



December 13, 2020
The Third Sunday Of Advent
Gaudete Sunday
Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

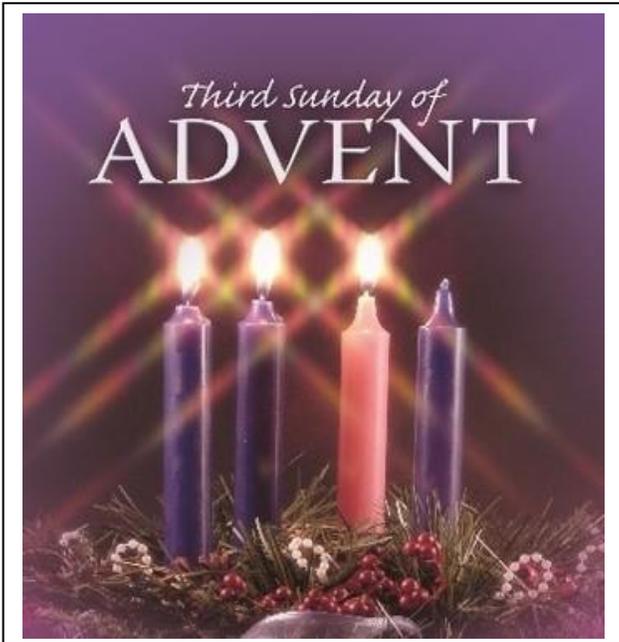
The Right Rev. Andrew Doyle, Bishop of Texas
 Fr. Steve Karcher, Rector

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Prelude

Piano

Processional

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” (vs 5 & 6)

Hymnal 56

5 O come, O Key of David, come
 And open wide our heavenly home.
 Make safe for us the heavenward road
 And bar the way to death's abode.

Refrain:

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

6 O come, O Bright and Morning Star,
 And bring us comfort from afar!
 Dispel the shadows of the night
 And turn our darkness into light. (*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

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. ***Amen.***

The First Lesson *A Reading from Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11*

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor ...;
to comfort all who mourn;
...
For I the LORD love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;

...

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 15 *The Magnificat* **Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. *Amen.*

The Second Lesson

A Reading from 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

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

Gospel Processional

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness” (vs 1,2)

SOP 410

1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father
There is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

The Gospel

A Reading from John 1:6-8,19-28

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah."

And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No."

Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.

They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal."

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

Gospel Recessional

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness" (vs 3)

SOP 410

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow-
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (*Refrain*)

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see;

All I have needed thy hand hath provided.

Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

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.

*(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, 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 our 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 St. Christopher, and 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 “I Have Decided To Follow Jesus” (vs 1-3) **SOP 37**

1 I have decided to follow Jesus.
I have decided to follow Jesus.
I have decided to follow Jesus.
No turning back, no turning back!

2 Though none go with me, still I will follow.
Though none go with me, still I will follow.
Though none go with me, still I will follow.
No turning back, no turning back!

3 The cross before me, the world behind me.
The cross before me, the world behind me.
The cross before me, the world behind me.
No turning back, no turning back!

Communion Hymn “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” (vs 1-3) **Hymnal 66**

1 Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in Thee.

2 Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

3 Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

4 By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

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.**

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain:

In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus

2 I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
And show me the way to the Father. *(Refrain)*

3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
We shall know the joy of Jesus

The Dismissal

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

Postlude

Organ

All music used under OneLicense permit #A-720720



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