**Third Sunday of Advent**

**December 12th, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.**

**The Holy Eucharist: Rite II**



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**INFORMATION FOR NEWCOMERS: WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH!**



Our motto is true whether you're here for the very first time

or you've been a member for decades –

**There is a place for you at God's Table!**

The worship service has two main parts: the Liturgy of the Word, which includes Scripture readings and a sermon, and the Liturgy of the Table, which is also called Holy Eucharist or Communion. You will notice moments in the service when people stand, kneel, bow, and make the sign of the cross. There is no one “right” way to worship, so do what is comfortable for you at any given time in worship.

All Baptized Christians are welcome at Christ’s Table for Communion. If you do not wish to receive communion, you may come forward and request a blessing. If you wish to receive communion in your pew, please notify the ushers. And if you need a gluten-free wafer, just let Canon Lee Anne know.

If you have not been baptized, or if you have questions about Holy Baptism, please talk to Canon Lee Anne after the service -- the people of Christ Church would love to walk with you to your baptism and beyond!

When you enter a Christ Episcopal Church worship service/event, you will be entering an area where photography, video and audio recording may occur.

**THE WORD OF GOD**

(\*please rise as you are comfortable)

PRELUDE:

**OPENING HYMN**: “Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding” Hymnal 59

\*OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

**The Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

Priest: People of God: awake! The day is coming soon when we shall see God face to face.  As God’s children, we remember the ways and the works of God.  We are called out of darkness to walk in the light of God’s coming. Lord, make us one as we walk with Christ today and  for ever. **Amen.**

**HYMN:** “O come, O come, Emanuel” Hymnal 56 vs. 5 & 6

\*COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

\*COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant:*The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

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 for ever. ***Amen.***

**THE LESSONS**

**THE FIRST READING Zephaniah 3:14-20**

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;  
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter Jerusalem!

The Lord has taken away the judgments against you,  
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;  
you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion;  
do not let your hands grow weak.

The Lord, your God, is in your midst,  
a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness,  
he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing  
as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,  
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

I will deal with all your oppressors  
at that time.

And I will save the lame  
and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you home,  
at the time when I gather you;

for I will make you renowned and praised  
among all the peoples of the earth,

when I restore your fortunes  
before your eyes, says the Lord.

*Lector:* The Word of the Lord.

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



\*THE RESPONSE Canticle 9: “The First Song of Isaiah”

Surely, it is God who saves **me; \***  
I will trust in him and not be **afraid.**

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure de**fense, \***and he will be my **Savior.**

Therefore you shall draw water with re**joicing \***  
from the springs of sal**vation.**

And on that day you shall **say, \***  
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his **Name;**

Make his deeds known among the **peoples; \***see that they remember that his Name is **exalted.**

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great **things, \***  
and this is known in all the **world.**

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your **joy, \***  
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of **Israel.**

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** Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

*Lector:* The Word of the Lord.

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

**SQUENCE HYMN:** “Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes” Hymnal 72

**GOSPEL**

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (**Luke 3:7-18**).

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

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Sermon The Rev. Canon Dr. Lee Anne Reat*

**\*THE NICENE CREED**

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**

In peace, we pray to you Lord God. Congregational responses are in **bold.**

*Silence*

Lord Jesus Christ, you came and dwelt among us, showing us the glory of the Father. Let that glory be manifest in our churches. Give us the will to be united as You prayed we would be.

**R: Lord Jesus, come and dwell within all churches.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you came and dwelt among us, serving others and not seeking your own glory. Inspire church leaders, that they may be examples of willing service. Bless Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Wayne, our Bishop; Lee Anne, our priest.

**R: Lord Jesus, come and dwell among all church leaders**

Lord Jesus Christ, you came and dwelt among us, giving us an example of true power, which lies in holiness. Direct government leaders into wise decisions that will bring forth righteousness. Give the leaders of the nation wisdom and hearts for peace.

**R: Lord Jesus, come and dwell in all government leaders.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you came and dwelt among us, choosing the company of the poor, the homeless, the hungry, and the sick, of widows and orphans, and of sinners. Help us to reach out in lovingkindness to those who are in any need or trouble. We pray for the ministries this church supports, especially Springfield Farmer’s Market, Project Women, Children’s Defense Fund Freedom School, The YMCA, and Jefferson St. Oasis Garden.

**R: Lord Jesus, come and dwell in our acts of mercy.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you came and dwelt among us, taking on our flesh, and inhabiting both the pains and the joys of this life. We celebrate with those who have birthdays, especially Marilyn K., and anniversaries this week, especially Scott and Lisa.

**R: Lord Jesus, come and dwell in our moments of joy.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you came and dwelt among us, taking sickness and suffering into your own hands and transforming them. Have mercy on those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. We pray especially for Leigh, Charlene, Chris, Alice, Barb, James, Joy, Joni, Kim, Traudie, Lexie, and Keith. Give special grace and power to all those who spend this holiday working with the sick and the dying.

**R: Lord Jesus, come and dwell in our dis-ease and make us whole.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you came and dwelt among us, weeping at the death of those whom you loved. Comfort all those who have lost loved ones, and bless those departed.

**R: Lord Jesus, come and dwell in our memories of those whom we have lost. Grant peace and light to those who have died.**

*\**THE COLLECT FOR PEACE

**Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*.***

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

**All: 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.**

Priest: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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

\*OFFERTORY:

*\**PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTSHymnal 380, v. 3

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**praise him, all creatures here below;**

**praise him above, ye heavenly host:**

**praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost**

\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

*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.**

It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere 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:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Hymnal S129**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

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,

**We remember his death,**

**We proclaim his resurrection,**

**We await his coming in glory;**

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.**

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 Hymnal S164

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world,**

**Give us your peace. Give us your peace.**

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.**

\*THE BLESSING

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

**CLOSING HYMN**: “Spirit divine, attend our prayers” Hymnal 509

\*THE DISMISSAL *Celebrant:* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

POSTLUDE:

**Ministers for December 12th, 2021**

**Altar Guild:** Joan Hurley

**Lector:** Fred Bartenstein

**LEM:** Brian Shelburne

**Ushers:** Sally Schwartz and Bill Hicks

**General Information**

**Rector:** The Rev.Canon Dr. Lee Anne Reat

**Senior Warden**: Dawn Ivy

**Junior Warden**: Scott Yeazell

**Treasurer**: Ken Bladh

**Vestry at Large**: Bonnie Bingman, Kay Koeninger, Linda Mortensen,

Joyce Spangler, Denise Sharp, and Keith Doubt

**Parish Administrator & Program Coordinator**: Kelly Zeller

**Director of Music**: Dr. Christopher Durrenberger

**Facility Manager**: Paul McAfee

**Bookkeeper:** Tina Knox



**Christ Episcopal Church**

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