

POHICK EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The 1774 home church of George Washington and George Mason. In Christ: Embracing our history, welcoming in the present, transforming for the future.

Advent Festival Service of

Lessons & Carols 2025

The Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 7, 2025, 7:00 p.m. Pohick Church

Advent Parish Dinner 6:00 p.m., Parish House Advent Lessons & Carols 7:00 p.m., Pohick Church Followed by a reception in the Parish House

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Order of Worship is from The Book of Occasional Services The Lessons are from The King James Version of the Bible. The Hymns may be found in The Hymnal 1982

ORGAN VOLUNTARIES

Grave (Sinfony – Messiah)

George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759

Savior of the nations, come, BuxWV 211

Diderich Buxtehude, c. 1637-1707

PROCESSIONAL The congregation stands and sings

"Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us – Wachet auf

HYMN 61

A BIDDING PRAYER

Traditional

The Reverend Daniel M. Cenci

Beloved in Christ, in this season of Advent, let it be our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, to see 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 his 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 the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this *community*.

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 whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

These prayer 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,

Officiant and People

hallowed be thy Name.
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us the 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

INTROIT Aspiciens a longe (Matin Responsory)

I look from afar: *

and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth.

Go ye out to meet Him and say: *

Tell us, art Thou He that should come to reign over Thy people Israel?

High and low rich and poor, * one with another,

Go ye out to meet Him and say: *
Hear, O Thou Shepherd of Israel,
Thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep,

Tell us, art Thou He that should come? *
Stir up Thy strength, O Lord, and come
to reign over Thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Ghost.

Music: Plainsong Tone 3; a Magnificat, adapted Giovanni Pierluigi Palestrina, c. 1525-1594 arr. John Rutter, b. 1945 & David Willcocks, 1919-2015 First Responsory of Matins for Advent Sunday

THE LESSONS

FIRST LESSON

Lector: David Diaz

Genesis 2: 4b-9, 15-25

Lector: God creates man and woman to live in obedience to him in the Garden of Eden

4b In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, 5 And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground. 6 But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground. 7 And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. 8 And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed. 9 And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil. 15 And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. 16 And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: 17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. 18 And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him. 19 And out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof. 20 And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him. 21 And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; 22 And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought

her unto the man. 23 And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. 24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. 25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed,

Lector: Here endeth the lesson.

CAROL

Adam lay ybounden

Boris Ord, 1897-1961

Adam lay ybounden, Bounden in in a bond; Four thousand winter Thought he not too long.

And all was for an apple, An apple that he took, As clerkes finden Written in their book.

Ne had the apple taken been, The apple taken been, Ne had never our lady Abeen hevene' queen.

Blessed be the time That apple taken was, Therefore we moun singen, Deo Gratias!

Words: 15th century anonymous

The congregation stands and sings

Come, thou long expected Jesus – Stuttgart

HYMN 66

Lector: Kaelee Campbell

The congregation sits

SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 40: 1-5

Lector: God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption

- 1 Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.
- 2 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.
- 3 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.
- 4 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:
- 5 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.

Lector: Here endeth the lesson.

CHORUS

And the glory (Messiah)

G. F. Handel

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.

Isaiah: 40:5

THIRD LESSON

Lector: Marleen McCabe

Isaiah 64: 1-9a

Lector: God is called upon to act and to come among us

1 Oh that thou wouldest rend the heavens, that thou wouldest come down, that the mountains might flow down at thy presence, 2 As when the melting fire burneth, the fire causeth the waters to boil, to make thy name known to thine adversaries, that the nations may tremble at thy presence! 3 When thou didst terrible things which we looked not for, thou camest down, the mountains flowed down at thy presence. 4 For since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, what he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him. 5 Thou meetest him that rejoiceth and worketh righteousness, those that remember thee in thy ways: behold, thou art wroth; for we have sinned: in those is continuance, and we shall be saved. 6 But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away. 7 And there is none that calleth upon thy name, that stirreth up himself to take hold of thee: for thou hast hid thy face from us, and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities. 8 But now, O Lord, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand. 9 Be not wroth very sore, O Lord, neither remember iniquity for ever: behold, see, we beseech thee, we are all thy people.

Lector: Here endeth the lesson.

CHORUS

And he shall purify (Messiah)

G. F.

Handel

And He shall purify the sons of Levi, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.

Malachi 3:3

FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 6:1-11

Lector: Ronald Butts Boehmer

Lector: God reveals his glory to the prophet and calls him to be his messenger

1 In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. 2 Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. 3 And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory. 4 And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke. 5 Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts. 6 Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: 7 And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged. 8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me. 9 And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not. 10 Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed. 11 Then said I, Lord, how long? And he answered, Until the cities be wasted without inhabitant, and the houses without man, and the land be utterly desolate,

Lector: Here endeth the lesson.

The congregation stands and sings Let all mortal flesh keep silence – *Picardy*

HYMN 324

Handbell descant, Don Brownlee, 2012

The congregation sits

FIFTH LESSON Lector: Dick Hamly

Zephaniah 3: 14-18

Lector: The Lord will be among us; we are summoned to rejoice and sing

14 Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem. 15 The Lord hath taken away thy judgments, he hath cast out thine enemy: the king of Israel, even the Lord, is in the midst of thee: thou shalt not see evil any more. 16 In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem, Fear thou not: and to Zion, Let not thine hands be slack. 17 The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing. 18 I will gather them that are sorrowful for the solemn assembly, who are of thee, to whom the reproach of it was a burden.

Lector: Here endeth the lesson.

The congregation stands and sings

Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding – Merton

HYMN 59

The congregation sits

SIXTH LESSON

Lector: Patrick Riley

Isaiah 65: 17-25

Lector: God promises a new heaven and a new earth

17 For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind. 18 But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. 19 And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying. 20 There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed. 21 And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. 22 They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. 23 They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the Lord, and their offspring with them. 24 And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. 25 The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the Lord.

Lector: Here endeth the lesson.

ANTHEM Pray that Jerusalem Charles-Villiers Stanford, 1852-1924

Pray that Jerusalem may have peace and felicity:

Let them that love Thee and Thy peace still have prosperity.

Therefore I wish that peace within Thy walls still remain,

And ever within Thy palaces prosperity retain.

Now for my friend's and brethren's sake, peace be in thee, I'll say:

And for the house of God, our Lord, I'll seek thy good alway.

Bible Songs and 6 Hymns, Op. 113, No. 4b Melody: Playford's Psalms, 1671 Words: Scottish Psalter, 1650

The congregation stands and sings

O come, O come, Emmanuel - Veni, veni, Emmanuel

HYMN 56

Handbell descant, Victoria Shields, 2002

The congregation remains standing for the Seventh Lesson

SEVENTH LESSON

The Reverend Daniel M. Cenci

Luke 1: 26-38

Lector: The Angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will bear the Son of the Most High.

26 And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, 27 To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. 28 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. 29 And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. 30 And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. 31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. 32 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: 33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. 34 Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? 35 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. 36 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. 37 For with God nothing shall be impossible. 38 And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

Lector: Here endeth the lesson.

CAROL – The congregation sings, standing

The angel Gabriel from heaven came – Gabriel's Message

HYMN 265

VESPER RESPONSORY

Priest Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed;

People Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, He will be with you.

Priest Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord.

People Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, He will be with you.

Priest Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

People Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, He will be with you.

All shall keep silence for a time.

Priest We wait for Thy lovingkindness, O Lord,

People In the midst of Thy temple.

COLLECT for Second Sunday of Advent

Merciful God, who didst send thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

ADVENT BLESSING

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. Amen. May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. Amen.

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen*.

The congregation sings

Lo! He comes, with clouds descending – Helmsley

HYMN 57

Please remain standing for the retiring procession

RECESSIONAL "Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us, BWV 645

Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685-1750

Followed by a reception in the Parish House

Serving this evening

Crucifers Large Cross, Olivia Diaz; Small Cross, David Diaz

Banners Rosemarie Schavland, Samantha Wright

Torchbearers Emma Cenci, Ana Diaz Shepherd Neil Hogg, Senior Warden

Pulpit Box Assistants Mari Harding, Steve Harding

Audio-Visual Chris BrownLectors 1. David Diaz

2. Kaelee Campbell3. Marleen McCabe

4. Ronald Butts Boehmer

5. Dick Hamly6. Patrick Riley

7. The Reverend Daniel M. Cenci

Choirs & Ensembles Pohick Choir & Pohick Youth Choir, Pohick Handbells

Hiram Diaz, cantor & Euphonium; Gloria Jackson, soprano

Don Brownlee, Choir Verger

Minister of Music Ronald Butts Boehmer, CAGO, Organist & Choir Master

Assistant to the Rector The Reverend Ted Renaud

Priest-In-Charge The Reverend Daniel M. Cenci

A Colonial Candlelight Christmas

Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24

4:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist: Rite II & 10:30 p.m. Carols & Midnight Eucharist: Rite One Sunday, December 28, 10 a.m. Christmas Lessons & Carols

The Reverend Daniel M. Cenci, Priest-In-Charge
The Historic Pohick Church

Pohick Episcopal Church