL MEDLEY

(Organist will begin playing.)

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

(Repetition will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. Rejoice!

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

VENI EMANUEL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

LENDELSON

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSOLON

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above all angels when the day was made. Praise God above the heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE

Brent Watkins

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, to trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

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125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

LENDELSON

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MENDELSOLON

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

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Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

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THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

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Matthew H. Corl

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: "O Come, Redeemer of the Earth"  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
"Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope"  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
"O Come, All Ye Faithful"  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiersce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

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O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Corinela Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

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THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

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MENDLESOHN

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ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above in heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega. Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
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Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**Hendrik Andriessen**

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

Tiersce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

**François Couperin**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

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People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

**THE GLORIA PATRI**

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

**THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

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**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**Bill Bulluck**

**PRAYER**

**Cornelia Singletary**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**Barclay Browder**

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MEDITATION:  
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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.


Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

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People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

The FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiers de Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
VENI EMMANUEL

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION
Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Give him: give him my heart.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Give him: give him my heart.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Give him: give him my heart.

Northern Lights, Cottage Lullaby

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

* THE GLORIA PATRI
REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Ghost. Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Ghost. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:
Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greeneries and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
HYFRYDL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”
MENDELSJOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”
Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISM TREE
Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” by Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” by Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Immanuel: God with us.

People: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSINAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” by ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr by Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

LEMMANUEL

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gailam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

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Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

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Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Corinelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

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THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

A W A Y  I N  A  M A N G E R

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFREDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

M E N D E L S O H N

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson
O come, Redeemer of the Earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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November 29, 2015

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ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
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CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

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O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

COME, MESSIAH, COME!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAKER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

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THE BLESSING OF THE HOLM AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder
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THE GOSPEL LESSON: Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
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Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

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Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gilliam Parker

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Elizabeth Edwards

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bulluck

PRAYER
Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
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Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

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ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above you heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE
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ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepening joy in you; in the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRISMON TREE
Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
**Worship of God, Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015  
**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
Eleven O’Clock  

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  
**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERN OF THE CHURCH:** Veni, Emmanuel  
**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  
**CHORAL INTROIT:** French Melody, 15th Century  

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  
* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?  
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?  
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?  
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?  
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.  
People: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.  
People: Glory to God in the highest!

**THE GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.  
Come and worship, come and worship  

**THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”  
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo  

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.  
Come, Messiah, come!

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6  
Bill Bulluck  

**PRAYER**  
Cornelia Singletary

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**  
Barclay Browder

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”  
Hal H. Hopson  
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

* THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  
* THE DOXOLOGY  
* ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  
* THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISSON TREE  

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**  
Stuart Todd

**CAROL MEDLEY**

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)  

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  
AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  
HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  
MENDELSSOHN

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**  
Nancy Porter

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”  
Stewart Holt/arr. Donald Moore  

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**  
Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation  
Mark Pichowitz  

**THE FIRST NOEL**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**  
Casey McAuliffe

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”  
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s Son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE**  
Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

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People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
November 29, 2015

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Choral Introit

French Melody, 15th Century

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: By branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: By garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: By wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Gloria Patri

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barclay Browder

Anthem: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

The Blessing of the Greenery and Wreaths

Stuart Todd

Carol Medley (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Nancy Porter

Anthem: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

Offertory Prayer

Hope Reese

Organ Offertory: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* The Doxology

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAuliffe

Anthem: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrism Tree

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

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Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is Starry Stranger, Guiding Light on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the November 29, 2015. 

Eleven O’Clock

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin

**CHORAL INTROIT**

**VENI EMANUEL**

*(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)*

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**

**Minister:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

**People:** With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

**Minister:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

**People:** With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

**Minister:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

**People:** With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

**Minister:** How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

**People:** By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

**Minister:** For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation Mark Pichowicz

**THE GLORIA PATRI**

*Regent Square*

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

**THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

**PRAYER**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

Barkley Browder

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

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**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation Mark Pichowicz

**THE DOXOLOGY**

*The First Noel*

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

Casey McAuliffe

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISM TREE**

Brent Watkins

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevmore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
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ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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Mark Pichowicz

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Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015
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People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH
ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin
CHORAL INTROIT French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gilmak Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of God?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.
Come and worship, come and worship

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo
O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barlky Browder

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The BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” Away in a MANGER
125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” HYFYDOL
150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” MENDELSsoHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

The First Noel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the Earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of Light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTÉ FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

**November 29, 2015**

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**Hendrik Andriessen**

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

**François Couperin**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

**PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

**VENI EMANUEL**

(“The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.”)

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

**Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker**

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**

**Elizabeth Edwards**

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

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People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

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Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, glory be to God the Son, glory be to God the Spirit, ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship.


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”

**Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo**

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**Bill Bullock**

**PRAYER**

**Cornelia Singletary**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**Barclay Browder**

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

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* THE DOXOLOGY

**THE FIRST NOEL**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.**

**Praise God above ye heavenly host.**

**Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.**

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISON TREE**

Brent Watkins

**Carol Medley (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)**

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

**HAYFORD**

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

**MENDELSJOHN**

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

**Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore**

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Hope Reese

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

**Mark Pichowicz**

**THE GLORIA PATRI R**

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O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION:  “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

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People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.
ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

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Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the November 29, 2015

The Hanging of the Greens

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

* ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

The OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Prayer

The BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISSON TREE

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The old-fashioned tree is bare, but the seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way.

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THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Elizabeth Edwards

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

Casey McAuliffe, drum

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(Venation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

LITANY OF PREPARATION

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People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

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* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

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PRAYER

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

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BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

**CHORAL INTROIT**

**CAROL MEDLEY** *(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)*

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

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**MINISTER:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

**PEOPLE:** With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

**MINISTER:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

**PEOPLE:** With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

**MINISTER:** How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

**PEOPLE:** By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

**MINISTER:** For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

**PEOPLE:** Glory to God in the highest!

**THE GLORIA PATRI**

**THE DOXOLOGY**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**PRAYER**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation Mark Pichowicz

**THE GLORIA PATRI**

**THE DOXOLOGY**

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

**PEOPLE:** look east, the time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

**THE WORSHIP OF GOD**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

**on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

**Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells**

**Casey McAuliffe, drum**

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

**CAROL MEDLEY** *(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)*

**147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”**

**HYFRYDL**

**MENDELSSOHN**

**150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”**

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

**Nancy Porter**

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”

**Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore**

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**Hope Reese**

**THE DOXOLOGY**

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

**Mark Pichowicz**

**THE FIRST NOEL**

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

**Casey McAuliffe**

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for you shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE**

**Brent Watkins**

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

**PEOPLE:** look east, the time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

**Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength to nourish, that in course the flow’r shall flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

**Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells**

**Casey McAuliffe, drum**
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”
Brian L. Hanson
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevemore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

*LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENCY SQUARE

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAFTER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.


Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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STARry STRANGER, GUIDING LIGHT

November 29, 2015

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin
CHORAL INTROIT French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gailam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

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* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

PRAYER

Bill Bulluck

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Corinela Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

CASEY McAULIFFE, DRUM

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

STUART TODD

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” NANCY PORTER

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

HOPE REESE

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation MARK PICHOWICZ

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noël, Noël, Noël, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

CASEY McAULIFFE

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRIMSON TREE

BRENT WATKINS
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”    Brian L. Hanson
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let every age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
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Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:    “O Come, All Ye Faithful”    ADESTE FIDELES

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Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens
ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
VENI, VENI, EMANUEL

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.
Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

PRAYER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRIMSON TREE

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

(Venice will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
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Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENCY SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.
Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION:  “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.
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Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN
* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz
* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the first day of Advent, when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall bring, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev'ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. Rejoice!

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION  Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI  Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

MINISTER: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

PEOPLE: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

MINISTER: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

PEOPLE: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

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C głów, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bulluck

PRAYER  Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Burrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. People look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
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O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

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Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
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ADESTE FIDELES

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015
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Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens
ORGAN PRELUDE:  Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH
ORGAN MEDITATION:  Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:  Isaiah 60:1-6

PRAYER

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOM TREE

ANTHEM: “‘People Look East”’ Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells
Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS
Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS
Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE DOXOLOGY
Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.
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THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE
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ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

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Brent Watkins
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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTIDE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiers en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT: French Melody, 15th Century  
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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VENI EMMANUEL  
(Repetition will rise when the organist begins playing.)

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Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gilmor Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

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ANTHEM: “People Look East”  
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’re may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  
Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

* 147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  
AWAY IN A MANGER

* 125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  
HYFYDOL

* 150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  
MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS  
Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  
Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation  
Mark Pichowicz

THE DOXOLOGY

Glory be to God in the highest! Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE  
Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deeper joy in you, the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE  
Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

STARRY STRANGER, GUIDING LIGHT

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiersce en Taille from Messe for the Parishes

CHORAL INTROIT: French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedared, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People, look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

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* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

BILL BULLUCK

PRAYER

Barkley Browder

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

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Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Barkley Browder

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins

* THE GLORIA PATRI

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* THE DOXOLOGY

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.


MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTÉ FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens
ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH
ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiersce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT
French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”
Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6
Bill Bulluck

PRAYER
Corinelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY
Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”
Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells
Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS
Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY
(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
HYFYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
MENDELSsoHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS
Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”
Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation
Mark Pichowicz

THE FIRST NOEL
Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above all angels, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE
Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”
Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRIMSON TREE
Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:       Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION:       “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. 
Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:   “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

The first Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Choral Introit: French Melody, 15th Century

Caroll Medley

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* Processional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* Lighting of the Advent Wreath

* Litany of Preparation

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Gloria Patri

**The Old Testament Lesson:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy**

The old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Prayer

The blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the Son of God?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

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Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

* The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below, Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Creche

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

The Blessing of the Chrsim Tree

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”   
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”   Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”   ADESTE FIDELES
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/ar. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Bailey Browder

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Carly McAllister, drum

*b Lightening of the Advent Wreath

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

*b Litany of Preparation

Elizabeth Edwards

* The Gloriat Patrit

Regent Square

*b The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship


* The Doxology

The First Noel

*b Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

*b The Blessing of the Creche

Casey McAllife

*b A Place to Keep Your Son

Matthew H. Corl

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Eleven O'Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**HANDRILL:** Veni Emmanuel

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

**CHORAL INTROIT**

**CARDINAL MEDLEY**

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

**LING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRISMON TREE**

**THE GLORIA PATRI**

**THE DOXOLOGY**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:**

**TRADITIONAL CAROL:**

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”

**PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW. PRAISE GOD ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW.**

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”   
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Immanuel: God with us.

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Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Hans Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiers en Taille from Mass for the Parishes
Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

Casey McAuliffe, drums

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

THE CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”
Händel

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
Handel

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”
Handel

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
Veni Emmanuel

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

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* THE GLORIA PATRI

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come, Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrors be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgeing time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drums

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

The First Noel

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Casey McAuliffe

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRIMSON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMANUEL

(>The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

Stuart Todd

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

Choral Introit

French Melody, 15th Century

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* Procesional Carol 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Veni Emmanuel

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* Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

Nancy Porter

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* The Gloria Patri

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

Prayer

Bill Bulluck

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Corinna Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” by Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for flegling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice! Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Corinna Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

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Casey McAuliffe, drum
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
**The Worship of God**  
*Starry Stranger, Guiding Light*

November 29, 2015  
**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  
**Veni, Veni, Emmanuel**

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  
**Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes**

**CHORAL INTROIT 119:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

**CAROL MEDLEY**  
(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”  
**In the Bleak Midwinter**

**Minister:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

**People:** With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

**Minister:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

**People:** With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

**Minister:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

**People:** With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

**Minister:** How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

**People:** By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

**Minister:** For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

**People:** Glory to God in the highest!

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**THE GLORIA PATRI**  
**Regent Square**

**Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.**

**Come worship, come and worship**

**Light of light: our Star, our Sun.**

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**THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”  
**Come, Messiah, Come**

**O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us,**

**Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray,**

**Come, Messiah, come!**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6  
**Isaiah 60:1-6**

**PRAYER**

** CORNELIA SINGLETON**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**Barclay Browder**

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**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”  
**People Look East**

**Hal H. Hopson**

**People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.**

**Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.**

**Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today:**

**Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!**

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**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

**Stuart Todd**

**CAROL MEDLEY** (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

**147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”**

**Away in a MANGER**

**125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”**

**Hyfrydol**

**150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”**

**Mendelssohn**

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**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

**Nancy Porter**

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**ANTHEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”  
**In the Bleak Midwinter**

**Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore**

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

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**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**Hope Reese**

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation  
**Improvisation**

**Mark Pichowicz**

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**THE DOXOLOGY**

**REGENT SQUARE**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.**

**Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.**

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

**Casey McAuliffe**

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”  
**A Place to Keep Your Son**

**Matthew H. Corl**

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepening joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

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**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE**

**Brent Watkins**

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
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O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.  
Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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* Congregation stands.

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ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen

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ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  Francois Couperin

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Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bulluck

PRAYER  Cornelia Singletary

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Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY  (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  HYFYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  PORTER

THE BLESSING OF THE Poinsettias  Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  Gustav Holst/T. Tallar. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow has fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER  Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation  Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE  Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE  Brent Watkins
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THE GOSPEL LESSON:  Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
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People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, the Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today:

Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today:

Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes François Couperin

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be God to the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship


* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furores be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’t may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY

(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

Ensemble: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Gustav Holst / Allan泊

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what can I give him: give him my heart. What can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

* THE DOXOLOGY

Mark Pichowicz

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepening joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

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ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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The Worship of God

Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

The FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

mensaje: O come, O come Emmanuel, that morns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the Prince of Peace? People: The bread of life shall be the food of grace. The wine of joy shall be the joy of love.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ? People: We shall prepare our hearts for the coming of our Savior.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God? People: By hearing the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of Christ.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King? People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior? People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God? People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

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Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Ghost, Ever three and ever one.

* THE DOXOLOGY


* THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

* THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

The Hanging of the Greens

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

The Worship of God

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way.

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

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Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH  Cornelia Singletary
CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

* PROCESIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  Elizabeth Edwards
(Veni Emmanuel
(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  Casey McAuliffe, drum

* LITANY OF PREPARATION  Elizabeth Edwards
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Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI  Regent Square
Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER
CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo
O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:  Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bullock
The way was prepared and set aside, the day was set apart, the way was prepared, the path was made smooth. The way was made smooth, and the path was set apart, the way was made smooth, and the path was set apart.

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY  Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl
A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; through our love, the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRISMON TREE  Brent Watkins

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  HYFRYDOL
125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  MENDELSSOHN
150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  HYFRYDOL

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* OFFERTORY PRAYER  Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation  Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY  THE FIRST NOEL
Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE  Casey McAuliffe

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen
WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH  Cornelia Singletary
CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

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(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

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Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

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O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:  Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bullock

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The Worship of God Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevemore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

TO NURTURE

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices.

People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

Commission: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Commission: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the King?
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MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”   Jody Wright

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Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”   ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr   Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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Anthem: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gilliam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
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Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God to the Father, Glory to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

Glory be to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI Regent Square

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAVER Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-awaited Jesus” MENDELSSOHN

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air. But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Eleven O’Clock
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:   
Lake 1:1-80

MEDITATION:      “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”    
Jody Wright

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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr    
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAKER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Stary Stranger, Guiding Light

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSJOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/Jarr. Donald Moore

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

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Casey McAuliffe

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

The First Sunday of Advent

Eleven O’Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Choral Introit: French Melody, 15th Century

Francois Couperin

Gloria in Excelsis Deo

Charles Villiers Stanford

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God in the highest! Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever one and ever one. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

* The Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Anthem: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

* The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

* The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Offertory Prayer

Hope Reese

Organ Offertory: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

The First Noel

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

* The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barclay Browder

The Blessing of the Christmas Tree

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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The Worship of God

CTHURCH

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Veni Emmanuel

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkley Browder

ANTHEM: “They Look East” Matthew H. Corl

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The Hanging of the Greens

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People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

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Burrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen.

People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Away in a Manger”

HYFYDOL

125 (stanzas 1 & 2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

MENDLESOHN

150 (stanzas 1 & 3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/Arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

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MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
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Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

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Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

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Eleven O’Clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

People: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

People: Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the Son of God?

People: Minister: How should we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Lord?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

People: Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

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ANTHEM: "O Come, Redeemer of the Earth"  
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People: Alpha and Omega. Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.  
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People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.
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People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
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People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.  
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Minister: We believe in the resurrection.  
People: Offering life everlasting!  
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People: Hallelujah!  
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* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

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STARRY STRANGER, GUIDING LIGHT

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ORGAN MEDITATION: Tiers en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT  French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Corinelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS  Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger”  ADESTE FIDELES

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”  HYFRYDL

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give my heart. What I can I give him: give my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above all principality and power. Praise God, the Father. Praise God, the Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deeper joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” 
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev'ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: 
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” 
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” 
ADESTE FIDELES

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr 
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
ANTHEM: “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.  

**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015  THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  Eleven O’Clock  
The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  Hendrik Andriessen  
**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**CHORAL INTROIT**  French Melody, 15th Century  Francois Couperin  
**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

* **PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  **VENI EMANUEL**  
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**Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gailam Parker**

**LITANY OF PREPARATION**  Elizabeth Edwards  
**Minister:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

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**Minister:** For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

**People:** Glory to God in the highest!

* **THE GLORIA PATRI**  REGENT SQUARE

**Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.**

**Come and worship, come and worship**

**Light of light: our Star, our Sun.**

* **THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”  Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo  
O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

**Come, Messiah, come!**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6  Bill Bulluck  

**PRAYER**  Cornelia Singletary  

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**  Barkley Browder

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl  
O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray.

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**ANTHEM:** “People Look East”  Hal H. Hopson
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.  

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**  Casey McAuliffe

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”  Matthew H. Corl  
A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepening joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE**  Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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**The Worship of God**

**Starry Stranger, Guiding Light**

November 29, 2015

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Eleven O’Clock

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ORGAN MEDITATION:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

**CHORAL INTROIT**

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS** Stuart Todd

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS** Nancy Porter

**ANTHEM:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

**REGENT SQUARE**

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**ANTHEM:** “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOTREE**

**THE GLORIA PATRI**

**GREGORIAN**

**THE DOXOLOGY**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:**

**JERUSALEM CHURCH**

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

**ANTHEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

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Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

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“A Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

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The Worship of God

The first Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2015

Eleven O’clock

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The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

Francois Couperin

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(Venit, etc., etc.)

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

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Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

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REGENT SQUARE

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

PRAYER

Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”  Gustav Holst/a rr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMOS TREE

Brent Watkins
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THE GOSPEL LESSON: Lake 1:1-80
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

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People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed
November 29, 2015

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O’Clock hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. Rejoice!

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo
O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

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* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gailm Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

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Barkey Browder
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
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Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the November 29, 2015

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King? People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

 Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ? People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior? People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

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* THE GLORIA PATRI REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bullock

PRAYER Cornelia Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY Barkley Browder

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Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister:  Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People:  As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister:  We believe in God.

People:  Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister:  And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People:  Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.  
Immanuel:  God with us.

Minister:  Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People:  Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister:  We believe in the Holy Spirit.

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People:  Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister:  We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People:  That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister:  We believe in the resurrection.

People:  Offering life everlasting!

Minister:  Bursting forth with hope!

People:  Hallelujah!

Minister:  Let us offer our lives to God.

People:  In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSINAL CAROL 148:  
“Adeste Fideles”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE:  
“Freu dich sehr”  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God
Starry Stranger, Guiding Light

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the night when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today. Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Francois Couperin

(Reformation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gilliam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

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People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

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THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 Bill Bulluck

PRAuger

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barclay Browder

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THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Stuart Todd

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE BLESSING OF THE GOOD FRUIT

Choir Director

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

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ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

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THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
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O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevmore. Amen.


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People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.

Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth... peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.
The Worship of God

November 29, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O'Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT

ORGAN MEDITATION: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

FRANCOIS COUPERIN

FRUITFUL BE Glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

STARRY STRANGER, GUIDING LIGHT

On the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The worship of God

People look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The Hanging of the Greens

ANTHEM: “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

The worship of God

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The Hanging of the Greens

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ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth” Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

*B RECESSIAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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The Worship of God

The First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2015

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

Organ Prelude: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Hendrik Andriessen

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Organ Meditation: Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes

François Couperin

Choral Introit: French Melody, 15th Century

Tierce en Taille

Casey McAuliffe, drum

The Blessing of the Greens

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Stuart Todd

The Blessing of the Poinsettias

Stuart Todd

The Blessing of the Advent Wreath

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

The Blessing of the Chrismon Tree

Brent Watkins

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Veni Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

REGENT SQUARE

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one. Come and worship, come and worship Light of light: our Star, our Sun.

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come”

Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bullock

Prayer

Cornelia Singletary

The Blessing of the Holly and the Ivy

Barclay Browder

ANTHEM: “People Look East”

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, the Worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Nancy Porter

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved, worshipped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give me my heart. What I can give him: give me my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

Organ Offertory: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Casey McAuliffe

ANTHEM: “A Place to Keep Your Son”

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the Earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope” Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Minister: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.
Immanuel: God with us.
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace.
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Minister: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN
* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr Mark Pichowicz
* Congregation stands.

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ANTHEM:  “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, the worship of God

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nithr Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE:  Veni, Veni, Emmanuel Hendrik Andriessen

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT:  Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes Francois Couperin

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tavener, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.
Come and worship, come and worship

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S ANTHEM: “Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:  Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Corinela Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM:  “People Look East” Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow’r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of nithr Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

Elizabeth Edwards, Winnie Raper, Cornelia Singletary, handbells

Casey McAuliffe, drum

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

CAROL MEDLEY (Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)

147 (stanzas 1&3): “Away in a Manger” HYFRYDOL

125 (stanzas 1&2): “Come, O Long-expected Jesus” MENDELSSOHN

150 (stanzas 1&3): “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” NANCY PORTER

THE BLESSING OF THE NOEL SINGLETARIES

ANTHEM: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Gustav Holst/Frr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I we re a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my heart. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

* THE DOXOLOGY

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:  Isaiah 60:1-6

Bill Bulluck

PRAYER

Corinela Singletary

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Barkey Browder

ANTHEM:  “A Place to Keep Your Son” Matthew H. Corl

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Come, Messiah, come!

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Casey McAuliffe, drum

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hope Reese

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ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:  Isaiah 60:1-6

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THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

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THE BLESSING OF THE CRISMON TREE

Brent Watkins
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  
Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  
Luke 1:1-80

MEDITATION:  
“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  
Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith. The Christmons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

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Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148:  “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
ADESTE FIDELES

BENE DICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  
Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

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**The Worship of God**  
*Starry Stranger, Guiding Light*

November 29, 2015  
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Eleven O’Clock

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**The Hanging of the Greens**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Veni, Veni, Emmanuel  
**Hendrik Andriessen**

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**CHORAL INTROIT:** Tierce en Taille from Mass for the Parishes  
**Francois Couperin**, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* **PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
**VENI EMANUEL**

* **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

**Taverner, Craig, Eliza Craig, and Gillam Parker**

* **LITANY OF PREPARATION**

**Minister:** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?  
**People:** By branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

* **THE GLORIA PATRI**

**REGENT SQUARE**

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.  
Come and worship, come and worship  

* **THE INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

**CHILDREN’S ANTHEM:** “Come, Messiah, Come”  
**Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo**

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**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 60:1-6  
**Bill Bulluck**

**PRAYER**

**Cornelia Singletary**

**THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**

**Barkey Browder**

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**ANTHEM:** “Peo ple Look East”  
**Hal H. Hopson**

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

**THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS**

**Stuart Todd**

**CAROL MEDLEY**  
*(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)*

**E*MMANUEL  
**ENI**

*(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)*

**THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS**

**Nancy Porter**

**ANThEM:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”  
**Gustav Holt/Arr. Donald Moore**

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o’er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can give him: give him my heart. What I can give him: give him my heart.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**Hope Reese**

**ORGAN OFFERTORY:** Improvisation  
**Mark Pichowicz**

**THE GLORIA PATRI**

**R**

**HE**

**OEL**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

**Casey McAuliffe**

**ANThEM:** “A Place to Keep Your Son”  
**Matthew H. Corl**

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, “Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord.” We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel’s greeting, “O hail, you blessed one, for your shall bear a Savior and he will be God’s son.” We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we’ll make for him a warm heart, we’ll hold your own son dear.

**THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE**

**Brent Watkins**
ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”  Brian L. Hanson  
O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:  Lake 1:1-80  
MEDITATION: “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Hope”  Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.  
The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.  
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.  
Minister: We believe in God.  
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.  
Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords.  
Immanuel: God with us.  
Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.  
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.  
Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.  
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.  
Minister: We believe in the church.  
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.  
Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.  
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.  
Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.  
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.  
Minister: We believe in the resurrection.  
People: Offering life everlasting!  
Minister: Bursting forth with hope!  
People: Hallelujah!  
Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.  
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 148: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on Freu dich sehr  Mark Pichowicz

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones.  
Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.