

# THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 12, 2021

## Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Leader: Prepare the way of the Lord and clear a path for the one who comes as the light of the world. And so bless this Advent Wreath that it may remind us to prepare for the coming of Jesus who is the light of the world and the Prince of Peace.

*(One pink and two purple candles are lighted)*

Leader: Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

✠ Thanks be to God.

✠ The Processional *There's a voice in the wilderness crying* *Hymnal 75*

## The Opening Acclamation

Blessed be God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

✠ And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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 Trisagion

*The Congregation sings the Trisagion three times.*

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

## The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

✠ **And also with you.**

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 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.

The Word of the Lord.

✠Thanks be to God.

### ✠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 defense, \*  
and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \*  
from the springs of salvation.

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.

### The Second Reading

*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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### The Sequence Hymn

*Surely it is God who saves me*

*Hymnal 679*

## The Holy Gospel

*Luke 3:7-18*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

### ✠ **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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

### ✠ **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Sermon

*The Rev. David S. Sugeno*

## 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

*Form II*

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishops; for this gathering. and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

Pray that they may find and be found by him.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed.  
Pray for those who have died.

*Silence*

I ask your thanksgiving for those celebrating birthdays:

*Silence*

We commend to God's gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad, all first responders, and all who labor for justice and peace in the world.

*Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.  
Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*Silence*

*The presider adds a concluding collect*

## The Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

✠ **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.**

## The Absolution

### The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

✠ **And also with you.**

# The Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

The Offertory

*Bring Us Hope*

*Parish Choir*

✠ The Presentation

*Hymnal 65*

*Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!*

*Let every hill and valley a level way appear.*

*Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.*

*Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.*

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharist Prayer A

The Lord be with you.

✠ **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

✠ **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

✠ **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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## ✠The Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, hea-ven and  
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

✠Christ has died.

✠Christ is risen.

✠Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.



Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.

## The Lord's Prayer

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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

✠ **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

## The Invitation

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 Communion Hymn	<i>What does the Lord require?</i>	<i>Hymnal 605</i>
	<i>Creator of the stars of night</i>	<i>Hymnal 60</i>

*A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion. Those worshipping virtually are invited to say the following prayer while communion is being distributed to the in-person gathering:*

✠ Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar, and we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as we proclaim your resurrection. Loving you above all things, we long to be united to you in love. Since we cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

*(Adapted from St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)*

## The Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

✠ 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

The Recessional	<i>Come, thou long expected Jesus</i>	<i>Hymnal 66</i>
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## The Dismissal

*The Priest announces the dismissal, after which the congregation responds.*

✠ Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES

December 15	5:00 PM	Blue Christmas ~ service of Readings, Psalms, Music & Prayers
December 19	11:30 AM	Greening of the Church following the 10:30 AM service
Christmas Eve	3:00 PM	Christmas Eve HE ~ Courtyard
	5:00 PM	Christmas Eve HE ~ Sanctuary
	8:00 PM	Christmas Eve HE ~ Sanctuary
Christmas Day	10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist, Rite II <i>(One Service Only)</i>
December 26	8:30 AM	Holy Eucharist, Rite I & Carol Sing
	10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist, Rite II & Carol Sing

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## TRINITY STAFF

The Rev. David S. Sugeno, *Rector*

The Rev. Nan N. Kennedy, *Associate Rector*

Leesa Lewis, *Seminarian*

Janie Cunningham *Parish Secretary*

Georgia Parsons *Administrative Assistant*

Barbara Warden *Choir Director*

Janie Cunningham *Organist*

Barbara Parmeter *Webminister*

Norma Snyder *Choir Librarian*

Bruce Lomax *Treasurer*

Polly Lewis *Bookkeeper*

## TRINITY VESTRY

Anne Stefan *Senior Warden*

Joe Hull *Junior Warden*

Janie Cunningham *Vestry Clerk*

Basil Bigbie

Mardi Cockerham

Bernadette Ellis

Ralph Kimmich

Pam Link

Terri Pounds

Randy Viereck

## THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

***Sunday, December 12***

8:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I

9:15 AM Christian Ed

10:30 AM Children's Chapel

10:30 AM Holy Eucharist

(Nursery Care Available)

10:30AM Livestream Holy Eucharist

***Tuesday, December 14***

9:00 AM Worship in the Courtyard