

ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

WELCOMING ALL · CELEBRATING GOD'S GRACE · EQUIPPING THE SAINTS · SERVING THE WORLD



THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 7, 2025 † 10:30AM

PRELUDE

Children of the Heavenly Father, Swedish melody (tr. E. Olson)

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN 

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding, Hymnal 1982, 59

OPENING ACCLAMATION 

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

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

Presider 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.**

SONG OF PRAISE 

Hymnal 1982, 56 v 1 & 3

All O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, O come, though Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times didst give the law, in cloud, and majesty, and awe. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY 

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Presider 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 LESSONS

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-10

Lector A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;

for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

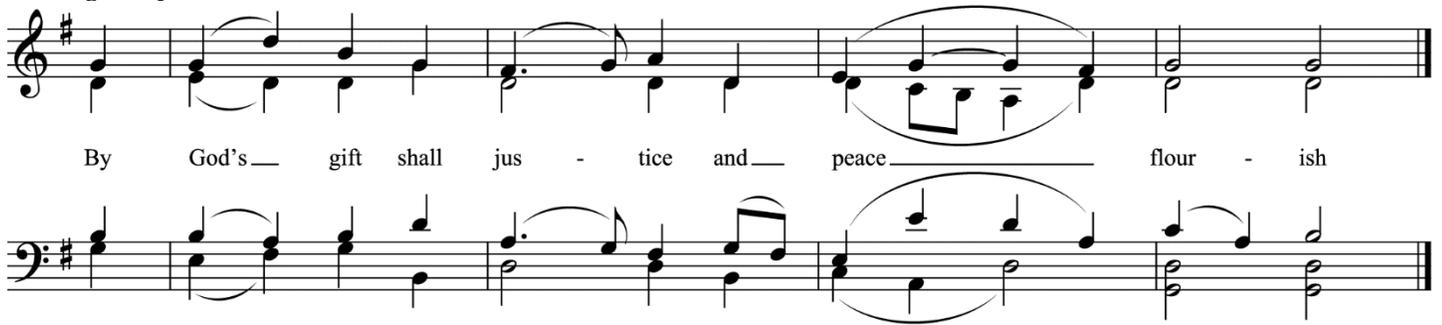
On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE 
All sing Antiphon

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19



By God's gift shall jus - tice and peace flourish

- ¹ Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- ² That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
- ³ That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.

Antiphon

- ⁴ He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- ⁵ He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
- ⁶ He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
- ⁷ In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- ⁸ He shall rule from sea to sea, *
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

Antiphon

- ¹⁸ Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!
- ¹⁹ And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen.

Antiphon



Lector A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans.

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name";

and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";
and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him";
and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**



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 they Lord our God may go!

O Zion, on that bringest good tidings, get thee up to the heights and
sing! Proclaim to a desolate people the coming of their King. Like

the flowers of the field they perish, like grass our works decay, the power and pomp of nations shall pass like a dream away;

but the word of our God endureth, the arm of the Lord is strong; he stands in the midst of nations, and he will right the wrong. He shall feed his flock like a shepherd, the lambs he'll gently hold; to pastures of peace he'll lead them, and bring them safe to his fold.

THE HOLY GOSPEL 

Matthew 3:1-12

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume 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.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

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

THE NICENE CREED 

All 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 

The Leader and People pray responsively

Note: “Maranatha” is an ancient Christian prayer commonly used during Advent. It is a compound Aramaic word that primarily means “Come, O Lord!” but can also be

translated as “The Lord has come!” and thus perfectly symbolizes our Advent hope that Christ is always with us, but will come again more fully in the age to come.

Intercessor O Emmanuel, who was, and is, and is to come, your advent was foretold by the prophets and even now you promise to come again. Bless our worship this day and teach us once more to pray that ancient prayer, Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!

Intercessor O Emmanuel, who was, and is, and is to come, you are the hope of your people throughout the world. Give patience and strength to every member of your church, and to every bishop, priest, and deacon, that they may proclaim your coming and serve your holy Kingdom.

***People* Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!**

Intercessor O Emmanuel, you are the Wonderful Counselor, the Prince of Peace. Bless our nation and all the nations of the world, and those who lead them, that your peace and love be known throughout the world. We pray especially for Ukraine, Darfur, Israel, and Gaza.

***People* Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!**

Intercessor O Emmanuel, you once came as the Holy Child of Bethlehem. As we prepare to celebrate that first coming, enliven our hearts to the ways that you come to us each day. May we ever be watchful for your movement in the world.

***People* Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!**

Intercessor O Emmanuel, you promise to come again and to reign over your creation, like a spring of water flowing to eternal life. We beseech your mercy to bring the rain and snow abundantly once more, to refresh and restore the bounty of your land.

***People* Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!**

Intercessor O Emmanuel, how we long for the healing and restoration that you bring. Bless all those who are sick or suffering, destitute or despairing, and help us all to be instruments of your healing grace, agents of your holy justice, and participants in your everlasting love.

***People* Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!**

Intercessor O Emmanuel, in you even our endings are but a new beginning, and the whole earth shares in the hope of new creation. Give us all the strength to face death with courage and confidence, whenever it comes, and bless all those who have already gone before us.

***People* Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!**

Intercessor O Emmanuel, who was, and is, and is to come, you come into our lives each day bringing a new dawn and new hope. Renew the faith and life of your church as we await the coming of your eternal Kingdom.

People **Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!**

The Celebrant concludes with the following collect:

Presider Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept

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.**

Presider 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

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

We greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Watch over thy children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM 

People Look East, arr. Howard Helvey

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING  *Remain standing, as able*

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Presider 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:

Presider and People say:

S-125

**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.

Presider 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,

Presider and People:

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

The Presider 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 [_____ 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.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All 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

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

AT THE FRACTION

S-164

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

The musical score consists of three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The first system is for the text 'Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.' The second system is for 'Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.' The third system is for 'Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:'. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand.



The Presider says the following Invitation

Presider 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.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All baptized Christians, regardless of your denomination or church affiliation, are invited to come forward to receive communion. As you come forward, place your hands out in front of you to receive the Body of Christ in your palm. Gluten-free wafers are available, just whisper to our Presider that this is your wish. Those with mobility issues may also receive communion in your pew rather than needing to come forward. Please indicate to the ushers that this is your wish, and our Presider will bring communion to you.

If you would like to receive the Blood of Christ by intinction (having the bread dipped into the wine, without sipping directly from the cup), point to the chalice. The Presider will dip the wafer into the wine then hold it out to you to take a dry corner in your fingers. Please then step aside to consume the sacrament. If you would just like to receive the bread, cross your palms in front of you to receive the Body of Christ. If you would like to receive from the chalice, you may receive the bread in your palm and consume it, then step toward the chalice to receive the Blood of Christ.

If you are not baptized, or do not wish to receive communion, you are welcome to remain in your pew or come forward for a blessing. Cross your arms over your chest and the Presider will offer a blessing in the name of our Lord. If you are not baptized, but feel drawn to the sacraments and wish to receive, that is a holy longing! Please reach out to Fr. Aidan or our church office to discern whether you wish to be baptized and explore new life in Christ. For any who choose not to receive communion for reasons of comfort or conscience, please know that we are enriched by your prayers and presence with us, and we are delighted you are here today.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER 

Presider Let us pray.

All **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 FINAL BLESSING 

Presider May the Son 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 

Prepare the way, O Zion, Hymnal 1982, 65

THE DISMISSAL 

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Maranatha! Maranatha!
People **Thanks be to God. Maranatha! Maranatha!**

ORGAN POSTLUDE 

Fantasia "Praise to the Lord", Niels W. Gade

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