



SAINT STEPHEN'S CHURCH

PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND



A SERVICE OF
ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

1 DECEMBER 2024

WELCOME TO SAINT STEPHEN'S. The Christian season of Advent comes from the word *Adventus*, which means coming, or arrival. Interestingly, the Latin origins of this word can specifically refer to a ceremony in which they formally welcomed the Emperor or other imperial official to Rome or another city.

This is the season when we quite literally remember Christ's first coming – his first arrival onto the scene of human affairs, because we simply had no power within ourselves to help us in our tendency to injure ourselves and the world around us. So as we remember his first coming, we give thanks that God in his mercy and love came to us and did not leave us helpless. At the same time, we are also put in mind of his second coming, when he shall come in great triumph to judge the world – the living and the dead. While this may sound terrifying, judgement is ultimately about the recognition of who we are: complex human beings, capable of both good and bad, full of shadows and light. We trust in what is God's nature to be merciful, so that when we are judged, it will be his mercy and love that we experience.

But most of all, it is a season marked by watchfulness and waiting, as we anticipate his birth at Christmas, and wait with the saints of old for his final appearing. This longing is most strongly felt in the beloved hymn "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a series of poetic invocations of God to come save, redeem, and restore his people. Unlike the Roman *Adventus*, at his second coming it will be the Lord Jesus who will be the one to welcome us into the heavenly city, the new Jerusalem, where Christ will be our light, our sun, our All.

Fr. Benjamin

Fr. Benjamin Straley, *Rector*

BEFORE THE SERVICE

Buck McDaniel plays

'O Antiphon' Preludes (2010)

Nico Muhly (b. 1981)

I. *O Sapientia*

II. *O Adonai*

III. *O Radix Jesse*

From the *Buxheimer Orgelbuch*

Anon. (c. 1460)

Rorate cæli desuper

'O Antiphon' Preludes

Nico Muhly

IV. *O Clavis David*

From the *Ileburgh Tablature*

Anon. (1448)

Preambulum super d a f e t g

'O Antiphon' Preludes

Nico Muhly

V. *O Oriens*

VI. *O Rex Gentium*

VII. *O Emmanuel*

ORDER OF SERVICE

¶ All remain seated as the Choir sings

MATIN RESPONSORY

Adapted from G.P. da Palestrina (1525–1594)

- V.* I look from afar:
R. And lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth.
V. Go ye out to meet him and say:
R. Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?
V. High and low, rich and poor, one with another,
R. Go ye out to meet him and say:
V. Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that ledest Joseph like a sheep,
R. Tell us, art thou he that should come?
V. Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come:
R. To reign over thy people Israel.
V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
R. I look from afar: And lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth.

¶ All stand at the ringing of the bell.

HYMN

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

¶ A Soloist sings

Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,
And manifest thy virgin-birth;
Let every age adoring fall,
Such birth befits the God of all.

¶ The Choir sings

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

¶ All sing



3. O e - qual to thy Fa - ther, thou! Gird on thy flesh - ly man - tle now,
4. Thy cra - dle here shall glit - ter bright, and dark - ness glow with new - born light,
5. O Je - su, Vir - gin born, to thee e - ter - nal praise and glo - ry be,



the weak - ness of our mor - tal state with death - less might in - vi - gor - ate.
no more shall night ex - tin - guish day, where love's bright beams their pow'r dis - play.
Whom with the Fa - ther we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit, ev - er - more.

¶ All remain standing as the Rector says

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Beloved in Christ, in this season of Advent, let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this holy Child; and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for unity and fellowship within the Church he came to build; and especially in this country and within this city.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember the poor and the helpless; the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no man can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us

Our Father, **who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

¶ The Congregation sits.

THE ADVENT PROSE

Richard Lloyd (1933–2021)

D*rop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour forth righteousness:
Let the earth be fruitful, and bring forth a Saviour.*

Be not very angry, O Lord, neither remember our iniquity for ever:
thy holy cities are a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation:
our holy and our beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee. *Drop down &c.*

Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen;
that ye may know me and believe me: I, even I, am the Lord, and beside me there
is no Saviour: and there is none that can deliver out of my hand. *Drop down &c.*

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, my salvation shall not tarry:
I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions: fear not for I will save thee:
for I am the Lord thy god, the holy one of Israel, thy Redeemer. *Drop down &c.*

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:1–11

Read by

JASON HUANG, SCHOLA CANTORUM, BROWN CLASS OF 2025

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

Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat? And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

CAROL

Elizabeth Poston (1905–1987)

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

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

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

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

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

TEXT: *Divine Hymns or Spiritual Songs*, New Hampshire 1784

THE SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 40:1–11

Read by

KATHLEEN LESTER, SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER

The Prophet foretells good news to a people in exile.

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be

made straight, and the rough places plain: And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodness thereof is as the flower of the field: The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever. O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God! Behold, the Lord God will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him. He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.

HYMN 67 *¶ Sung by all, standing.*

PSALM 42

THE THIRD LESSON

Baruch 4:25–5:9

Read by

KATY GILCHRIST, BOARD MEMBER, EPIPHANY SOUP KITCHEN

The Scribe Baruch urges the people to look East for salvation is at hand.

O Jerusalem, look about thee toward the east, and behold the joy that cometh unto thee from God. Lo, thy sons come, whom thou sentest away, they come gathered together from the east to the west by the word of the Holy One, rejoicing in the glory of God. Put off, O Jerusalem, the garment of mourning and affliction, and put on the comeliness of the glory that cometh from God for ever. Cast about thee a double garment of the righteousness which cometh from God; and set a diadem on thine head of the glory of the Everlasting. For God will shew thy brightness unto every country under heaven. For thy name shall be called of God for ever The peace of righteousness, and the glory of God's worship. Arise, O Jerusalem, and stand on high, and look about toward the east, and behold thy children gathered from the west unto the east by the word of the Holy One, rejoicing in the remembrance of God. For they departed from thee on foot, and were led away of their enemies: but God bringeth them unto thee exalted with glory, as children of the kingdom. For God hath appointed that every high hill, and banks of long continuance, should be cast down, and valleys filled up, to make even the ground, that Israel may go safely in the glory of God, Moreover even the woods and every sweet smelling tree shall overshadow Israel by the commandment of God. For God shall lead Israel with joy in the light of his glory with the mercy and righteousness that cometh from him.

CAROL

William Byrd (c. 1543–1623)

Lætentur cœli, et exultet terra. Jubilate montes laudem, quia Dominus noster
 Veniet, et pauperum suorum miserebitur. Orietur in diebus tuis justitia et
 abundantia pacis.

*Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice. Let the mountains be joyful with
 praise, because our Lord will come, and will show mercy to his poor. In his time shall
 the righteous flourish; yea, and abundance of peace.*

TEXT: Sarum Respond for Advent

THE FOURTH LESSON*Micah 5:2–4**Read by*

SISTER KRISTINA FRANCES, MOTHER SUPERIOR, SOCIETY OF SAINT MARGARET

The Prophet foretells the glory of Bethlehem.

But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands
 of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in
 Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.
 Therefore will he give them up, until the time that she which travaileth hath
 brought forth: then the remnant of his brethren shall return unto the children of
 Israel. And he shall stand and feed in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of
 the name of the Lord his God; and they shall abide: for now shall he be great unto
 the ends of the earth.

CAROL

Paul Manz (1919–2009)

Pease be to you and grace from him
 Who freed us from our sins,
 Who loved us all and shed his blood
 That we might saved be.

Sing holy, holy to our Lord,
 The Lord, Almighty God,
 Who was and is and is to come;
 Sing holy, holy, Lord!


Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
 Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
 For Christ is coming, is coming soon,
 For Christ is coming soon!

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come,
 And night shall be no more;
 They need no light nor lamp nor sun,
 For Christ will be their All!


TEXT: Revelation 22, adapt. Ruth Manz

HYMN *J* *Sung by all, Standing.*

VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL



all 1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
high voices 2. O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest all things
 all 3. O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on
low voices 4. O come, thou Rod of Jes - se, free thine own from Sa - tan's
 all 5. O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen wide our
high voices 6. O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us by thy
 all 7. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the hearts of




1. Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 2. might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge show,
 3. Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the law,
 4. ty - ran - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple save,
 5. heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on high,
 6. draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,
 7. all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions cease,



Refrain sung by all

1. un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 2. and teach us in her ways to go.
 3. in cloud, and ma - jes - ty and awe.
 4. and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
 5. and close the path to mis - e - ry.
 6. and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
 7. and be thy - self our King of Peace.



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

Words: Latin, c. 9th cent.

Music: 15th cent. Plainsong,

adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890)

THE FIFTH LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-9

Read by

THE REV'D FR. JOHN ALEXANDER, XVIII RECTOR OF THE PARISH

The Prophet speaks of a righteous Judge who will come from the line of David.

There shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord; And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:

But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth: with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins. The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

CAROL

Anton Bruckner (1824–1896)

Virga Jesse floruit: Virgo Deum et hominem genuit: pacem Deus reddidit, in se reconcilians ima summis. Alleluja.

The rod of Jesse hath blossomed: a Virgin hath brought forth God and man: God hath restored peace, reconciling in himself the lowest with the highest. Alleluia.

TEXT: Based on Isaiah 11

THE SIXTH LESSON

Luke 1:57–66, 80

Read by

DR. THOMAS BLEDSOE, SENIOR WARDEN

An angel announces to Zechariah that his wife Elisabeth will bear a son.

Now Elisabeth's full time came that she should be delivered; and she brought forth a son. And her neighbours and her cousins heard how the Lord had shewed great mercy upon her; and they rejoiced with her. And it came to pass, that on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child; and they called him Zacharias, after the name of his father. And his mother answered and said, Not so; but he shall be called John. And they said unto her, There is none of thy kindred that is called by this name. And they made signs to his father, how he would have him called. And he asked for a writing table, and wrote, saying, His name is John. And they marvelled all. And his mouth was opened immediately, and his tongue loosed, and he spake, and praised God. And fear came on all that dwelt round about them: and all these sayings were noised abroad throughout all the hill country of Judaea. And all they that heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, What manner of child shall this be! And the hand of the Lord was with him. And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his shewing unto Israel.

CAROL

Daniel Roehl (b. 1975)

Thou shalt call his name John:
And he shall be great in the sight of the Lord.

*Before I formed thee in thy mother's womb, I knew thee,
And before thou camest forth therefrom,
I ordained thee a prophet to the nations.*

And he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost,
Even from his mother's womb.

TEXT: Adapt. from Jeremiah 1:5 & Luke 1:13, 15

HYMN 59 *I Sung by all, standing.*

MERTON

THE SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

Read by

THE REV'D FR. BENJAMIN STRALEY, RECTOR

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. For with God nothing shall be impossible. And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

CAROL

English Carol, arr. Stephen Cleobury (1948–2019)

The first good joy that Mary had it was the joy of one,
 To see the blessed Jesus Christ, when he was first her son
 When he was first her son, good man, and blessed may he be,
Both Father, Son and Holy Ghost, through all eternity.

The next good Joy that Mary had it was the joy of two,
 To see her own son, Jesus Christ, to make the lame to go,
 To make the lame to go, good man, and blessed may he be,
Both Father, Son and Holy Ghost, through all eternity.

The next good joy that Mary had it was the joy of three,
 To see her own son Jesus Christ to make the blind to see.
 To make the blind to see, good man, and blessed may he be,
Both Father, Son and Holy Ghost, through all eternity.

The next good joy that Mary had it was the joy of four,
 To see her own son Jesus Christ to read the bible o'er.
 To read the bible o'er, good man, and blessed may he be,
Both Father, Son and Holy Ghost, through all eternity.

The next good joy that Mary had it was the joy of five,
 To see her own son Jesus Christ to bring the dead alive.
 To bring the dead alive, good man, and blessed may he be,
Both Father, Son and Holy Ghost, through all eternity.

The next good joy that Mary had it was the joy of six,
 To see her own son Jesus Christ upon the crucifix,
 Upon the crucifix, good man, and blessed may he be,
Both Father, Son and Holy Ghost, through all eternity.

The next good joy that Mary had it was the joy of seven,
 To see her own son Jesus Christ to wear the Crown of Heaven.
 To wear the Crown of Heaven, good man, and blessed may he be,
Both Father, Son and Holy Ghost, through all eternity.

TEXT: English Traditional

GREETING*The Rector***ANTHEM**

Charles Wood (1866–1926)

O thou, the central orb of righteous love,
 Pure beam of the Most High, eternal light
 Of this our wintry world; thy radiance bright
 Awakes new joy in faith: hope soars above.

Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine;
Gilding our darksome heaven with rays divine.

Thy saints with holy lustre round thee move,
As stars about thy throne, set in the height
Of Gods ordaining counsel, as thy sight
Gives measured grace to each, thy power to prove.

Let thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin:
Our nature all shall feel eternal day
In fellowship with thee, transforming day
To souls, erewhile unclean, now pure within. Amen.

TEXT: Henry Ramsden Bramley (1833–1917)

¶ All stand.

THE COLLECT FOR ADVENT

Priest We wait for thy loving-kindness, O God.

All In the midst of thy temple.

Priest Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Priest The Lord be with you.

All And with thy spirit.

Open wide, O Lord, the gates of heaven and visit thy people in peace; send forth thy Spirit from on high that their hearts may be uplifted unto thee; O Lord, who for our sake wast of a Virgin born, make holy thy people, and bless thine heritage; And the blessing of God Almighty, the ✠ Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN 57 *¶ Sung by all.*

HELMSLEY

VOLUNTARY

Fantasy on 'Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme'

Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877–1933)

¶ Please join us for a festive reception in the Guild House.

S. STEPHEN'S SCHOLA CANTORUM

L. Graham Schultz, FAGO
ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER

SOPRANO

Deborah Abel
Clare Brussel
Lori Harrison
Ellen Minor
Charlotte Knutsen

ALTO

Betsy Dake
Sofiya Doroshenko
Lynne deBenedette
Molly Ellis
Elizabeth Mueller
Benjamin Salinas
Beth Shirley

TENOR

Jason Connell
Jeff Johnson
Brian Lopipero
Cory MacLean
Joel McCoy
Grant Randall

BASS

Robert Henry
Jason Huang
Corey Mulvey
Peter Schilling
John Totter
Jason Williams

PARISH NOTES

Tuesday, December 24th at 10:30pm ✠ *Solemn Mass of the Nativity*

Join us as we celebrate birth of Our Lord and Savior in the beauty of holiness. The S. Stephen's Schola will sing George Malcolm's beloved setting of the mass, *Missa ad Præsepe*, together with Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck's lively *Hodie Christus natus est*.

Sunday, January 26 at 10am ✠ *Solemn Mass for S. Stephen's Day (transferred)*

The parish's annual celebration of our patron, Saint Stephen. Music will include W.A. Mozart's jaunty *Missa Brevis in B flat*, KV 275 alongside John Ireland's most famous anthem, *Greater love hath no man*. The service is followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish.

Sunday, February 23rd at 4pm ✠ *Solemn Evensong & Benediction*

The eve of St. Matthias Day will be marked with music of Restoration composer, Henry Purcell, and Joseph Haydn's Sturm und Drang anthem, *Insana et vana cura*. The service is preceded by an organ recital at 3:30pm played by Kevin Kwan, Director of Music at Christ & St. Luke's, Norfolk, VA, and sometime organist at Saint Thomas Fifth Avenue and Gloucester Cathedral, U.K. A reception follows.



If you are new or visiting, please take a moment to fill out a **Visitor Information Card** and deposit it in the offering plate as it comes by. Welcome to S. Stephen's!



A hearty welcome to our recitalist and accompanist for this afternoon's service, **Buck McDaniel**. Mr. McDaniel (b. 1994) is a composer who writes orchestral music, works for the stage, chamber music, and sacred music. Originally from Columbia, Mississippi, his work synthesizes the American Minimalist tradition with the music of his childhood in the Deep South. He has composed music for *The Moth Radio Hour*, the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, Zeitgeist, The Kitchen, and others. In 2021, the Green-Wood Cemetery in Brooklyn commissioned his work *Memory Ground* commemorating the 20th Anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. As a conductor, he has worked with recording artists Sam Smith (*Saturday Night Live*), Sam Amidon (*The History of Sound*), and the Cleveland Chamber Symphony. Recordings of his work have been released by Telarc and Gold Bolus, and he has independently released two records with producer Jacob Kirkwood: *Landscape Piece* (2020) and *Patterns on Dufy* (2022). He serves as Organist & Director of Music at the The Roman Catholic Church of Our Saviour, Park Avenue and the Chapel of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary, where he conducts the Choir of Our Saviour & Sacred Hearts, and as Director of Chapel Music at The General Theological Seminary on Chelsea Square. He lives in New York City.



To keep up to date on all that is happening at S. Stephen's please **sign up for our weekly E-news** at sstephens.org.



S. STEPHEN'S CHURCH

VESTRY

Thomas Bledsoe, *Senior Warden*

Robert Rose, *Junior Warden*

Gregory DePardo, *Treasurer*

Molly Bledsoe Ellis, *Clerk*

Karl Benziger

Jennifer DePardo

Gregory Goins

Muriel Jobbers

Ruth Oliver Jolliffe

Julia Steiny

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev'd Fr. Benjamin Straley, *Rector*

The Rev'd Fr. William Locke, *Assisting Priest*

The Rev'd Fr. Michael A. Pearson, *Assisting Priest*

The Rev'd Mtr. Veronica Tierney, *Assisting Priest*

L. Graham Schultz, *Organist & Choirmaster*

Andrew Lonardo, *Sexton*

Kiersten Marek, *Nursery Childcare Provider*

James Busby, *Organist & Choirmaster Emeritus*