

# THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 29, 2020



ST MARY'S  
IN-THE-HILLS  
Episcopal Church

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# H O L Y   E U C H A R I S T

## R I T E   I I   A C C O R D I N G   T O

### T H E   B O O K   O F   C O M M O N

### P R A Y E R

*with Spiritual Communion*

#### WELCOMING PRAYER

**H**OLY SPIRIT living within us, guide our hearts and minds as we welcome today all those who worship *with* St. Mary's. Give us discerning hearts so that everyone who crosses our threshold feels welcomed in the spirit of your love. Help us to recognize each person as an individual sent by you who will enrich our lives. And most of all, O God, let this be a *community* of love and acceptance for all your children; in the name of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

#### T H E   L I T U R G Y   O F   T H E   W O R D   O F   G O D

Beginning on page 355 of the *Book of Common Prayer*

#### {OPENING ACCLAMATION & COLLECT FOR PURITY}

*Celebrant*      Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit  
*People*          **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.**

*Celebrant*      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.**

#### {GLORIA IN EXCELSIS}

**G**lory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
    have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
    receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
    Jesus Christ,  
    with the Holy Spirit,  
    in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

{COLLECT OF THE DAY}

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

**A**LMIGHTY 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 LESSONS}

THE FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 64:1-9

**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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### THE PSALM: PSALM 80:1-7, 16-18

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

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*  
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, \*  
stir up your strength and come to help us.

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

O Lord God of hosts, \*  
how long will you be angered  
despite the prayers of your people?

You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

You have made us the derision of our neighbors, \*  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

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

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

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

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

#### THE SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:3-9

**G**RACE 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.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## THE GOSPEL: MARK 13:1-13

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Mark  
**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**J**ESUS 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."

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

THE HOMILY

OUR RESPONSE TO THE WORD

{THE NICENE CREED}

**W**E BELIEVE in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

**W**E 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.

**W**E BELIEVE in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
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}

Let us pray for the church and the world.

**G**OD OF LOVE, we pray for your church: For **+Bonnie**, our Bishop; **+Michael**, our Presiding Bishop; **+Justin**, the Archbishop of Canterbury; **+Moises**, Bishop of the Diocese of the Dominican Republic; **+Elizabeth**, **+Donald**, and **+Craig**, our Lutheran Bishops in Common Mission; **+Wendell** and **+Stewart**, our retired Bishops; **and Andy+**, our priest; and for all who seek and serve you in the community of the faithful, especially St. Joseph's, Boca Chica, Church of the Redeemer, Southfield, and St. Paul's, Romeo.

*Silence*

God of love.

**Hear our prayer.**

**G**OD OF FREEDOM, we pray for our nation, and all the nations of the world: For the men and women of our armed forces, especially **Kevin Tye, Josh Tindall, Craig Froehlich, Justin Briggs, Josom Alomran, Jason Kelly, James Monaghan, Scott, Blake Abel, Joshua, Jerry Holley, Corbin, Nick McKenna, Sean Kellogg, Brandon Jamison, Patrick Kline, Anna Whetstone, Kyle Sholos, and Marcus Powell**; for peace and unity across barriers of language, color, and creed; for elected and appointed leaders, that they would serve the common good. Inspire all people with courage to speak out against hatred and actively to resist evil. Unite the human family in bonds of love.

*Silence*

God of freedom.  
**Hear our prayer.**

**G**OD OF MERCY, we pray for all in any kind of need or trouble. Stretch out your hand to bring comfort, wholeness, and peace to those in need, especially **Suzanne LaBatt, Linda & Al Nielsen, Sarah DelCampo, Christie Rowden, Carolyn Birch, Dan R., Michael & Laura, Kim Little, Neil King, Jim, Irene Howe, Terry Hart, Michelle Peasley, Andrea Barnett, Jaime Kinser, Gloria Hemingway, Bill Bissett, Judith Kovacs, Brian and the Kelly Family, Patti and the Lee Family, Janet Spears, Tyrell Borgeson, Jean and Todd Rachel, Mike Sullivan, Tony Dulio, Tim Boldt, and Barb Sheldrick**. Look with mercy also on those who have contracted the COVID-19 virus, on any who are vulnerable, and on all who feel in danger. By your Holy Spirit, bring out the best, not the worst in us; and fill us with compassion, that we may be channels of your healing love.

*Silence*

God of mercy.  
**Hear our prayer.**

**G**OD OF GRACE, we pray for those who have died: For the faithful in every generation who have worked for justice; for prophets who called us to racial reconciliation; for martyrs who died because of hatred; and for all the communion of saints. We pray especially for those whom we love but see no longer, especially **Barb, Barbara, Alex Trebek, Jack Nowlin, Michael Fey, Ed Esiambre**, and those we now name \_\_\_\_\_ (*Please add names silently or aloud*). Make us faithful to your call to proclaim your Good News, and bring us at last into the glorious company of the saints in light.

*Silence*

God of grace.  
**Hear our prayer.**

Let us commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray to the mercy and protection of God.

*A moment of silence will be held for you to offer your own prayers and intentions.*

*The Celebrant will conclude with a Collect.*

{THE CONFESSION OF SIN}

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

**M**OST 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.

**A**Lmighty 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}

THE HOLY COMMUNION

{THE OFFERTORY}

{EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B}

Book of Common Prayer, p. 367

*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.**

**I**T 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 be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of

the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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:

**H**OLY, HOLY, HOLY, Lord, God of power and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**W**E 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, you 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 you 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 the Blessed Virgin Mary 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

**O**UR 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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*Celebrant*

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.

{SPIRITUAL COMMUNION}

*An Act of Reception*

**O** GOD, you are our God; eagerly we seek you;  
our souls thirst for you, our flesh faints for you,  
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.  
Therefore, we have gazed upon you in your holy place,  
that we might behold your power and your glory.  
We believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament,  
And, since we cannot all at this time receive these gifts,  
We pray you to come into our hearts, and to unite us with yourself  
as we endeavor to embrace you with our whole heart,  
and soul, and mind, and strength.  
Let nothing separate us from you,  
and let us serve you in this life until, by your grace,  
we come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

{PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION}

*Officiant and People*

**E**TERNAL 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.

{BLESSING}

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter all darkness from your path;  
May the light of God's Coming make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant  
in love; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you  
and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*Officiant*  
*People*

Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*St. Mary's In-The-Hills.*

*inspired by the Word and nurtured by the sacraments,  
promotes an active and community-conscious congregation  
supporting the mission and ministry of  
Jesus Christ.*

*Here at St. Mary's we believe we are blessed and strengthened by God's diverse creation of age,  
race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, nationality, and spoken language. We  
welcome all who seek to follow Christ into the full life and service of the Church.*