



830 Romancoke Road
Stevensville, MD 21666
ccpki.org
410.643.5921

Christ Episcopal Church Day School
cecds.org
410.643.8248



The Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 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

Prepare the way, O Zion



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

+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.

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

Isaiah 40:1-11

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

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

People **Thanks be to God**

The Psalm

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Read responsively by verse.

- 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 Epistle

2 Peter 3:8-15a

A Reading from the Second Letter of Peter

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.

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

People **Thanks be to God**

Anthem

“My Lord He is a Comin' Soon”

Winnen & Cothran

Helen & Goldey Vansant

+The Gospel Announcement

Mark 1:1-8

Please stand and face the Celebrant

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Savior 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**

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.**

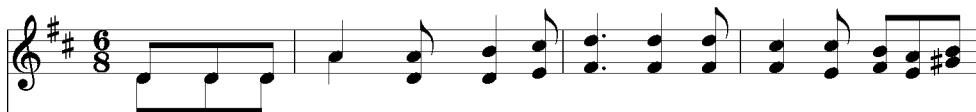
Prayer for Spiritual Communion

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. Peo - ple, look East. The time is near of the crown-ing of the
 2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is plant - ed
 3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be
 4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall
 5. An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to



1. year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble, trim the hearth and set the
 2. there: give up your strength the seed to nour - ish, that in course the flow'r may
 3. filled. E - ven the hour when wings are fro - zen God for fledg - ling time has
 4. brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er, bright as sun and moon to -
 5. earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum - ming with the word, the Lord is



1. ta - ble. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the guest is on the way.
 2. flour-ish. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the rose is on the way.
 3. cho - sen. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the bird is on the way.
 4. geth - er. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the star is on the way.
 5. com - ing. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the Lord is on the way.



Dismissal

The Celebrant dismisses them with these words

Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.

People

Thanks be to God.

+Postlude

Serving This Week

Online Readers: Dottie Wilson, Bob Thompson

Altar Guild: Betsy Sipes, John & Wyna Gilbert

Counters: Dottie Wilson, Bob Thompson

Please pray for: Lorraine Aaron, Angela & Trent, Baby girl Claibaugh, Peggy Brengle, Lynda Brody, Buck Buckingham, Camp Wright, Chris, Connie Clark, Scott & Lynn Clark, Jane Coppage, Wendy Costello, Corie Davis, Bryan Dalheim (RIP), Bob & Laura Dean, Deny, Paul Dorr, Jim Ewing, Susan Fralic, Jim Gallagher, Dave Grapes, David Grimes (RIP), Rick H (RIP) & Family, Anne Habberton, Rita Hadlock, Melanie Hallowell (RIP), Liza Hamill, Ronald Hartman, Carol Holland, Jim Hoverman, Clint Hoxter, Charles Jewell, Anne Jones, Josette, Rowan & Lyla, Albie Kimbel, Jeff Kolbeins, Mike Kratzer & Family, Olivia Marguerite, Sharon McCain, Toinette McDowell, Doug McMillan & Family, Bob Meile, Greg Middleton (RIP), Faith Miller, Renee O'Rourke, Camilla Parrott, Al Peppel, John Perkins, Gail Renborg, Rick & Christina, John Riley, Jeff Rouse, Adele & David Sadiq, Judy Schubrook, Kirsten Shelek (RIP), Donna & Rob Sherwood, Anna Sisson, Ian Vansant & Family, Monty Wells (RIP), Kathy & Roger Whitehead, Larry Wilkens, Candace Williams, Bob Willis, Lee Wilson (RIP), Jack Wright

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 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 via YouTube.
[https://youtu.be/njJZcR3mRj8.](https://youtu.be/njJZcR3mRj8)

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
12/6 – 12/13 – 12/20

Christmas Memorial Offering

Please PRINT clearly

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Giving # _____ Amount \$ _____