



Morning Prayer, Rite II

ST. JAMES'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

December 6, 2020 | Online Service
Second Sunday of Advent

Greeting and Announcements

Hymn 65: *Bereden väg för Herran*, "Prepare the way, O Zion"

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

He brings God's rule, O Zion; he comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace.
His tidings of salvation proclaim in ev'ry place.
All lands will bow before him, their voices will adore him.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

Advent Lighting Prayer

Officiant

Lord God, let thy blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this Advent wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation. May he come quickly and not delay. We ask this through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Opening Sentences

Book of Common Prayer, page 78

Confession of Sin

Officiant

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling

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 alone 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 Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Venite S35

Come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth,
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture
and the sheep of his hand.
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 *Benedixisti, Domine*

You have been gracious to your land, O LORD,
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
You have forgiven the iniquity of your people
and blotted out all their sins.
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.
Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.
Mercy and truth have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
Truth shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.
Righteousness shall go before him,
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

The Lessons

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem: God is love; let heaven adore him

Cyril Vincent Taylor

God is Love: let heaven adore him; God is Love: let earth rejoice;
let creation sing before him, and exalt him with one voice.

God who laid the earth’s foundation, God who spread the heavens above,
God who breathes through all creation, God is Love, eternal Love.

God is Love: and love enfolds us, all the world in one embrace;
with unfailing grasp God holds us, every child of every race.

And when human hearts are breaking under sorrow’s iron rod,
then we find that selfsame aching deep within the heart of God.

God is Love: and though with blindness sin afflicts all human life,
God’s eternal loving-kindness guides us through our earthly strife.

Sin and death and hell shall never o’er us final triumph gain;
God is Love, so Love for ever o’er the universe must reign.

Second Lesson: Mark 1:1-8

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.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: The Reverend Dr. Mark Cooper

Apostles’ Creed

BCP 96

Officiant and People together, all standing as able.

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
He was conceived by power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

BCP 97

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People together

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.

Suffrages A

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. And grant us your salvation.
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. Let the people sing with joy.
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. For only in you can we live in safety.
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain in us with your Holy Spirit.

Collect of the Day

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.*

Other Collects

Prayers for the Parish

Prayer for Mission

BCP 101

Officiant

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 that do not know you to the knowledge and love of you, for the honor of your name. *Amen.*

Anthem: A Spotless Rose

Herbert Howells

A Spotless Rose is blowing, sprung from a tender root,
Of ancient seers' foreshowing, of Jesse promised fruit;
its fairest bud unfolds to light
amid the cold, cold winter,
and in the dark midnight.

The Rose which I am singing, whereof Isaiah said,
is from the sweet root springing, in Mary, purest Maid;
for through our God's great love and might,
the Blessed Babe she bare us
in a cold, cold winter's night.

Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Versicle and Response

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Closing Sentences

Hymn 59: *Merton*, "Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding"

Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding:
"Christ is nigh," it seems to say.
"Cast away the works of darkness,
O ye children of the day."

Wakened by the solemn warning,
from earth's bondage let us rise;
Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.

Honor, glory, might, and blessing
to the Father and the Son,
with the everlasting Spirit
while unending ages run.

*The flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of
Louise & Wortham Spilman, Jane & Wilmer Spilman,
Isabel & Henry Taylor, Henry Taylor, Jr., and Wortham Spilman, Jr.*

Service Participants

Preacher: The Reverend Dr. Mark Cooper

Officiant: The Reverend Dr. John McCard

Musicians

Singers: Nathan Bick, Lisa Edwards Burrs, Will Conn, Heather Jones, Sabrina LaFleur,
Jeanne Lapierre, Chris Rock, John Tyndall

Soloist: John Tyndall, Dr. Lisa Edwards Burrs with The Anthony Dowd Jazz Trio

Organist: Virginia Ewing Whitmire

Director of Music: Dr. Mark A. Whitmire

Prayers of the People

Please lift up to God those who have asked for our prayers:

For the sick and in need: especially the family of Eleanor Angle, Susan Bain, the family of Anne Bedner, Margaret Bloor, Susan Bloor, Priscilla Cabell, Betty Crasten, Matt Curtis, Cameron Flippen, Charlotte Harbach, Mary Harrison, Palmer Johnson, the family of Garrett Lockhart, Eleanor Lynch, Emma Mason, Eve McCray, Harry Moore, Robbie Morris, Darlene Ogden, Jess Pillmore, Katherine Reynolds, George Silver, Geoff Sisk, Anne Sweets, Lilo Ukrop, Gordon Wallace, David Wilkinson, Bodie Williamson, Barbara Willis, Amy, and Paul

For healthcare workers, first responders and all frontline workers: especially Chris Abplanalp, Jennifer Ascoli, Eric Bland, Laura Bland, Tracy Carrasquillo, Gussie Carter, Paul Crook, Robert Crutcher, Lauren Dickinson, Brian Hoffmann, Rachel Klavan, Rebecca Krey, Worth Lewis, Anne Byrd Mahoney, Jimmy Milley, Sally Prillaman, Alex Skidmore, Kaylyn Tucker, Banks Turner, William Welch, Peter Wilbanks, Margaret Williams, and Judith Zerke

For those about to be baptized: especially Tyler Lee Van Selow, Jr. who will be baptized at St. James's next Sunday

For all celebrating their birthdays this week: especially David Barnett, Myra Carroll, Yevonne Chandler, Mark Cooper, Anne Pearson Fox, Michael Lantz, Sarah Newcomb, Worth Osgood, III, Nora Ricard, Pierce Riddle, Susan Starnes, Helen Streever, Ida Vacalvick, and Alice Worrell who celebrate their birthdays today

For those who have died recently: especially Charlotte Harbach, Dicky P. Hickman, and Stan Paule

Music Notes



"O sing unto God with the voice of melody." -Psalm 47:1

A Spotless Rose is by the English composer Herbert Howells (1892-1978). Howells was a student of Stanford and Charles Wood at the Royal College of Music. In 1920 he began teaching composition at the RCM, where he continued until his eightieth birthday. The text is a poem by the seventeenth-century English poet George Herbert (1593-1633). After education at Trinity College, Cambridge, Herbert entered the priesthood and served most of his life at the small parish church of Foughleston, Bemerton, near Salisbury. He died there of consumption at age 40 and was buried beneath the altar.

Monday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m.: Our Christmas Hope – Live streamed on Facebook

In the midst of the preparations and festivities, some find the holidays to be long, dark nights of the soul, full of struggle with life challenges, grief and loss of years past and present. You are invited to our special candlelit service of hymns and prayers for healing.

The service will include carols and traditional songs accompanied by piano, flute and guitar.



In case you missed previous **Music at St. James's**, here are links:

- 9/20 Liz Nance– A Celtic Blessing (M. Whitmire)
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIr4o8ddtUFgkFHcKIguFKQ>
- 9/27 Knox Hubbard– What good am I? (Dylan)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1DFF7VFCtg>
- 10/4 Berkeley Crane, Winston Crane - O praise the Lord who made all beauty (Hopson)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z93KIAKV3RA>
- 10/11 Heather Jones– I will sing new songs of gladness (Dvorak)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iLw5hBePELA>
- 10/18 Nathan Bick - Then shall the righteous shine (Mendelssohn)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R7WUd5cKAg>
- 10/25 Diane Wright, Sam Zimmer, Knox Hubbard, Scott Milstead - Come to Jesus
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mjrrwwu1uzRY>
- 11/1 Elisabeth Eckstein, Julianne Eckstein - I sing a song of the saints of God
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WSZea3DcE_E
- 11/15 Lisa Edward Burrs, Anthony Dowd, Matt Hall, Aaron Binder - He's got the whole world
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4o-t1Lc1kC0>
- Molly Sharp, Roberts Wadsworth - Be thou my vision (arr. M. Whitmire)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-87qrIBykLo>
- 11/22 Massie Valentine, Hank Artz, Scott Milstead, Molly Sharp – O love that will not let me go
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Z-jST1ek3M>
- 11/29 Chamber Choir – E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come (Manz)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VcLDfky6IUM&feature=youtu.be>

Virtual Choir Links

Sicut cervus (Palestrina)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SBE828xCRwE&fbclid=IwAR0E1jn2KOj99I1q6sEhxU3qbbkOO0XEql4gguBAuHU3h3Tfv-Tbcae6pY>

Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake (Farrant)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yqELCw0uXsU&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR0E1jn2KOj99I1q6sEhxU3qbbkOO0XEql4gguBAuHU3h3Tfv-Tbcae6pY>

If ye love me (Tallis)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fDGaKW-A2zg&feature=youtu.be>

Ubi caritas (Gjelo)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P0FrP0CrEmc&feature=youtu.be>