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The First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2020

The Rt. Rev. Santosh Marray, Bishop of Easton
The Rev. Mark Delcuze, Rector
Dr. Gary Van Essen, Minister of Music
Lisa Oesterling, Coordinator of Christian Formation
Brenda Faulkner, Parish Administrator

The Holy Eucharist and Baptism: Rite Two

The Word of God

Welcome & Advent Wreath Lighting

The Rev. Mark S. Delcuze

Prelude

+Processional Hymn

Lo! He comes, with clouds descending

vs. 1, 2, & 4



1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on



our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the



saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine



train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

+Opening Sentences

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People **You come to your people and set them free.**

+Collect for Purity (said by all)

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.

Celebrant Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,

People **Have mercy upon us.**

+The Collect of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Isaiah 64:1-9

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence--as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil--to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains

quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God**

The Psalm

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

Read responsively by verse.

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, ***
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 **O Lord God of hosts, ***
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 **You have made us the derision of our neighbors, ***
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

**16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.**

17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

**18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

The Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God**

Anthem

“Light and Lyfe Immortal”

Russell

The text to this morning's anthem is the Collect for the First Sunday of Advent, written by Thomas Cranmer in 1549 for the first Book of Common Prayer. We still use Cranmer's Collect on the First Sunday of Advent; it was prayed at the beginning of our service today!

+The Gospel Announcement

Mark 13:24-37

Please stand and face the Celebrant

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

Jesus said, “In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. “But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

The Homily

The Rev. Mark S. Delcuze

+The Nicene Creed

Note the change in the wording, most especially with regard to the Holy Spirit. These are not errors in the bulletin, but are part of our rich liturgical heritage. The wording about the procession of the Holy Spirit is part of the difference in the Eastern and Western Churches, and a source of controversy. In fact, in 1994, at our 71st General Convention, it was decided to remove the words “and the Son.”

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.

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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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 IV

Deacon or other leader

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

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.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, 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.

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.

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.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

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

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, 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.

+Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins to God.

(A period of silence is kept)

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

+Absolution *(Enriching our Worship 1, p. 56)*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

+The Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

The Lord's Prayer

People and Celebrant

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Give thanks for the saving death and resurrection of Jesus and ask him to be with you now.

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me, for all the pains and insults you have borne for me. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day. **Amen.**

+Blessing

Announcements

1. Soon and ver - y soon _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
2. No more cry - in' there _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
3. No more dy - in' there _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
4. Soon and ver - y soon _____ we are goin' to see the King; _____

1. Soon and ver - y soon _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
2. No more cry - in' there _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
3. No more dy - in' there _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
4. Soon and ver - y soon _____ we are goin' to see the King; _____

1. Soon and ver - y soon _____ we are goin' to see the King,
2. No more cry - in' there _____ we are goin' to see the King,
3. No more dy - in' there _____ we are goin' to see the King,
4. Soon and ver - y soon _____ we are goin' to see the King;

Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, _____ we're goin' to see the King!

Hymn continued on next page

1.2. 3.4.

Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah.

Dismissal

The Celebrant dismisses them with these words

Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.

People

Thanks be to God.

+Postlude

JOIN US LIVING WELL THROUGH ADVENT 2020

Advent begins Today! (**Zoom Meeting ID:** 822 6393 0246) at 7:00 pm.
Send us an email if you would like a weekly reminder.

- December 1 Hope is a Decision
- December 8 Being a Messenger of Hope
- December 15 The Power of Hope
- December 22 Grounding our Hope in God

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Save the Dates:

- December 6 3:00 pm Online Christmas Caroling
- December 12 7:00 pm Westminster Ringers Virtual Concert
- December 20 7:30 pm Online Service for the Longest Night
- December 24 4:00 pm Tentative Outdoor Christmas Eve Service
- December 24 7:00 pm Online Christmas Eve Service
- December 25 10:00 am Online Christmas Day Service

Sunday Nights in Advent

Family Zoom Advent Wreath Lighting Service at 5:00 pm

11/29 – 12/6 – 12/13 – 12/20