

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE FOR ORGAN

Collin Miller

Valet will ich dir geben [BWV 736]

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

The tune upon which this setting is based is that to which we will sing O Lord, How Shall I Meet You (hymnal, no. 104).

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

GREETING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: May the peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

PEALING OF THE BELL AND SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

*Clear out the cluttered heart, lest like the crowded inn,
there is no room, no way to part a path to let Christ in.*

—Thomas Troeger

CHORAL INTROIT

We Light the Advent Candles

German folk tune

We light the Advent candles
against the winter night,
to welcome our Lord Jesus,
who is the world's True Light.

The first one will remind us
that Christ will soon return.
We light it in the darkness
and watch it gleam and burn.

—Gracia Grindal (b. 1943)

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

The Gloden Family

On this first Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. We are preparing ourselves for the days when the nations shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

People: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

*HYMN 104

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

Valet will ich dir geben

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God-with-us, even in Advent, we confess that you can seem far away. You are hidden when we need you near. In our hurt, doubt, and fear, we do not try to draw you closer to you. Instead, we withdraw and turn away from you and from others, or we lash out – against you, our neighbor, and even those we love. Forgive us, we pray, and come to save us.

Silent prayers of confession are offered.

God of grace, let your face shine until our tears are dried, our sins are faded, and our hope is restored. After all, we belong to you, and in your good hands, we can be made new, for it is in Jesus' name that we pray. Amen

TRISAGION (*sung by the choir*)

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

Holy God, Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.

The Trisagion – the “Thrice Holy” – comes from the rites of the Eastern churches.

Like the Kyrie eleison, it is a petition to God for mercy.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

***GLORIA PATRI**

Regent Square

The music for this setting is printed in the hymnal at no. 143, Angels from the Realms of Glory.

**Glory be to God the Father, glory be to Christ the Son,
glory to the Holy Spirit, ever three and ever one;
one in might and one in glory while unending ages run.**

-3rd/4th century Latin; transl.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children age 4 through 5th grade may now leave to go to Children's Chapel.

They will return for Communion during the hymn.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

David Walker, *lay reader*

FIRST READING

Isaiah 64:1-9

(Pew Bible: Old Testament, p. 694)

after each reading:

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

(Pew Bible: New Testament, p. 165)

SERMON

“Oh, for Crying Out Loud!”

Rev. Love

THE RESPONSE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

How long, O LORD?

Will you forget us forever?

How long will you hide your face from us?

How long must we bear pain in our souls,

and have sorrow in our hearts all day long?

How long shall our enemies be exalted over us?

Look upon us and answer us, O LORD our God!

Give light to our eyes, or we will sleep the sleep of death,

and our enemies will say, 'I have prevailed';

our foes will rejoice because we are shaken.

But we put our trust in your steadfast love;

our hearts shall again rejoice in your salvation.

We will sing to the LORD,

because the Lord has dealt bountifully with us.

***HYMN 83**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Stuttgart

MINUTE FOR THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Douglas Carey

CALL FOR THE OFFERING (Please visit <https://ryepc.com/give/> or see below to give online.)

ANTHEM FOR CHOIR, SOLO VOICE, AND ORGAN

The Lord Will Surely Come

Gerre Hancock, 1990

Michael McAvoy, baritone

Kyrie eleison [Lord, have mercy.]

The Lord will surely come and not delay, and he will bring to light the things hidden in darkness.

The Lord will surely come, and will manifest himself to all nations.

Therefore, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,
that you may be blameless and innocent children of God without blemish.

-from Philippians 2 and the Daily Office

Dr. Hancock, who served as organist and choirmaster of St. Thomas Church, Fifth Avenue, New York City, from 1971-2004, crafted this anthem from Conditor alme siderum, a plainsong melody often sung to Creator of the Stars of Night (hymnal, no. 84).

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION AND THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

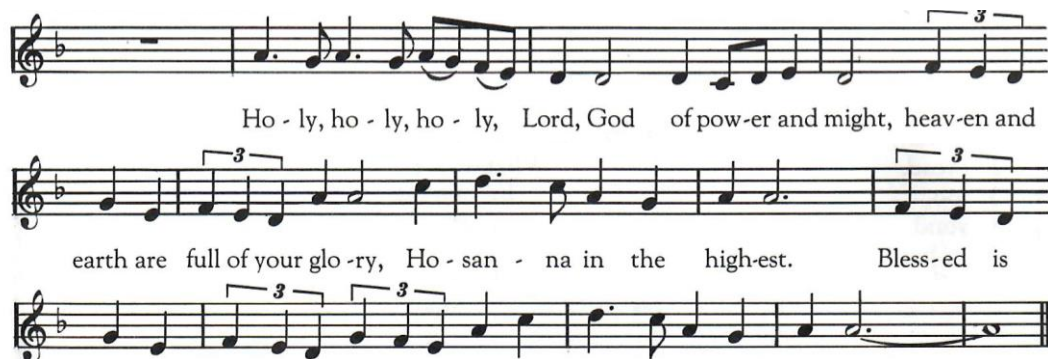
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Great Deliverer, how wondrous are your deeds! You created the world and all that is in it. With a mighty arm you parted the waters and led your people to liberation. When we were in exile, you gathered us up in your arms and led us home. When we were mistreating our own, you sent prophets to set us right. You pulled down the arrogant and lifted up the weak. And when the time was right, you sent Jesus to set us free.

Therefore we praise you, joining the everlasting chorus of all creation and the great company of heaven:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS *(sung by all)*

Robert Powell, 1976



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en and
earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is
he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. _____

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a melody with several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over a group of notes) and a final double bar line. The lyrics are written below the staves, aligned with the notes.

-Isaiah 6:3b, Revelation 4:8, and Psalm 118:25-26

We thank you for the ways Jesus taught us in word and deed; how he fed us in homes and on hillsides; healed us in body, mind, and soul, and showed us that true greatness is in humility and true power in service. How can we thank you for the gift he gave? When the world did its worst, he took on our death that we might be clothed in light and life.

Now, as we wait for him to come again, O God, stir up your power and restore us. Make us to be your word made flesh. Send your Holy Spirit to infuse us with hope in the great mystery of our faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

All glory and honor are yours, eternal God, through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND POURING OF THE CUP

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Please come forward to receive communion by intinction: take a piece of bread and dip it in a cup.

Wine is in the ceramic cups and grape juice is in the silver chalices;

Gluten-free wafers are available at the station in front of the lectern.

MUSIC FOR ORGAN

Conditor alme siderum

Gerald Near

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE SENDING FORTH

***HYMN (see back pages)**

Christians All, Your Lord Is Coming

Pleading Savior

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE FOR ORGAN (*all are invited into the chancel to listen to the postlude*)

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland [BWV 661]

Johann Sebastian Bach

The melody on which this fugue-like setting is based is printed in the hymnal at no. 102, Savior of the Nations, Come.

**Please stand as you are able.*

Welcome to Rye Presbyterian Church

If you are new to Rye Presbyterian, we welcome you and hope you are enriched by your time here. So that we may get to know you better, please fill out an information card found in the pew racks and put it in the offering plate.

If you or a family member need to step out of the sanctuary during worship, please feel free to do so. There is live audio from the service in the narthex at the back of the sanctuary and live video in the church library.

The Chancel flowers are given by

The Howland Family in loving memory of their father, grandfather, and great-grandfather,

The Rev. Dr. Donald Howland.

Dr. Howland died on November 22, 2023.

Crucifer

Ainsley Parks

TODAY

Following worship, coffee will be available in the Chapel Narthex.

Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 11:15 a.m., Chapel

High School Youth Group, 11:30 a.m., Bread of Life

Confirmation, 5:00 p.m., Westminster Room

Gingerbread House Decorating, 5:30 p.m., Assembly Room

Tree Lighting, 7:00 p.m., Front Lawn



CHILDCARE & SUNDAY SCHOOL

Childcare for ages 3 months through 3-year-olds is being offered this Sunday! Childcare can be found on the first floor of the Education

Wing. Please make sure to sign your children up for Childcare using the form on our [website](#).

As for ages 4-5th grade, they will gather in the chapel for Children's Chapel to wonder about God's love through the rhythm and practices of worship by singing, praying, and engaging God's Word together. We will finish in time for the children to return to worship in the sanctuary and join the congregation as we all celebrate communion together.



GINGERBREAD HOUSE DECORATING EVENT

Today, December 3, 5:30 p.m., Assembly Room

All are welcome to join us for our annual gingerbread house decorating event this afternoon! Pizza, snacks, and hot cocoa will be provided. Families are welcome to leave their gingerbread houses in the Assembly Room to dry as they join in the tree lighting on the Front Lawn at 7:00 p.m.



TREE LIGHTING

TODAY, AT 7:00 P.M.

Carols around the trees on the front lawn to welcome in the Christmas season.

Dessert next door at the Miller manse.

Please bring a dessert to share!

In case of rain, we will gather in the Sanctuary.

THIS WEEK

Monday, December 4

9:15 a.m. Bible Discussion – Zoom

7:00 p.m. Stewardship Committee – Conference Room

Tuesday, December 5

1:00 p.m. Women's Discipleship – Library / Zoom

7:00 p.m. Deacons Meeting - Miller Manse

Wednesday, December 6

7:30 p.m. Mission & Outreach Committee - Library

Thursday, December 7

10:00 a.m. Thrift Shop

3:30 p.m. Pageant Rehearsal – Assembly Room

Saturday, December 9

9:00 – 11:30 a.m. Cantata Sunday Orchestra Rehearsal – Sanctuary

10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study – Library

GENERAL NOTICES



GIVING AT RPC

Online donation options are available on the RPC Website Giving page (ryepc.com/give/), or you may scan the QR Code to the left with your cell phone. You may also use Zelle from your mobile banking app. Please contact the church office to register with us first. Contact Maida Robinson at 914-967-0842 or email mrobinson@ryepc.com, if you have any questions. *Many thanks for your continued generosity and support of the church!*

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT | DECEMBER 17, 4:00 P.M.



Join us for our annual Christmas pageant as we hear the wonderful and joyful story of Jesus' birth together! This year we are putting on a pageant adapted from Illustrated Ministry's **Do Not Be Afraid: A Christmas Pageant** with a cast made up of children, and youth from our church community.

Christmas Flowers and Music

We invite you to join in celebrating Christmas Eve by making a donation toward our Christmas flowers and music.

Your gift can be recognized in the Christmas Eve bulletin in one of two ways:

-As an **acknowledgement** showing the names of the donors.

-As a **dedication**. Please provide the following information:

From: _____ (how you wish your name shown)

Indicate one of the following dedications:

In Loving Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

In Gratitude for _____



To donate by check: send a check payable to RPC indicating "Flowers & Music" to Rye Presbyterian Church 882 Boston Post Rd, Rye, NY 10580

To donate Online: Visit <https://ryepc.com/article/christmas-flowers-music/>. Please indicate "flowers and music" in the notes section of PayPal, or email the information to Tangy Linzy (tlinzy@ryepc.com.)

Donations must be received no later than Tuesday, December 14, to be included in the bulletin.

If you have questions, please contact [Tangy Linzy](mailto:tlinzy@ryepc.com).

Rye
Presbyterian
Church

Cantata
Sunday

J. S. Bach
Christmas Oratorio, Part 3
and selected movements from the
Orchestral Suite in D

presented by the Chancel Choir, Soloists, & Orchestra



December 10, 2023, in 10:00 a.m. Worship
Festive Reception to Follow

Cantata Sunday is made possible
through generous gifts to the Music Fund.



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We Light the Advent Candles

Text: Gracia Grindal

Text © 1999 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

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Trisagion

Music: Gerald Near

Music © 1981 The H. W. Gray Co., Inc., (a division of Belwin-Mills Corp.),

assigned to Alfred Publishing. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The Lord Will Surely Come

Music: Gerre Hancock

Music © 1993 Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Sanctus and Benedictus (Holy, holy, holy Lord!)

Music: Robert Powell

Music © 1985 The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Conditor alme siderum

Music arr. Gerald Near

Music arr. © 1997 Aureole Editions (distrib. Paraclete Press, Orleans, MA).

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Christians All, Your Lord Is Coming

Text: Jim Miller

Text © 1995 Chalice Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Christians All, Your Lord Is Coming

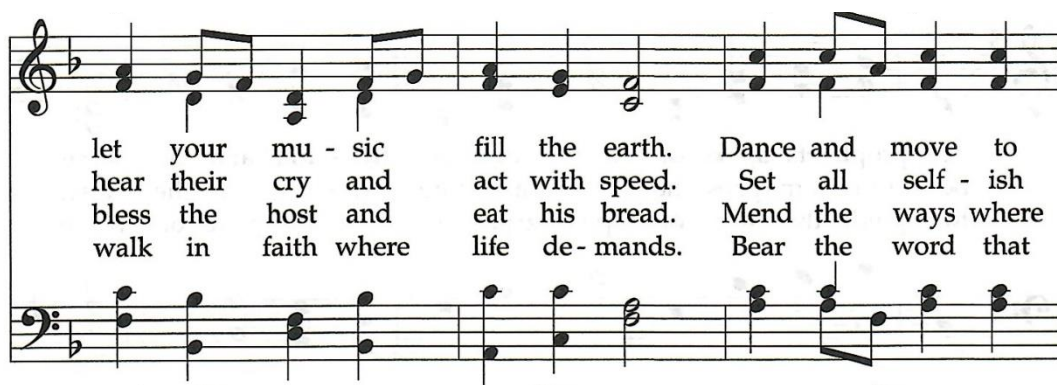
Pleading Savior



1. Chris-tians all, your Lord is com-ing, draw-ing near in
2. Chris-tians all, your Lord is com-ing, call-ing you to
3. Chris-tians all, your Lord is com-ing, he will rise up
4. Chris-tians all, your Lord is com-ing, hope for peace is



ho - ly birth. Ring the bells and sound the trum-pets,
serve in deed. See the ones who hurt and suf - fer,
from the dead. Lift the cup, of sin for - giv - en;
now at hand. Let there be no hes - i - ta - tion,



let your mu - sic fill the earth. Dance and move to
hear their cry and act with speed. Set all self - ish
bless the host and eat his bread. Mend the ways where
walk in faith where life de - mands. Bear the word that

show God's glo - ry; kneel and pause to hear God's word.
 ways be - hind you. Purge your hearts of sin - ful greed.
 peace is bro - ken, give your - selves to true Sha - lom.
 God has giv - en; share the birth that stirs your soul.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and let your songs be heard.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ in you will meet their need.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Dwell as one in church and home.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ will come and make you whole.

Text: Jim Miller, 1993
 Music: from Joshua Leavitt's *Christian Lyre*, 1830

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Daniel Love, *Co-Pastor*

The Rev. Dr. John Miller, *Co-Pastor*

The Rev. Jean-Paul Marshall, *Associate Pastor*

Jason Charneski, *Director of Music and Organist*

Collin Miller, *Knock Intern in Sacred Music*

Maida Robinson, *Chief Administrative Officer*

Peggy Berretta, *Administrative Assistant*

Tangy Linzy, *Interim Pastoral Assistant*

Juan Velasquez, *Head Sexton/Building Manager*

Alonso Osorio, *Sunday Sexton*

We are a Stephen Ministry church that offers one-on-one caring ministry to those in need.

If you need assistance from your pastors, deacons, or a Stephen Minister, please call at (914) 967-0842.

CareNotes on a variety of topics are available near the Sanctuary exits.

If you are experiencing an acute crisis, you can call or text 988

and you'll connect with a mental health professional through the National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.