

St. Anne's Episcopal Church
P.O. Box 134, 14 Treble Cove Rd.
N. Billerica, MA 01862

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Service of Holy Eucharist



December 19, 2021
9:00 am

St. Anne's, N. Billerica Online Services can be found at:
Website: <http://stannes-billerica.org>
YouTube: St Anne's Episcopal Church No Billerica MA
Face Book: St Anne's Episcopal Church No Billerica MA
Billerica Access Television (BATV) - See programing guide

St. Anne's Mission Statement

*We seek to be led by the spirit to understand God's purpose for the world
with our mission being to respond through Christ
in worship, education, fellowship and service.*

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

Prelude

“Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme”

J.S. Bach

*If today is your first visit with us, welcome. We hope you will find peace and joy here.
Please stand for the procession; then you may be seated.*

Welcome & Announcements

Social Justice Committee Story by Russell Bent

The Word of God

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.**
Amen.

The Celebrant may say

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly
love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

“The Light of Christ”

Composer unknown

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

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

People **Amen.**

The Lessons

The people sit. The lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying

A Reading from the Book of Micah (5:2-5a).

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace.

After each Reading, the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

***People* Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

Psalm 80:1-7

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O LORD God of hosts, *
**how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?**
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

The Gospel

Then, all standing, the Priest reads the Gospel, first saying
The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke (1:39-55).

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

After the Gospel, the Reader says
The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily

The Rev'd Jennifer D. Beal

The Nicene Creed

All standing, say

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The people may kneel.

Form IV, BCP p. 388

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Hear our prayers, Holy God. Breathe your Spirit over us and all the earth, that barriers would crumble and divisions cease. Make us more fully your co-healers of the broken world. Unite us with all people in bonds of love, that the whole earth and all its peoples may be at peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

People The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord, remaining in your pew as you signal a gesture of peace to one another.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

I appeal to you, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. *Romans 12:1*

As a way of minimizing touching shared objects, we have placed offering plates in both the front and rear of the church. We are very grateful for your gifts and offerings. You may leave them in the plates as you enter or leave our service of worship.

Offertory hymn

“The King shall come when morning dawns”

Hymnal 73

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system covers the first five lines of lyrics, and the second system covers the remaining five lines. Each system includes a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are as follows:

1 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
2 Not, as of old, a lit - tle child, to
3 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
4 and let the end - less bliss be - gin, by
5 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and

1 light tri - um - phant breaks; when beau - ty gilds the
2 bear, and fight, and die, but crowned with glo - ry
3 earth's dark night is past; O haste the ris - ing
4 wear - y saints fore - told, when right shall tri - umph
5 light and beau - ty brings: Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy

1 east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
 2 like the sun that lights the morn - ing sky.
 3 of that morn, the day that e'er shall last;
 4 o - ver wrong, and truth shall be ex - tolled.
 5 peo - ple pray, come quick - ly, King of kings.

Words: Greek; tr. John Brownlie (1859-1925) Music: *St. Stephen*, William Jones (1726-1800), alt.

Hymn permission used by Rite Song a one-time use reprint license for congregational use.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B, BCP p. 367

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth...

...Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever say this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

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

People and Celebrant

**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 Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then may be said

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The ministers receive the Sacrament, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

Please be seated. A minister will come to you with a single serving package of Communion wafer and wine, and a napkin. If you wish to receive only a blessing, you may cross your arms over your chest. After you have received, please place your empty package and napkin in the basket that an usher will bring to you. All who seek spiritual nurture are welcome to receive the sacrament.

Please be seated.

Communion hymn one “Creator of the stars of night” Hymnal 60

1. Creator of the stars of night,
your people’s everlasting light,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all,
we pray you hear us when we call.

2. In sorrow that the ancient curse
should doom to death a universe,
you came, O Savior, to set free
your own in glorious liberty.

3. When this old world drew on toward night,
you came; but not in splendor bright,
not as a monarch, but the child
of Mary, blameless mother mild.

4. At your great Name, O Jesus, now
all knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
all things on earth with one accord,
like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.

5. Come in your holy might, we pray,
redeem us for eternal day;
defend us while we dwell below
from all assaults of our dread foe.

(text: 9th century Latin hymn)

6. To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
praise, honor, might, and glory be
from age to age eternally.

Communion hymn two

“O come, O come, Emmanuel”

Hymnal 56

1. 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!

2. O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
who orderest all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show,
and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

3. O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times didst give the law,
in cloud, and majesty, and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

4. O come, thou Branch of Jesse's tree,
free them from Satan's tyranny
that trust thy mighty power to save,
and give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

5. O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

6. O come, thou Dayspring from on high,
and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

7. O come, Desire of nations, bind
in one the hearts of all mankind;
bid thou our sad divisions cease,
and be thyself our King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

8. 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!

(text: ca. 9th century Latin, translated into English by J. M. Neale, 1851)

After Communion, please stand as the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage**

**to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Priest may bless the people.

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

The Celebrant dismisses them with these words

Let us bless the Lord.

***People* Thanks be to God.**

Postlude “Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland - Variation IV” Georg Friedrich Kauffmann

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After the procession retires, you may sit quietly until the usher indicates your exit.

As a way of minimizing touching shared objects, we have placed offering plates in both the front and rear of the church. We are very grateful for your gifts and offerings. You may leave them in the plates as you enter or leave our service of worship.

Thank you for observing physical distancing between households to the best of your ability, and for wearing a mask while inside the building.

Ministers today

Priest-in-charge	The Rev'd Jennifer D. Beal
Lector-in-chief	Mr. Edward Giroux, Co-Warden
Lector	Mr. Edward Giroux, Co-Warden
Prayers of the People	Ms. Marguerite Massey
Director of Music and Organist	Mr. Peter Morelli
Singer	Ms. Maria Martin
Acolyte	Ms. Brenda Komarinski
Ushers	Mr. Michael Hopkins, Co-Warden
	Mr. Ken Kinser
Film Crew (Video)	Ms. Rosemary Kinser
Film Crew (Audio)	Ms. Sandra Giroux
Film Crew (Assistant)	Mr. Ron Desmarais
	Mr. Mark Komarinski
	Mr. Michael Hopkins, Co-Warden
	Mr. Eli Baldwin

Meetings in our parish this week

Monday	5:30 pm	Social Conscience Book Club at St. Anne's
Tuesday	10 am	Bible Study at St. Anne's
	12 pm	Billerica Interfaith Meeting on Zoom
	7-7:20 pm	Advent Wreath Lighting on Facebook Live
Wednesday	7-7:20 pm	Advent Wreath Lighting on Facebook Live
Thursday	5:15 pm	Clergy and Wardens Meeting
	7-7:20 pm	Advent Wreath Lighting on Facebook Live
Friday	1 pm	Christmas Eve Mass followed by Silver Tea
	9 pm	Candlelight Mass
Sunday (12/26)	9 am	Pre-recorded Lessons and Carols Service on Facebook, YouTube, and BATV

Priest's office hours

Tuesday 12-4 Thursday 2-5

Parish Office hours

Thursday 2-5

Prayers for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 19, 2021

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church of the Province of Central Africa

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Parishes of the Alewife Deanery

Episcopal Chaplaincy at Harvard, Cambridge;

Lutheran Episcopal Chaplaincy at Mass. Institute of Technology, Cambridge;

The Society of St. John the Evangelist, Cambridge;

Hospital Chaplaincies & Healthcare Chaplains;

Our Presiding Bishop, Michael; Our Bishops, Alan and Gayle; Our Priest, Jennifer

St. Anne's Prayer List

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others

Ana Blesso, Barbara Rogers, Cyndi, Debbie Blesso, Dianne Brown, Donald Fudge, Donald Sutton, Sr., Elaine Howland, Elaine McLaughlin, Fred Brown, Helen, Irene Mouradian, Janet Lyna, Jean Flight, John Phillips, Jose Torres, Sr., Joseph Pleva, Joshua Young, Kathy Chang, Leonard Youens, Linda E., Marie Figenbaum, Marie Horgan, Mark Figenbaum, Mary Hyatt, Mary Lander & her daughter Christine, Norm & MJ Zarella, Pat McCleave & family, Paul Hamner, Ricky & Mrs. Greene, Sally DiRocco, Sarah Komarinski, Susan Fader, Tammy, Tom, Vicki Mahoney

Announcements for December 19, 2021

Join us for Coffee Hour today in Bixby Hall.

Masks must be worn inside the building and physical distancing between households must be observed—thank you for helping to keep us all safe and healthy!

At home participants in our worship – please let us know if you would like to come by the church to pick up your own single serving package of communion wafer and wine. Also, let us know if you would like to receive information about making pledges or donations.

Advent wreath lighting (with poetry, singing, and prose) continues on Facebook Live each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evening, from 7 to 7:20 pm, through December 23.

Schedule for Christmas Services (all are invited!):

Friday, December 24: 1 pm Service of Holy Eucharist, followed by a Silver Tea (in-person)

Friday, December 24: 9 pm Service of Holy Eucharist (in-person and online)

Sunday, December 26: 9 am Pre-recorded Service of Lessons and Carols (online)

Sunday, January 2: 9 am Service of Lessons and Carols (in-person and online)

The Thrift Shop is open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. The last Saturday it will be open is December 18. The shop will be closing December 23, 2021, at 2 PM until January 12, 2022, at 10 AM.

Starting in December, the members of the Social Justice Committee (Brenda Komarinski, Marguerite Massey, Russell Bent, and Michele O'Shea) will be sharing personal stories of our experiences with racism at the beginning of the service. All are welcomed to share their stories. If you have a story that you would like to share, please let one of us know.

You may have noticed that boxes of personal pledge envelopes have arrived in the narthex. If you have submitted your pledge card and know your pledge number, please take your box home with you. If you know other parishioners who are not here, please take theirs to them, too. Thank you very much for your loyalty to St. Anne's.

(The boxes are in alphabetical order back to front and left to right.)

You may also stop by or make an arrangement with the office to collect your box.

The 12 Days of Christmas Fair continues: Each day through Thursday, December 23rd, we will have a raffle drawing for a variety of prizes. Thank you to those who bought chances! Winners are announced daily on Facebook and will be contacted through phone or email.

The Social Conscience Book Club will be meeting on Monday, December 20, at 5:30 PM. We learned this week that the media shaped stories and were very influential with the politicians. The media was collecting funds to impact the impeachment process of President Johnson.

Reminder that January newsletter articles are due to Jayleigh (stannesbillerica@gmail.com) by Wednesday, December 22. If you need more time, you may send by Monday the 27th (but please be early if you can!).

The 236th Diocesan Convention happened on November 13. Michele O'Shea, Lisa Lavoie, and Todd Baldwin attended on behalf of St. Anne's. We will be sharing part of the experience of the Convention in both the bulletin and the newsletter. We would like everyone to be able to see Bishop Gates's address. Please see the following link for the video.

<http://www.diomass.org/news/diocesan-news/searching-our-humanity-annual-address-bishop-gates-2021-diocesan-convention>

St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Newburyport will be providing temporary housing for Afghan evacuees coming to our area, for a few months at a time while permanent homes are found. They have already received enough donations of material items, but they are still accepting financial contributions. Funds are needed to prepare the space and make necessary accommodations to the building. You can give at <http://stpaulsnewburyport.org/give>, providing a note that it is for Afghan evacuee housing, or by check to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 166 High Street, Newburyport, 01950 (with a note in the memo line).

The date for our Annual Meeting has been changed to Sunday, February 6, 2022, after the morning service. We hope that it can be in person this winter!
For those who are writing reports for the Annual Meeting, please send them to Jayleigh (stannesbillerica@gmail.com) by January 11.

If you see any problems with the facilities that need to be addressed, please let us know!
Something broken, something not cleaned or something out of place:
Contact Mike Hopkins, Ed Giroux, Jayleigh, or Mother Jennifer and report what you see.

St. Anne's Episcopal Church
14 Treble Cove Road PO Box 134 N. Billerica, MA 01862
stannesbillerica@gmail.com 978-663-4073 rector@stannes-billerica.org
Honoring the Pawtucket and Shawsheen peoples
Social Justice – a way to allow everyone to feel welcome and respected when they come to worship