

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
THE HOLY EUCHARIST
November 29, 2020 11:00 a.m.
<https://youtu.be/WurIzxJAjkh>

PRELUDE

“Sonata for a Musical Clock” – G. F. Handel

Organ

PROCESSION

“Lo! He Comes, With Clouds Descending”

Hymnal #58

- 1 Lo! he comes with clouds descending, once for our salvation slain;
thousand, thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ the Lord returns to reign.
- 2 Every eye shall now behold him, robed in dreadful majesty;
those who set at nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the tree,
deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, shall the true Messiah see.
- 3 Those dear tokens of his passion still his dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation to his ransomed worshipers; with what rapture,
with what rapture, with what rapture, gaze we on those glorious scars!
- 4 Yea, amen! let all adore thee, high on thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the power and glory; claim the kingdom for thine own:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

Opening Acclamation & Collect for Purity

BCP 355

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

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.*

KYRIE

- 1 Look around you, can you see? Times are troubled, people grieve.
See the violence, feel the hardness; all my people, weep with me.
Kyrie, eleison. Christe, eleison. Kyrie, eleison.
- 2 Walk among them, I'll go with you. Reach out to them with my hands.
Suffer with me, and together we will serve them, help them stand. (*Refrain*)
- 3 Forgive us, Father, hear our prayer. We'll walk with you anywhere,
Through Your suffering, with forgiveness, take your life into the world (*Refrain*)

Contributors: Jodi Page-Clark
Text: © 1976, Celebration

THE COLLECTS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your 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 living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Amen.*

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence-- as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil-- to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

- 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.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God

SEQUENCE HYMN

“Prepare the Way, O Zion”

Hymnal #65

1. Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near! Let every hill and valley a level way appear.
Greet one with comes to glory, fore told in sacred story.
O blest is Christ that came in God’s most holy name.
2. He brings God’s rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above, His rule is peace and freedom, and justice,
truth and love. Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.
O blest is Christ that came in God’s most holy name.
3. Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your savior’s rule embrace, His tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow before him, their voices will adore him.
O blest is Christ that came in God’s most holy name.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 13:24-37

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
Glory to you Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “In those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Lee Miller

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray to God for our own needs and for those of others.

Gracious God, in your mercy, grant wisdom and courage to your Church. Enlighten us that we may unify in your mission and continue to discern your hand at work in the world; give us a spirit of compassion for ourselves as well as others.

With hearts of hope we pray
Lord, hear our prayer.

Gracious God, in your mercy pour down the light of your Holy Spirit on those in authority in our nation. May justice roll down and peace and goodness breakthrough.

With hearts of hope we pray
Lord, hear our prayer.

Gracious God, we are not well as people together in this world. Your light seems far from us. We lament the brokenness we are living in and long to do what we can to help restore basic civility in our culture. Bless our good intentions and guide us in ways that help us be sources of your light in this dark world.

With hearts of hope we pray
Lord, hear our prayer.

Gracious God, comfort all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially those we name either silently or aloud. *(Pause for 10 seconds)* Shine your light on all of us that we may care for each other and drive out all darkness.

With hearts of hope we pray
Lord, hear our prayer.

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the abundant blessings of this life, especially for those celebrating birthdays this week Trevor Warner, Norma Hanrahan, Laurel Madigan and for all other thanksgivings we name now either silently or aloud. *(Pause for 10 seconds)*

With hearts of hope we pray
Lord, hear our prayer.

Gracious God, we pray for those who have died especially those we name now either silently or aloud *(Pause for 10 seconds)* May your loving light shine upon them.

With hearts of hope we pray
Lord, hear our prayer.

The Celebrant says:

Gracious God, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have faithfully asked, grant that we might obtain effectually, all to the glory of your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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 pronounce Absolution)

THE PEACE

BCP 360

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY

“Pie Jesu” by G. Faure

Mary K. Merrill, Soloist

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

BCP 369

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise. (The Celebrant continues)

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.
By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.
By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Hymnal #S-114

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts; heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues . . .

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name. ***Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.***

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **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 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.

AGNUS DEI

Hymnal #S-158

O, Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as You are already here and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN

"Come My Way"

Hymnal #487

1. Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a way as gives us breath;
such a truth as ends all strife; such a life as killeth death.
2. Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a light as shows a feast;
such a feast as mends in length; such a strength as makes his guest.
3. Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a joy as none can move;
such a love as none can part; such a heart as joys in love.

COMMUNION HYMN

"Thy Kingdome Come!"

Hymnal #615

- 1 "Thy kingdom come!" on bended knee the passing ages pray;
and faithful souls have yearned to see on earth that kingdom's day.
- 2 But the slow watches of the night not less to God belong;
and for the everlasting right the silent stars are strong.
- 3 And lo, already on the hills the flags of dawn appear;
gird up your loins, ye prophet souls, proclaim the day is near:

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

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.

Closing Hymn

“Blest Be the King”

Hymnal #74

- 1 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
For him let doors be opened, no hearts against him barred!
Not robed in royal splendor, in power and pomp, comes he;
but clad as are the poorest, such his humility!
- 2 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
By those who truly listen his voice is truly heard;
pity the proud and haughty, who have not learned to heed
the Christ who is the Promise, who has atonement made.
- 3 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
He only to the humble reveals the face of God.
All power is his, all glory! All things are in his hand,
all ages and all peoples, till time itself shall end!
- 4 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
He offers to the burdened the rest and grace they need.
Gentle is he and humble! And light his yoke shall be,
for he would have us bear it so he can make us free.

DISMISSAL

BCP 366

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“The Fifers” by F. Dandrieu

Organ

Special Thanks to our Soloist today: Mary K. Merrill

For the most up to date calendar info go to:
<https://www.stjohndivine.com/calendar>