



**December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**The Second Sunday Of Advent**  
**Holy Eucharist: Rite Two**

The Right Rev. Andrew Doyle, Bishop of Texas  
Fr. Steve Karcher, Rector

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**Prelude**

**Piano**

**Processional**

*"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (vs 3 & 4)*

**Hymnal 56**

**3** O come, O come, great Lord of might,  
who to your tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times did give the law  
in cloud and majesty and awe. (Refrain)

*Refrain:*

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel!

**4** O come, O Branch of Jesse's stem,  
unto your own and rescue them!  
From depths of hell your people save,  
and give them victory o'er the grave. (Refrain)

***Greetings by Fr. Steve***

## Lighting of the Advent Wreath

**Celebrant:** Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.

**People:** **Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.**

**Celebrant:** Show us the light of your countenance,  
and we shall be saved:

**People:** **O Lord God of hosts.**

**Celebrant:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**People:** **Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.**

*The Advent candle is now lit.*

**Celebrant:** Show us your mercy, O Lord:

**People:** **And grant us your salvation.**

## The Liturgy of The Word

**BCP 355**

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

People: ***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

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.***

**The Trisagion** (We say this *together* 3 times)

**Hymnal S-102**

**Holy God, Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us**

## The Gloria (*spoken together*)

**BCP 356**

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:**

**have mercy on us; You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

People: ***And also with you.***

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

### **The 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.***

### **The First Lesson      *A Reading from Isaiah 40:1-11***

.... 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!”

....

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.

**Lector:** The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

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

*Benedixisti, Domine*

**BCP 708**

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**                      ***A Reading from 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.

**Lector:**        The Word of the Lord.

*People:*        ***Thanks be to God.***

## **Gospel Processional**

*“There’s A Voice In The Wilderness Crying”(vs 1,2)*

**Hymnal 75**

**1** There’s a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod:  
Prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God!  
The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low;  
make straight all the crooked places where the God, our God, may go!

**2** O Jerusalem, herald good tidings, ascend to the heights and sing!  
Proclaim to a desolate people the coming of their king.  
Like flow'rs of the field we perish, like grass our works decay;  
the pow'r and the pomp of nations shall pass like a dream away.

## **The Gospel**

## **A Reading from Mark 1:1-8**

**Celebrant:** 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.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

### **Gospel Recessional**

*“There’s A Voice In The Wilderness Crying” (vs 3)*

**Hymnal 75**

3 But the word of our Savior is faithful, the arm of our God is strong,  
who stands in the midst of the nations and soon will right the wrong.  
Lord, feed your flock like a shepherd, the lambs so gently hold;  
in pastures of peace now lead them, and bring them to your fold.

### **Sermon**

**Fr. Steve Karcher**

*A moment of reflection follows*

**Announcements/Newcomers / Birthdays / Anniversaries / Deployments  
Speakers on Stewardship and the Vestry**

### **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 worshipped 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 VI**

**BCP 392**

*(Please stand or kneel. The Leader and **People** pray responsively)*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

***For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.***

For this community, the nation, and the world;

***For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.***

For the just and proper use of your creation;

***For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.***

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

***For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.***

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

***For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.***

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Andy, Jeff, Hector and Kathryn, our Bishops; Steve, our Rector, and for all bishops and other ministers;

***For all who serve God in his Church.***

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*(Silence or the People may add their own petitions)*

Hear us, Lord;

***For your mercy is great.***

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*(Silence or the People may add their own thanksgivings)*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*(Silence or the People may add their own petitions)*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

**Leader:** O Lord our Governor, whose glory is in all the world: We commend this nation to your merciful care, that, being guided by your Providence, we may dwell secure in your peace. Grant to our President and the President-elect, and to all in authority, the wisdom, courage and strength to know and to do your will. Fill each of them with a love of truth and righteousness, making them ever mindful of their calling to serve this people, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen**

**Leader:** Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Celebrant:** Lord, you have called us to serve you. Grant that we may walk in your presence: your love in our hearts, your truth in our minds, your strength in our wills; until, at the end of our journey, we know the joy of our homecoming and the welcome of your embrace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Celebrant:** We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

**BCP 393**

*(A brief silence is kept, and then together we pray:)*

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
in your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown,  
things done and left undone;  
and so, uphold us by your Spirit  
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Absolution**

**BCP 360**

**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.**

**The Peace** *(shared by waving, smiling, peace signs, etc., from one's pew)*

**Celebrant:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
People: ***And also with you.***

**The Holy Communion**

**Offertory Sentence**

**BCP 376**

**Celebrant:** Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

*(Feel free to drop any offering in the plate at the rear, as you leave today.)*

**Offertory Hymn**

**Piano**

*(The Priest prepares the Table)*

**Eucharistic Prayer B**

**BCP 367**

*The priest, and the People sing*

**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 God thanks and praise.***

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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 say, together:*

**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*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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**

**BCP 364**

**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**

**BCP 364**

**Celebrant:** Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

**Celebrant:** O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

People: **Have mercy upon us.**

**Celebrant:** O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

People: **Have mercy upon us.**

**Celebrant:** O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

People: **Grant us thy peace.**

## **The Invitation**

**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.

*A brief silence is kept.*

**Communion Hymn**    *“Shepherd Of Souls, Refresh And Bless” (vs 1-4)*

**Hymnal 343**

**1** Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless Your chosen pilgrim flock  
With manna in the wilderness, With water from the rock.

**2** We would not live by bread alone, But by your word of grace,  
In strength of which we travel on To our abiding place.

**3** Be known to us in breaking bread, But do not then depart;  
Savior, abide with us, and spread Your table in our heart.

**4** Lord, sup with us in love divine: Your body and your blood,  
That living bread, that heav'nly wine, Be our immortal food.

**Communion Hymn**    *“Love, Divine, All Loves Excelling” (vs 1-3)*

**Hymnal 657**

**1** Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

**2** Come, almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be alway blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,  
Pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

**4** Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee:  
changed from glory into glory, 'til in heaven we take our place,  
'til we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

**Post Communion Prayer**

**BCP 366**

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

*Celebrant and people:*

**Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

**The Blessing**

**BCP 339**

**Celebrant:**

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Recessional Hymn** *“On Jordan’s Bank The Baptist’s Cry” (vs 1-5)* **Hymnal 76**

**1** On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh.  
Awake and harken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings!

**2** Then cleansed be every life from sin: make straight the way for God within,  
and let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.

**3** We hail you as our Savior, Lord, our refuge and our great reward.  
Without your grace we waste away like flowers that wither and decay.

**4** Stretch forth your hand, our health restore, and make us rise to fall no more.  
O let your face upon us shine and fill the world with love divine.

**5** All praise to you, eternal Son, whose advent has our freedom won,  
whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Spirit, evermore.

## The Dismissal

Priest: Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## Postlude

## Organ



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