



The Second Sunday of Advent
THE HOLY EUCHARIST
Sunday, 10 December 2023 • 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM
Pensacola, Florida • Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast

The People's responses are in **bold italics**.
Hymns are in the blue *Hymnal 1982*.
Service music (marked "S") is found at the front of the Hymnal.
Other page numbers refer to the red *Book of Common Prayer*.

Worship Information

Welcome to Christ Church! We especially welcome our visitors and newcomers and ask that you fill out a visitor card so that we can thank you for coming.

For Children – Children are always welcome during service. There is a Kid's Korner with books and activities at the entrance.

Opening Voluntary

8:00 - *Nun komm der Heiden Heiland*

("Savior of the nations, come!"), BWV 659

— J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

10:30 - "O come, O come, Emmanuel" & "People, look East"

– arr. Sandra Eithan

Hymn in Procession

Hymn 67 — *Comfort, comfort ye my people*

An organ interlude follows the introduction and each stanza.

Welcome

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD – BCP 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. 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.**

Hymn of Praise: Trisagion

The Hymn is sung three times.

Hymnal S 102

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you. *People* **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your 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 lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The People may be seated.

The First Lesson — Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

(10:30 - sung by the choir)

- 1 You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- 2 **You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.**
- 8 I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- 9 **Truly, his salvation is very near *
to those who fear him, ***
that his glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 **Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**
- 12 The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 **Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.**

The Second Lesson — 2 Peter 3:8-15a

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and

then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

The People stand for the Sequence Hymn and the Gospel.

10:30 - Sequence Hymn

Hymn 75 — *There's a voice in the wilderness crying*

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL — 10:30 Service
During the Hymn of Praise, children in grades Pre-K–5th
may follow the children's acolytes down the center aisle
to Children's Chapel. They will return at the Peace.

The Gospel — Mark 1:1-8

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

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord. *People Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Sermon

The Rev. Katie Gillett

Silence may be kept.

The Nicene Creed *The People stand.*

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: Form IV

BCP 388

Celebrant Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Leader 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.*

Leader Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, especially the Middle East, 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.*

Leader 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.*

Leader 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. We pray especially for the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy, *Hear our prayer.*

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

Silence

Lord, in your mercy, *Hear our prayer.*

Leader We commend to your mercy all who have died (*especially...*), 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.

Celebrant 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.*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements

The Offertory

10:30 - Offertory Anthem

“O Radiant Dawn” from The Strathclyde Motets
— James MacMillan (b. 1959)

*O Radiant Dawn, Splendour of eternal Light, Sun of Justice:
come, shine on those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death.*

*Isaiah had prophesied,
The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.*

*O Radiant Dawn, Splendour of eternal Light, Sun of Justice:
come, shine on those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death. Amen.*

At the Presentation

Hymnal 380:3

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

At the presentation of the monetary gifts,

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

People **And of thine own have we given thee.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION **Eucharistic Prayer A – BCP 361**

Celebrant 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. *Here a Proper Preface is said.*

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

Celebrant and People

Hymnal S 124

*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

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.**

The Lord’s Prayer

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

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.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

10:30 - *Then is sung*

Fraction Anthem: *Agnus Dei*

Hymnal S 157

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 Communion

Christians of all ages (regardless of where you were baptized) are welcome to receive Holy Communion. • Please come forward to the Altar Rail, being careful of the step just before the rail. • The rail fills from the center, and please don't hesitate to cross to the other side if there is space. • Communion is available in two kinds. If you choose not to receive communion in one or both kinds, please cross both arms across your chest and the priest will offer a blessing. • If you choose to receive communion in one kind, know Christ is fully present and all benefits of the Eucharist are fully received. • If you receive the chalice, please assist the chalice bearer by guiding the base of the cup. Or you may choose to intinct in the chalice. • If you need a gluten-free wafer, please cross one arm across your chest. There is no separate chalice. • If you would like the clergy to bring communion to someone in the pew, please notify the ushers at the door.

10:30 - Communion Voluntary

"Let all mortal flesh keep silence"

— arr. Sandra Eithan

Communion Hymns

Hymn 54 — *Savior of the nations, come!*

Hymn 63 — *O heavenly Word, eternal Light*

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.

Prayer for Mission

BCP 101

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you: for the honor of your name. Amen.

The Blessing

Hymn in Procession

Hymn 65 — *Prepare the way, O Zion*

Dismissal Response: *Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Closing Voluntary

Nun komm der Heiden Heiland ("Savior of the nations, come!")

— Paul Siefert (1586-1666)



Notes on the Notes — The Opening and Communion Voluntaries at the 10:30 Eucharist are offered by the Christ Church Ringers, under the direction of Mr. Danny Lyons. We thank the Christ Church Ringers for enriching our Eucharist this morning.

"O radiant dawn" is one of *The Strathclyde Motets* by Scottish composer James MacMillan (b. 1959). These are a collection of motets for specific liturgical occasions composed between 2005 and 2010 for performance by the Strathclyde University Chamber Choir. This motet is marked by the use of the "Scottish Snap," a rhythmic figure common in Scottish music. At the imperative "come," the music builds to the word "shine," resplendent as a sunrise.

The Closing Voluntary is a setting of "Savior of the nations, come" (Ger. *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*), in an arrangement by Paul Siefert (1586-1666). Siefert was organist at the Marienkirche in Danzig (Gdansk), Poland. Exemplary of *Cantus firmus* settings of the time, the chorale melody is presented in long notes played by the pedal, over which Siefert weaves a three-voice contrapuntal texture.

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