

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT NOVEMBER 29, 2020

The Service of Holy Eucharist

HANDBELL CHOIR

O come, o come emmanuel

THE WORD OF GOD

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

People: *And blessed be His kingdom, now and forever. Amen.*

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.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant: Almighty 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 LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 1:3-9

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Corinthians:

Grace 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 PSALM APPOINTED: PSALM 80:1-7,16-18

Lector: The Psalm appointed for today is Psalm 80, to be read in unison.

***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 Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark:

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus 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.

HOMILY

The Rev. Scotty Nead

The Mission of Holy Comforter

Love God, Love Others

Serve God, Serve Others

THE NICENE CREED

Officiant and People together

***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.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For this Advent season, let us offer our prayers to God, saying: Lord, have mercy.

That our gracious Savior may rouse us from sleep and make us attentive to the nearness of his presence, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may discover God's word in every sound of this world, God's touch in every human embrace, and God's love in every gesture of self-sacrifice among us, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That divine energy and holy grace may bring our hearts to vigilance and make us see with uncovered eyes the Christ who suffers in his people's agonies, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may come to recognize in our holy assembly gathered for prayer that Jesus the Christ is with us here to make our songs of praise and pleading his own, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That God's coming into the days and years of our human history may be always new, always brimming with light to drive all darkness away, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. For those in need of healing: *Robbie Jarrell and Aiden Brooks*. For those who are homebound. For the safety of those who serve abroad. Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

We thank you Lord for all the blessings of this life. For those celebrating birthdays: *Baxter Whitaker, Sean Connolly, Kim Garrison, Matt Zimmerman, and Glenn Fulghum*. For those celebrating anniversaries: *Mike and Alison Randolph*. For our partnership with Martinez Elementary School and The Claiborne at West Lake. Let us pray to the Lord. For the birth of Evelyn Mae Reeves, great granddaughter of Harriet Myers.

Lord, have mercy.

We pray for all who have died, including those who have died of COVID-19 this past week, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together

***Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

Officiant: 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

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING – EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

(Also found on page 367 in The Book of Common Prayer)

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 him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: 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:

Celebrant and People say together

***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.

Celebrant: 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,

Celebrant and People: ***We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;***

Celebrant: 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 forever. ***AMEN.***

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

Celebrant and People

***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

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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 AND THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Always remember how short life is and how little time we have to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. So be quick to love and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

CLOSING INSTRUMENTAL

In the bleak midwinter

SERVING TODAY

Officiant/Preacher	The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Taylor
Lay Eucharistic Ministers	Pam Coffey
Reader	Teresa Young Pinheiro
Musician	Dr. Brad Green
Live stream	Bill Liebel and Steven Ricks

VESTRY

Fred Hoogland, Sr. Warden, Dave Blake, Jr. Warden
Mallory Halterman , Steven Hahn,
Tab Carter , Bill Liebel