

THE  
*Episcopal*  
CHURCH OF THE ADVENT



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**Welcome to the Church of the Advent!** If you are visiting with us, please know we are honored by your presence! We invite you to complete a visitor card, which will allow us to remain in contact with you and provide you with additional information. You may place your completed card in the offering plate, or you may give it to our priest as you are leaving. On our website ([www.adventks.org](http://www.adventks.org)), you will find an up-to-date calendar of all church ministries and activities, and you may sign up to receive our weekly email. If you are interested in learning more about the Church of the Advent, the Episcopal Church, or the Christian faith, please contact our priest (Tim Johnson) at (610) 444-4624 or [rector@adventks.org](mailto:rector@adventks.org). **Again, welcome!**

**THE CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST – RITE II**  
**THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT – MARCH 12, 2023, 10:15 A.M.**

**WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

**PRELUDE** *Prelude in D Minor* Bach

**OPENING HYMN** *Come, thou fount of every blessing* Nettleton  
**#686, IN THE HYMNAL 1982 (BLUE HYMNAL)**

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.  
*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

*Celebrant*  
Jesus said, “The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.”

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Kneeling, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*(A period of silence is kept.)*

*Celebrant & People*

**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.**

**TRISAGION**      *Holy God, Holy and Mighty (Sung 3 times)*  
S102 in the **Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)

*Celebrant*    The Lord be with you.

*People*        **And also with you.**

*Celebrant & People*

**Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### THE FIRST LESSON: Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of

Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

*Lector*    The Word of the Lord.

*People*    **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 95**

- 1 Come, let us sing to the LORD; \*  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
- 2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
- 3 For the LORD is a great God, \*  
and a great King above all gods.
- 4 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.
- 5 The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
and his hands have molded the dry land.
- 6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the LORD our Maker.
- 7 For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!
- 8 Harden not your hearts,  
as your forebears did in the wilderness, \*  
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah,  
when they tempted me.
- 9 They put me to the test, \*  
though they had seen my works.
- 10 Forty years long I detested that generation and said, \*  
"This people are wayward in their hearts;  
they do not know my ways."

11 So I swore in my wrath, \*  
"They shall not enter into my rest."

**THE SECOND LESSON: Romans 5:1-11**

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand for the sequence hymn and the reading of the Gospel.)*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless* J.B. Dykes  
#343, v. 1-2, in the **Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**GOSPEL: John 4:5-42** *Please refer to the insert.*

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless* J.B. Dykes  
#343, v. 3, in the **Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)

**HOMILY**

The Reverend Timothy Johnson+, Rector

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

**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.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*(Please kneel or be seated for the prayers of the people.)*

**THE PEACE**

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM:

*A Clare Benediction*

Rutter

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS (*Please stand as you are able.*)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise Him all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost**

*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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing...and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus~S-125

*Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord*

Hurd

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord, God of power and might.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

*(You may remain standing, kneel, or sit for the remainder of the prayer.)*

Holy are you, and blessed...as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us...almighty God, now and forever. **AMEN.**  
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.  
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.**

*Celebrant* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* **Therefore, let us keep the feast.**

**COMMUNION HYMN**      *My song is love unknown*      John Ireland  
#458 in in the **Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)

### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

*Celebrant* Let us pray

*Celebrant & People*

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

### **WE RETURN TO THE WORLD**

### **THE BLESSING**

**CLOSING HYMN**      *Guide me, O thou great Jehovah*      John Hughes  
#690, (in the **Hymnal 1982** (the blue hymnal))

### **DISMISSAL**

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

**WORSHIP SUPPORT**

*Celebrant: The Reverend Timothy Johnson+, Rector*

*Lector: Dick Sanford*

*Sub Deacon: Dick Sanford*

*Crucifer: Barbara Thornton*

*Eucharistic Minister: Barbara Thornton*

*Altar Guild: Margaret Hennes*

*Altar Guild Prep: Chris Kydd, Bev Bramble*

*Ushers: Judy Mason, Sally Palic*

*Director of Music: Wilson G. Somers*

*Director of Handbell Choir: Leon Spencer*

*Director of Children & Youth: Emma DiPace*

*Pastoral Emergencies – If you have a pastoral emergency requiring the assistance of a priest, please contact the church office during office hours. Outside of office hours, please contact the Rev. Tim Johnson directly at 484-730-1988.*

*The Altar greens are sponsored by the generous donors of this congregation.*

*The Sanctuary candle is sponsored today by Dick & Marcia Hall in celebration of their 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Congratulations !*

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*Please join us this afternoon at 4 p.m. in our sanctuary for a Lenten Taize' Service.*