

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

The Second Sunday after Christmas

Christmas Lessons & Carols



January 2, 2022
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.*

If today is your first visit with us, welcome. We hope you will find peace and joy here.

Prelude

“A Festive Noel”

Victor C. Johnson

Welcome & Announcements

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn

“Hark! the herald angels sing”

Hymnal 87 (v. 1,3)

1. Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic hosts proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark! the herald angels sing,
glory to the newborn King!

3. Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Risen with healing in his wings,
Light and life to all he brings,
hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hark! the herald angels sing,
glory to the newborn King!

(text by Charles Wesley, 1739)

This prayer comes from 1918 when this particular Anglican form of many lessons interspersed with hymns & carols was most memorably offered in Cambridge, England, just after the war. It has been offered to the public every year since, with 2020 being the first when only a virtual service could be shared. Incidentally, this form of lessons with something in between is followed in the service for the Great Easter Vigil. Our prayers and readings come from the Episcopal Book of Occasional Services 2018.

– a note from the Rev'd Jennifer Beal

Bidding Prayer

Officiant

Beloved in Christ, in this Christmastide, 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 make this place glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, 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 in his name the poor and the helpless, 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 his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one 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:

Officiant and People

**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.

Officiant

The Almighty God bless us with 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.*

Hymn before the Lessons “Of the Father's love begotten” Hymnal 82 (v. 1,3)

1. Of the Father's love begotten,
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore!

3. Let the heights of heaven adore him;
angel hosts, his praises sing;
powers, dominions, bow before him,
and extol our God and King;
let no tongue on earth be silent,
every voice in concert ring,
evermore and evermore!

*(text by Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, early 5th century, translated from
Latin by J. M. Neale and H.W. Baker)*

The Lessons

Lesson 1

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Mark Komarinski

For thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
‘Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel.’

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,

I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.'
For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.
They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.
Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.
I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.
I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,
says the LORD.

Hymn

“Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming”

Hymnal 81 (v. 1,2)

1. Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
as seers of old have sung.
It came, a blossom bright,
amid the cold of winter,
when half spent was the night.

2. Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
the Rose I have in mind,
with Mary we behold it,
the Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
she bore to us a Savior,
when half spent was the night.

(text: 15th century German carol, translated by Theodore Baker)

Lesson 2

Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a

Ed Giroux

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the

saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.

Solo by Maria Martin “Mary’s Little Boy Child” Jester Hairston

Hymn “We three kings of Orient are” Hymnal 128 (v. 1,5)

1. We three kings of Orient are,
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain,
moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

Refrain:
O star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!

5. Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice;
heaven sings
alleluia:
alleluia the earth replies.

Refrain:
O star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!

(text by John Henry Hopkins, 1857)

Lesson 3

Matthew 2:1-12

Michael Hopkins

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, ‘Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.’ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

“And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.”

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, ‘Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.’ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Hymn

“God rest you merry, gentlemen”

Hymnal 105 (v. 1,4)

1. God rest you merry, gentlemen,
let nothing you dismay;
remember Christ our Savior
was born on Christmas Day,
to save us all from Satan’s power
when we were gone astray.
O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy!

4. Now to the Lord sing praises,
all you within this place,
and with true love and charity
each other now embrace;
this holy tide of Christmas
doth bring redeeming grace.
O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy!

(text: 18th century English carol)

Lesson 4

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Ron Desmarais

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, ‘Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.’ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, ‘Out of Egypt I have called my son.’

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ‘Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.’ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, ‘He will be called a Nazorean.’

Hymn

“Good Christian friends, rejoice”

Hymnal 107 (v. 2,3)

2. Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss;
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven’s door,
and we are blest for evermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

3. Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!

(text: 14th century Latin hymn, translated by J.M. Neale)

The service may conclude with a suitable Collect.

The Officiant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

The Officiant says the Collect.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The people stand. The Officiant concludes by saying

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.

2 Corinthians 13:14

***People* Amen.**

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

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

Final Hymn “What star is this, with beams so bright” Hymnal 124 (v. 1,4,5)

1. What star is this, with beams so bright,
more beautiful than the noonday light?
It shines to herald forth the King,
and Gentiles to his crib to bring.

4. O Jesus, while the star of grace
impels us on to seek thy face,
let not our slothful hearts refuse
the guidance of thy light to use.

5. To God the Father, heavenly Light,
to Christ, revealed in earthly night,
to God the Holy Ghost we raise
our equal and unceasing praise.

(text by Charles Coffin, 1736, translated from Latin by John Chandler)

Postlude “The Little Drummer Boy” Davis, Onorati, Simeone

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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

Officiant	Mr. Michael Hopkins, Co-Warden
Lector-in-chief	Mr. Edward Giroux, Co-Warden
Lectors	Mr. Mark Komarinski
	Mr. Edward Giroux, Co-Warden
	Mr. Michael Hopkins, Co-Warden
	Mr. Ron Desmarais
Director of Music and Organist	Mr. Peter Morelli
Singer	Ms. Maria Martin
Acolyte	Ms. Brenda Komarinski
	Mr. Michael Hopkins, Co-Warden
Ushers	Mr. George Cousens
	Ms. Linda Kusnierz
Film Crew (Video)	Ms. Sandra Giroux
	Mr. Ron Desmarais
Film Crew (Audio)	Mr. Mark Komarinski
	Mr. Michael Hopkins, Co-Warden
Film Crew (Assistant)	Mr. Eli Baldwin

Meetings in our parish this week

Tuesday	10 am	Bible Study at St. Anne's
Friday	7 pm	Parish Film Night at St. Anne's
Saturday	7 pm	St. Anne's Social Group Meeting
Sunday (1/9)	11 am	Social Justice Committee Meeting

Priest's office hours

Tuesday 12-4 Thursday 2-5

Parish Office hours

Thursday 2-5

Prayers for the Second Sunday after Christmas

January 2, 2022

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Parishes of the Boston Harbor Deanery

Christ Church (Old North), Boston; Church of the Advent, Boston;

Ecclesia Ministries and common cathedral, Boston; The Diocesan Staff;

The Massachusetts Council of Churches;

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, José Soreso, José 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, Sally DiRocco, Sarah Komarinski, Susan Fader, Tammy, Tom, Vicki Mahoney

We remember those who have died

Phil Walsh

Archbishop Desmond Mpilo Tutu

Almighty God, with whom still live the spirits of those who die in the Lord: we give thanks for the life and witness of your servant Desmond Mpilo Tutu, who sought to follow Jesus of Nazareth in God's way of love, and showed us how to live God's dream as children of the one God and creator of all. Give us grace and strength to honor his legacy with lives re-dedicated to the work of racial justice and reconciliation, learning to live together as the children and family of God, no longer hurting each other or God's creation, but together living the dream God intended; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

(prayer fashioned from the Dec. 26 statement by the Most Rev. Michael Curry)

Announcements for January 2, 2022

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!

Please let Mother Jennifer know if you would like a pastoral visit: rector@stannes-billerica.org.

The Thrift Shop will be closed until January 12, 2022, at 10 AM.

Once again, the Ministry of Immigration Partnership convened through the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts's Office of the Canon for Immigration and Multicultural Ministries invites you to join virtually with Bishop Gayle E. Harris on 01/06/2022 at 7:00 pm for a multicultural celebration of Epiphany/three kings. Registration is required: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcrceCuqDwtG9H2evkK3eVaOwDFLTEUHwcm> and please invite others. Thank you.

You are invited to join us on Friday, January 7, at 7 pm for popcorn and a movie! We will be watching *Glory*, the inspiring story of the first Black regiment to fight for the North in the Civil War. This movie runs 120 minutes.

The St. Anne's Social Group will meet on Saturday, January 8, at 7 pm.
Please contact Dotty Callihan for the meeting location.

The date for our Annual Meeting is Sunday, February 6, 2022, after the morning service. 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.

A message from Bishop Gates and Bishop Harris: We invite churches to ring bells and offer prayers in remembrance of Archbishop Tutu. We join with Anglicans worldwide – indeed, with people of goodwill in every corner of the globe – as we grieve the death of Archbishop Desmond Tutu and offer thanks for his extraordinary witness to the demands of justice and the reconciling power of love. Archbishop Tutu will be laid to rest this Saturday, Jan. 1, at St. George's Cathedral in Cape Town, where he served as archbishop from 1986 to 1996. We invite all churches in the Diocese of Massachusetts to ring their bells for 10 minutes at noon on Friday, Dec. 31, the eve of the archbishop's requiem and the day on which he will lie in state at St. George's. Plans are underway for a Service of Thanksgiving commemorating Archbishop Tutu, to be held in our diocese in the near future. Details will be forthcoming.

St. Anne's Episcopal Church
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Honoring the Pawtucket and Shawsheen peoples
Social Justice – a way to allow everyone to feel welcome and respected when they come to worship