



ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT EL SEGUNDO DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

EVENING PRAYER AND HOLY EUCHARIST, IN THE CELTIC TRADITION SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2021 5:00 P.M.

OUR MISSION:

We are called to be disciples of Christ,
revealing His Life, Love, and Light to the world.

NUESTRA MISIÓN:

Estamos llamados a ser discípulos de Cristo,
revelando su vida, amor, y luz al mundo.

OUR VISION:

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church
is a radically welcoming, inclusive faith family –
sharing and teaching the love of Jesus Christ
through our worship, actions, and outreach:
transforming ourselves and the world.

NUESTRA VISIÓN:

La Iglesia Episcopal de San Bartolomé es una
familia de fe radicalmente acogedora e inclusiva,
que comparte y enseña el amor de Jesucristo a
través de nuestras alabanzas, acciones, y alcance:
transformándonos a nosotros mismos y al mundo

GATHERING MUSIC

A period of silence is observed, marked by the ringing of a bell at the beginning and the end.


WORDS OF WELCOME

Please stand, as able.

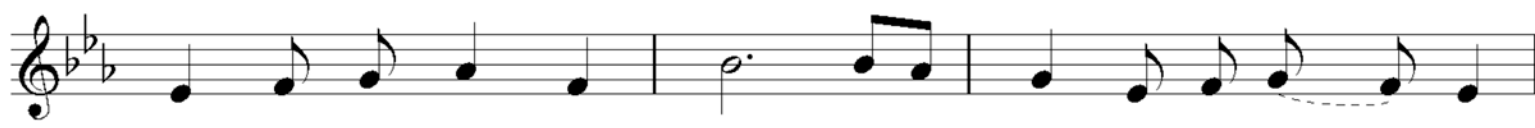
OPENING HYMN (see next page)

“There’s a Voice in the Wilderness”

ASCENSION, Irregular;
words, James Lewis Milligan (1876-1961);
music, Henry Hugh Bancroft (1904-1988)




1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a
 2 O Zi - on, that bring - est good tid - ings, get thee
 3 but the word of our God en - du - reth, the




call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a
 up to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late
 arm of the Lord is strong; he stands in the midst of



high - way, a high - way for our God! The
 peo - ple the com - ing of their King. Like the
 na - tions, and he will right the wrong. He shall



val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the
 flowers of the field they per - ish, like
 feed his flock like a shep - herd, the



lof - ty hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed
 grass our works de - cay, the power and pomp of
 lambs he'll gent - ly hold; to pas - tures of peace he'll



pla - ces where the Lord our God may go!
 na - tions shall pass like a dream a - way;
 lead them, and bring them safe to his fold.

THE OPENING SENTENCES

Presider The God of love is with us.

People **The Spirit of love is in us.**

Presider Blessed be the one God, whose prophets foretold the coming of the Light;

People **And blessed be the Son, whose coming we await.**

Please be seated.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Presider In this season of waiting, in this time of preparation, we long to draw closer to God, as a comfort and as our savior. So often, we get in our own way; we make choices that trip us up as we move toward God. So then, let us make our confession, first in silent prayer.

A period of silence is observed, marked by the ringing of a bell at the beginning and the end.

Presider Let us pray.

People Holy God, our hearts are breaking, and we don't know whether to shout in rage or keep silent in fear. We take our rage, fear, regret, and grief out on others, and we know that is wrong. We act selfishly; we consume, hoard, and haggle, and we know that is not what you ask of us in this sacred time. Help us. Mend our hearts. Hear our voices. Comfort us in our grief, and open our hands so that we will share in our sorrow and joy, and in our hope and despair. Come to us again, we pray, and make us ready to receive you. Amen.

Presider Friends, hear this good news: in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven, and freed to love and serve. **Amen.**

Please stand, as able.

THE PHOS HILARON

music, Peter Crusafulli

During the singing of the hymn, the appointed candles in the Advent Wreath are lit.



1 Light of the world, in grace and beau - ty,
2 Now as we see in the lights of even - ing,



mir - ror of God's e - ter - nal face,
we raise our voice in hymns of praise;



trans - par - ent flame of love's free du - ty,
wor - thy are you of end - less bless - ing,



you bring sal - va - tion to our race.
sun of our night, _____ lamp of our days.

Presider O God, make speed to save us.

People O Lord, make haste to help us. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Malachi 3: 1-4, *The Coming Messenger*

A reading from the Book of Malachi.

SEE, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

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

People Thanks be to God.

THE CANTICLE APPOINTED

Canticle 16, Luke 1: 68-79;

Benedictus Dominus Deus (The Song of Zechariah);
music, John-Luke Addison (b. 1989)

Optional Descant



Antiphon:



Bless-ed be the Lord, the God of Is - ra - el; he has come to his peo-ple and set them free.

Verses:



⁶⁸ Blessed be the Lord, the God of / Israel; *
he has come to his people and set them / free.

⁶⁹ He has raised up for us a mighty / savior, *
born of the house of his servant / David.

⁷⁰⁻⁷¹ Through his holy prophets he promised of / old,
that he would save us from our / enemies, *
from the hands of all who / hate us.

⁷² He promised to show mercy to our / fathers *
and to remember his holy / covenant. (*Ant.*)

Antiphon:



⁷³⁻⁷⁴ This was the oath he swore to our father / Abraham, *

to set us free from the hands of our / enemies,

⁷⁵ Free to worship him without / fear, *

holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our / life.

⁷⁶ You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most / High, *

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his / way,

⁷⁷ To give his people knowledge of sal- / vation *

by the forgiveness of their / sins. (*Ant.*)

⁷⁸ In the tender compassion of our / God *

the dawn from on high shall break up- / on us,

⁷⁹ To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of / death, *

and to guide our feet into the way of / peace. (*Ant.*)

THE SECOND LESSON

Philippians 1: 3-11, *Paul's Prayer for the Philippians*

A reading from the letter to the Philippians.

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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

People Thanks be to God.

Please stand, as able, for the Gospel.

THE GRADUAL



THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 3: 1-6, The Proclamation of John the Baptist

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

IN the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Following the repetition of the Gradual, please be seated.

A period of silence is observed, marked by the ringing of a bell at the beginning and the end.

THE SERMON

A period of silence is observed, marked by the ringing of a bell at the beginning and the end.

THE IONIAN CREED

Please stand, as able.

WE believe in God above us, maker and sustainer of all life, of sun and moon, of water and earth, of all humanity. We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ, the word made flesh, born of a woman, servant of the poor, tortured and nailed to a tree. A man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief, he died alone and forsaken. He descended into the earth to the place of death. On the third day he rose from the tomb. He ascended into heaven, to be everywhere present throughout all ages, and his kingdom will come on earth. We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit burning with Pentecostal fire, life-giving breath of the Church, Spirit of healing and forgiveness, source of all resurrection and of eternal life. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

Intercessor God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Intercessor With prayers for a world waiting in hope, let us turn to the Lord, and we shall be saved. Let us pray.

Intercessor For the church, still waiting for unity, still hoping for renewal: may all the faithful be blessed by the sound of the Gospel proclaimed to the ends of the earth. We pray especially for our Diocese, and our Bishop, Susan.

People **Come, Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For all nations, still waiting in peace, still hoping for an end to war, still searching for common ground: may all peoples be blessed by the sound of understanding between clans and tribes, rulers and races. We pray especially for Joseph, our President, and Gavin, our governor.

People **Come, Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For those who have lost hope, still waiting for a job, still hoping for a cure, still searching for a place to call home: may those without joy this season be blessed by the sound of God's promise for them fulfilled.

People **Come, Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For travelers and visitors, families and friends: still waiting for welcome, still hoping for reconciliation, still searching for a way to mend what has been broken: may everyone we encounter this season be blessed by greetings of peace, compassion, and hospitality.

People **Come, Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For the sick and the dying and those who care for them, still waiting for results, still hoping for a miracle, still searching for courage and comfort. We pray especially for _____ and those we now name.

The congregation is invited to add their own intercessions.

Intercessor May all the sick be blessed by the sound of God's healing word and the strength of our prayers.

People **Come, Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For the departed: loved ones whom we miss this season, forgotten ones who died alone, innocent ones caught in the crossfire of violence. We pray especially for _____ and those we now name.

The congregation is invited to add their own intercessions.

Intercessor May all who have died be blessed by the sound of God welcoming them home.

People **Come, Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.**

Presider You are near to us, Lord, as close to us as the child in the womb of her mother. And yet we wait in expectant hope for your coming. Attune our ears to hear your voice in all those we meet, and open our eyes to see your abiding presence in our world. Hear our prayers and help us turn to you, that we may leap for joy at the sound of your saving Word: Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Presider says:

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 PEACE

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Following the peace, please be seated.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Our work as the church continues by your generosity in all ways. Thank you for your support.

For online giving, please visit www.stbartschurch.org or scan this code:



OFFERTORY MUSIC

INGATHERING BLESSING

The Presider says:

O God, in whose every creation we discover a gift freely given: help us to understand that all we have comes from the outpouring of your generosity. Inspire in our hearts a deep sense of gratitude, and move us to share what we have received with the same immensity of spirit in which it was given.

Lead us, we pray, to give as we have received—abundantly, generously, and joyfully—that our common ministry may continue to bear witness to your unfailing grace. Teach us, we pray, that in giving we receive. Accept and bless these pledges offered for the mission and ministry of St. Bartholomew's. Bless those who have offered them to you in thanksgiving for all the ways in which you bless us and our community of faith. Give us courage, insight and grace to use these gifts to nourish your people and to proclaim the reconciling work of God in Christ. In the name of the Three in whom we are One. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand, as able.

Presider God 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 our thanks and praise.**

IT is right, it is good, it is fitting that we praise you, our God, at all times and in all places. For at the beginning of time you brought order out of chaos, light out of darkness and life out of your Spirit. At the end of time you call all things back to yourself, drawing all creation into eternity.

Between the beginning and the end, in your great love, you made us in your image, giving us time for our dwelling, and calling us to love you, and all that you have made. But we have not

loved you, or one another, or your creation as you have loved us. We have turned away from you and given our love to vain things, and become subject to sin and death. Yet in your love, through prophets, apostles, saints, and teachers, you continue to remind us of that love for which we are made.

So great is your love for us that when all else failed, you came among us, clothing your creative Word in human flesh as Jesus, so that by your divinity becoming human, our humanity might be made divine. Jesus, born of Mary in a humble manger, dying in agony on a shameful cross, rising in glory to your right hand, raises all things, the humble and the glorious, to new life in him, who is himself Alpha and Omega, beginning and end.

We bless you for this great gift of our salvation, O God, and with your holy angels and all the saints who have gone before us, we say:

HOLY, holy, holy Lord; God of power and might. Heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Before Jesus was taken away to be killed, he had supper with his friends. At the table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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 we, sharing bread and wine as Jesus commanded, proclaim the eternal mystery:

People **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We ask you, O God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus. And we ask that you send your Spirit upon us, your family, that we may be united in the Body of Jesus your Anointed One, and live the new life of love to which you raise us.

All this we ask through Christ who was, and with Christ who is, and in Christ who will be, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

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.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Presider The Spirit we await is with us in this bread.

People The voice of the Holy One speaks to us in this cup.

Presider These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

THIS is the table, not of the Church, but of God. It is made ready for those of us who love God, and for those who want to love God more. So, come, those of us who have much faith, and those who have little; those of us who have been here often, and those who have not been here long; those of us who have tried to follow, and those who have failed. Come, because it is God who invites us; it is God's will that we should meet here.

Please be seated once you receive Communion.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Please stand, as able.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.

O God, we have heard your call to us, and we have responded by gathering in Jesus' name to share this bread and this cup, and to wait upon your will. Help us to listen to your call in silence and in sound; in light and in darkness; in beginnings and endings; and to bring the strength we find in this meal and this fellowship with us as we serve the world in your name. Amen.

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for your participation in today's service. Your presence is a blessing to us.

"All are welcome. No exceptions."

BLESSING OF BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

WATCH over your children, O Lord, as they mark this day; 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 hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please stand, as able.

THE BLESSING

Presider May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing, and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May he whose second coming in power, and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN (see next page)

“Prepare the Way, O Zion”

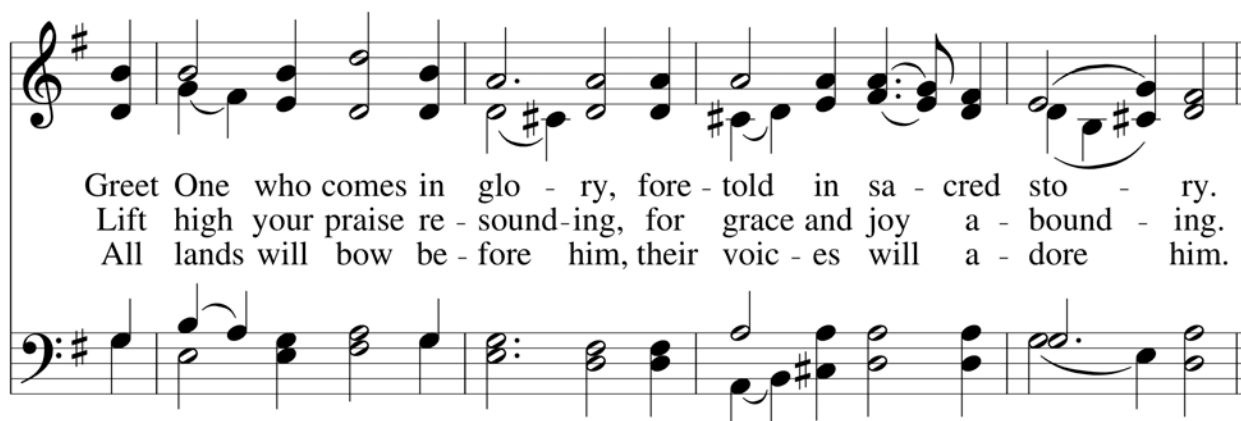
*BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, 7.6.7.6.7.7 with refrain;
words, Frans Michael Franzén;
music, trad. Swedish melody*



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 Sav - ior's rule em - brace.

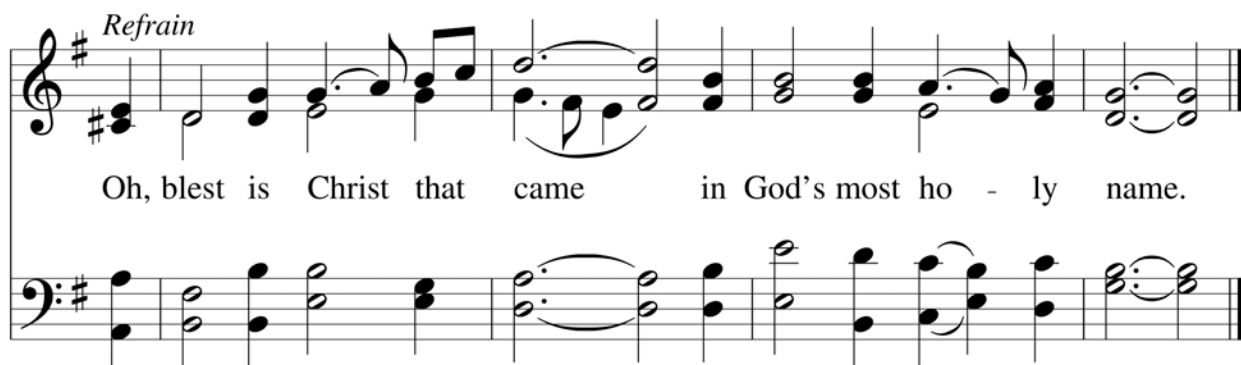


Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
 His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
 His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



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.

Refrain



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

THE DISMISSAL

Presider Go in peace and joy to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

