



St. James's Episcopal Church

The Second Sunday of Advent

December 5, 2021

9:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist Rite II

Before the liturgy, in silence, talk to God. During the liturgy, let God speak to you.

After the liturgy, speak to one another. Please silence all electronic devices.

Prelude: Aria from Partita on *Winchester New*

Bruce Neswick

Introit: Kyrie

Leo Sowerby

Hymn 66: *Stuttgart*, "Come thou long expected Jesus"

Advent Lighting Prayer

Celebrant

Lord God, let your 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.*

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, page 355

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People His mercy endures for ever.

Collect for Purity

Celebrant

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 S95 (*The People echo each petition sung by the Cantor.*)

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Collect of the Day

BCP 211

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.*

New Testament: Philippians 1:3-11

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Canticle 16 *Benedictus Dominus Deus*

Plainsong, Tone VIII.1

The Cantor sings the first half of each verse; the congregation sings the second half.



Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;
he has come to his people **and set them free.**
He has raised up for us a mighty savior,
born of the house of his **servant David.**
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies,
from the hands of **all who hate us.**

He promised to show mercy to our fathers
 and to remember his **holy covenant**.
 This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham,
 to set us free from the hands **of our enemies**,
 Free to worship him without fear,
 holy and righteous in his sight all the **days of our life**.
 You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
 for you will go before the Lord to **prepare his way**,
 To give people knowledge of salvation
 by the **forgiveness of their sins**.
 In the tender compassion of our God
 the dawn from on high shall **break upon us**,
 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
 and to guide our feet into **the way of peace**.

Hymn 75 (v. 1, 2): *Ascension*, “There’s a voice in the wilderness crying”

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Children’s Procession (*The children may follow the clergy to Children’s Chapel at this time if they wish. Please send them with their coats, as Children’s Chapel may be held outdoors, depending on the weather.*)

Hymn 75 (v. 3): *Ascension*, “There’s a voice in the wilderness crying”

Sermon: The Reverend Dr. John McCard

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.

The Prayers of the People, Form III

Let us kneel together in prayer and open our hearts to God.

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; *That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons:

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest; *Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

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

Silence

Please join me in lifting up to God those who are sick or in need and who have asked for our prayers:

Leader and People

Basil Acey, Mary Lee Allen, Elizabeth Austin, Jennifer Ball, Hylah Boyd, Bryana Braxton, John Daniel III, Jimmy DeVoe, Tom Evelyn, Leigh Hulcher, Dave Johnson, Sue Kneip, Eileen Long, George Longest, Emma Mason, Matt Mattox, Linda Mays, Eve McCray, JoEllen McGugan, Bunky Miller, Harry Moore, Kenny Morphis, Carol Piersol, Bradford Smith, Jay Stegmaier, Marian Stevens, Alan Stone, Jessie Sumrell, Ginger Trice, Jim Tucker, Anne Turnbull, Sam Witt, Erin Wright, Cassandra and family, Ben and Eloise, Ace, David, Dylan, Elaine, James, and Melissa

The Leader continues.

Celebrant

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin and Absolution

BCP 360

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant 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.

Celebrant

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.*

Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Greeting and Announcements

The Holy Communion

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Body and Blood of our Lord at the altar. Gluten-free wafers are available. All are invited to receive a blessing at the altar, indicated by crossing your arms across your chest.

Offering of Gifts and Praise

To give online, you may use the QR code located in the back of the bulletin.

Anthem: Comfort, ye, my people C. Goudimel, arr. M. Whitmire

Comfort, comfort ye my people,
speak ye peace, thus saith our God.

Comfort those who sit in darkness
mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.

Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;
Tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over.

Hark, the voice of one that crieth
in the desert far and near,

Calling us to new repentance
since the kingdom now is here.

Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way;
Let the valleys rise to meet him and the hills bow down to greet him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked,
make the rougher places plain;
let your hearts be true and humble,
as befits his holy reign.

For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad;
and all flesh shall see the token that the word is never broken.

Hymn 60 (v. 6): *Conditor, alme siderum*, “To God the Father”

To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One,
Praise, honor, might, and glory be from age to age eternally.

Great Thanksgiving, 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.

Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. (*The Celebrant continues.*)

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:

Sanctus S125

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.

Celebrant

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.

Celebrant

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.*

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

People and Celebrant

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.

Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

Celebrant 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.

As the children return to their parents, the people sing

Antiphon

This is the feast of vic-tory for our God.
For the Lamb of God has tak-en a-way our sins.

Verse

Sing with all the peo-ple of God,
and join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion. *repeat Antiphon*

Music at Communion

Anthem: Dearest Lord Jesu

J. S. Bach

Dearest Lord Jesu oh why dost thou tarry?
Come now for I am of waiting so weary,
Come now and comfort my heart in despair;
Take me from misery, sorrow and care.

Refrain Come now, Lord Jesu,
Oh why dost thou tarry? oh why dost thou tarry?
Come now for I am of waiting so weary, so weary.

Deck Thee, oh deck thee, meet garment prepare thee
Keep thy lamp burning, and oil ever near thee,
Ready, oh faithful one, fit for the feast
At midnight call for thee, oh wedding guest. *Refrain*

Chant: O Adonai

O Adonai and leader of the house of Israel,
who appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush,
and gave him the law on Sinai;
Come and redeem us with an outstretched arm.

Special Celebrations and Prayers

People with birthdays or anniversaries during the week and any with special prayer requests may come forward to the altar rail to receive a blessing.

Postcommunion Prayer

BCP 365

Please kneel as able.

Celebrant and People

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.

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.*

Hymn 76: *Winchester New*, “On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry”

Dismissal

People Thanks be to God.

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

Service Participants

Preacher: The Reverend Dr. John McCard

Celebrant: The Reverend Hilary Streever

Assisting: Lay Chaplain Blake Singer

Lectors: Elizabeth Jennings

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Randi McFadden, Cat McPherson

IWC Greeters: Becky DeCamps, Margaret Raigins

Musicians: Jeanne Lapierre, Heather Jones, Nate Bick, Will Conn

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 those serving in our Armed Forces: especially David Bhatta, Robby Farmer, Wilson Nance, William Smith, and Mitchell Teehey

For all who advocate for the most vulnerable and strive to bring an end to poverty and homelessness: especially our outreach partners ACTS, CARITAS, REAL Life, and RE:Work Richmond

For all celebrating their birthdays this week, especially those who celebrate their birthdays today: Mikaila Casanovas, Alex Fruth, Anne Harper, Russell Jones, III, Allie Oristian, Parker Shepherd, Walker Surgner, and Polly Ukrop

Music Notes



Where's the Choir? Your choir is singing the very lovely evening service of Advent Lessons and Carols tonight at 5:00 p.m. The West Gallery and Youth Choirs will sing music by J.J. Heller, Isaac Gill, Benjamin Britten, Gerald Near and William Billings. Be still, my soul, for God is near. In candlelight and quietness, we ponder the mystery of God's constant loving pursuit of us and the advent of the promised Messiah. Please join us for this unique worship service.

Kyrie was composed by American composer and church musician, Leo Sowerby (1895 – 1968). Sowerby, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for music in 1946, was often called the “Dean of American church music.” In 1927 he became organist-choirmaster at St. James Cathedral, Chicago. In 1962, after his retirement from St. James, he was called to Washington National Cathedral to become the founding director of the College of Church Musicians, a position he held until his death in 1968.

Comfort ye, my people, is a setting of today's passage from Isaiah. The original German version of the hymn was written by Johann Olearius (1611-1684) and published in his *Geistlich Sing-Kunst* in 1671. The tune *Psalm 42* first appeared in the French Psalter of 1551 with a French metric version of Psalm 42. The tune was probably composed by Louis Bourgeois (c. 1510-1561) who, under the patronage of Jean Calvin, was editor of successive editions of the Genevan Psalter from 1542 to 1551.

Dearest Lord Jesus (Liebster Herr Jesus) is a song that J. S. Bach contributed to *Schemellis Gesangbuch*, a collection of sacred songs published in Leipzig in 1736 by Georg Christian Schemelli.

O Adonai is from the seven “O Antiphons.” The “O Antiphons” are prayers that come from the service of Vespers during the week before Christmas Eve. Each antiphon begins with “O” and addresses Jesus with a unique title which comes from the prophecies of Isaiah and Micah, and whose initials, when read backwards, form an acrostic for the Latin “Ero Cras” which means “Tomorrow I come.”

Music Calendar

Tonight at 5:00 p.m.: Service of Advent Lessons and Carols

Monday, December 13 at 7:00 p.m.: Our Christmas Hope

Christmas Eve at 10:30 p.m.: Handel’s *Messiah*

Christmas Poinsettias



It’s time to order your poinsettias! The Flower Guild welcomes memorial gifts for poinsettias during the Christmas season. They will be delivered to home-bound parishioners after Christmas. The deadline is Friday, December 10. You may email your memorials to gyoung@doers.org or call Gina Young at 355-1779, ext. 315.

Amount per poinsettia: \$25 payable to St. James’s Episcopal Church (clearly marked for poinsettia)

Include: your name and the name of honoree(s)

Mail to St. James’s Episcopal Church, 1205 W. Franklin St., 23220.

News and Events

To view the echimes on doers.org, scan this QR code with your smart phone’s camera app:



Giving Online

We thank you for your ongoing support of God’s mission at St. James’s. To give financially online, go to doers.org/give or scan this QR code with your smart phone’s camera app:

