

All Angels Episcopal Church

8:00 and 10:00 Sunday Morning

December 13, 2020
Third Sunday of Advent



*The Lord God's spirit is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor*

Isaiah 61

563 Bay Isles Road, Longboat Key, Florida

The Rev. David J. Marshall

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www.allangelslbk.org

Our mission is to bring the living Christ to those
inside and outside the church.

Prelude

Dale Hooey

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. *Isaiah 9:2, 6*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A brief silence

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.

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.**

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Hymn of Praise *O Come O Come, Emmanuel* verses 1 & 2

Hymnal #56

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Merciful God of peace, your words spoken by the prophets bring us hope. Fill our hearts with the joy of your saving grace, that we may hold fast to your great goodness and in our lives proclaim your justice in all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lessons *Please be seated for the reading of the lessons*

A reading the book of Isaiah

Isaiah 61:1-4

The Lord God's spirit is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me.

He has sent me

to bring good news to the poor, to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim release for captives,
and liberation for prisoners,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor
and a day of vindication for our God,
to comfort all who mourn, to provide for Zion's mourners,

to give them a crown in place of ashes, oil of joy in place of mourning,
a mantle of praise in place of discouragement.

They will be called Oaks of Righteousness,
planted by the Lord to glorify himself.

They will rebuild the ancient ruins;
they will restore formerly deserted places;
they will renew ruined cities, places deserted in generations past
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The psalm for this morning is Psalm 126. It can be found in your bulletin and in your prayer books on page 782. Let us read it responsively by half verse. *Psalm 126*

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, **then we were like those who dream.**
Then was our mouth filled with laughter, **and our tongue with shouts of joy.**
Then they said among the nations, "**The Lord has done great things for them.**"
The Lord has done great things for us, **and we are glad indeed.**
Restore our fortunes, O Lord, **like the watercourses of the Negev.**
Those who sowed with tears **will reap with songs of joy.**
Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

Please stand

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Mark 1:1-8

A man named John was sent from God. He came as a witness to testify concerning the light, so that through him everyone would believe in the light. He himself wasn't the light, but his mission was to testify concerning the light.

This is John's testimony when the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him, "Who are you?" John confessed, "I'm not the Christ." They asked him, "Then who are you? Are you Elijah?" John said, "I'm not." "Are you the prophet?" John answered, "No." They asked, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"

John replied, "I am a voice crying out in the wilderness, make the Lord's path straight, just as the prophet Isaiah said." Those sent by the Pharisees asked, "Why do you baptize if you aren't the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered, "I baptize with water. Someone greater stands among you, whom you don't recognize. He comes after me, but I'm not worthy to untie his sandal straps." This encounter took place across the Jordan in Bethany where John was baptizing.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Dave Marshall

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

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 *Please be seated*

As we await the coming of Christ, let us open our hearts in prayer for those in need; and pray with the words of the prophet Isaiah.

**The Lord God's spirit is upon us
because the Lord has anointed us.**

Anoint your Church with your Holy Spirit. Make it radiant with holiness, lovely with compassion, and bright with faithfulness. Fill it with hope as it awaits the coming of your Son in power and great glory.

**Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.**

**The Lord God's spirit is upon us ,
to bring good news to the poor.**

Anoint this congregation to continue to share and help those in need in our community and anoint services organizations in our area that help others in need.

**Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.**

**The Lord God's spirit is upon us,
to bind up the brokenhearted.**

We pray for all who are in need of restoration of mind, body, or soul, especially: Downs IV, Holden, Nikolai, and Brian. Grant healing and recovery for all who have gone through surgery, especially Holly and Sandy. Give peace and strength for those going through cancer treatments, especially John, Victoria, Andres, Ginny, Alex, Colleen, Jack and Breanna. Visit and comfort all who are under the care of skilled nursing, especially Bob, Timothy, Don, Barbara and Mike. Be near to all who are in hospice care.

**Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.**

**The Lord God's spirit us upon us,
to proclaim release for captives, and liberation for prisoners.**

Give wisdom and prudence to those who lead the nations, and to our local and state leaders. Govern and lead our justice system. We pray for judges, prosecutors, prison guards and parole officers and all those in their care. Make them good stewards of the authority granted them. Bless our nation with peace, prosperity, and justice. Teach us all to care for one another until your son comes as our great Lord of might.

**Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.**

We will rebuild the ancient ruins;
restore formerly deserted places;
Renew ruined cities,
places deserted in generations past.

Give courage, honor, and strength to those who serve and protect our country both here and abroad. Grant healing to those who have been wounded; patience and hope to their loved ones; and a swift, safe homecoming to them all.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Almighty God, we grieve for our dead, but not without hope.
We pray for the repose of the soul of Joseph Lawrence,
may light perpetual shine upon him and upon all those for whom
we love but see no longer. *Silence*

Comfort all who mourn, give them a crown in place of ashes,
the oil of joy in place of mourning,
and a mantle of praise in place of discouragement.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Hasten the coming of thy kingdom; and grant that we thy servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold thy Son at his coming in glorious majesty; through Jesus, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

Musical Reflection

Dale Hooey

Greetings, Announcements and Introductions

Offertory Reflection

Dale Hooey

**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. Amen.**

The Holy Eucharist Prayer B

BCP 367

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 him 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. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world. 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.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,___
 heaven 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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 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 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 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 for ever. **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.
 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.**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Let us pray,

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that through thy grace, the words which we have heard this day may be grafted inwardly in our hearts and bring forth in us the fruit of good living, and the gifts of your Kingdom, to the honor and praise of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn #616 *Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

1982 Hymnal

Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son! Hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun! He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free; to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He comes with succor speedy to those who suffer wrong, to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong; to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light, whose souls, condemned and dying, were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth, and love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth: before him on the mountains shall peace, the herald, go; and righteousness in fountains from hill to valley flow.

Kings shall bow down before him, and gold and incense bring; all nations shall adore him, his praise all people sing; to him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend; his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.

O'er every foe victorious, he on his throne shall rest; from age to age more glorious, all-blessing and all-blest: the tide of time shall never his covenant remove; his Name shall stand for ever, his changeless Name of Love.

Announcements

Santa's Boot for Children First Update "The boot runneth over" over on the floor, over into the gallery. Thank you for your generosity!

Flowers and Music for Christmas There are 4 easy ways to contribute:

1. For on-line giving, choose the Christmas Donation button on the All Angels website
2. Send a check made out to All Angels by the Sea with *Christmas* in the Memo Line
3. Put a check in offering plate with the above designation
4. Or, stop by or call the office, 941-383-8181.

Centering Prayer Centering Prayer invites you to pray with them, every day, at 8 am, wherever you are. When you enter into prayer at 8 am (Eastern), you will know that others are praying at the same time.

Artist of the Month - The artist for December is Linda Larisch. Please stop by and enjoy the work of this talented artist. All checks should be written to "All Angels by the Sea."

Birthdays & Anniversaries If you have a birthday or anniversary coming up next month, please email Linn Torres at lt@allangelslbk.org

Video of Today's Service, Discussion Group Articles and our weekly Tidings can all be found on our website: www.allangelslbk.org.

Reflection

The Parable of the Good Samaritan-Canadian

Did you read the story about the family from Georgia who drove to Alaska? If not, here's a summary. Lynn Marchessault packed up her two kids – 13-year-old son Payton and 10-year-old daughter Rebecca – a pair of elderly dogs and a cat named Midnight, and drove to be with her husband who is stationed at Fort Wainwright in Fairbanks. They were supposed to move in September; but, with the Canadian border closed, her travel documents were not ready until the end of November. Undeterred by the delay, they packed up their 4x4 truck, and rented a U-Haul trailer, and set off.



The first 3,000 miles were uneventful. The kids and animals were well behaved and the truck performed well. At the Saskatchewan border crossing, the Canadian authorities let her in under these pre-arranged conditions: keep to the main roads; stop only when necessary for food or gas; no eating in-person at restaurants; they had just five days to get to the Alaskan border. The drive northwest through Canada was okay until heavy snow started to come down. Being from the south, Lynn had never driven in whiteout conditions. By the time they made it to Wonowon, British Columbia, she was at her wits end. 1070 miles from the Alaska border, Lynn had been run ragged from the constant slipping and sliding. She stopped at a gas station and, while her kids were in the bathroom, she broke down in front of a complete stranger. The Canadian woman checked her tires and said they were good summer tires but won't get any traction on snow especially towing a trailer. The good Samaritan/Canadian helped the Marchessault's get to a tire store for winter tires and then a motel for the night. Lynn called her husband and, in her words, "threw in the towel." She was so tired and frightened she cried that the US border patrol will have to pick her up in Wonowon.

The good Samaritans/Canadians of the town put out a plea on social media that evening for help to get this family to Alaska – which is a two-day trip for someone who knows how to handle the Alaskan Highway in snow. Gary Bath read the post and answered the call to help. He dropped what he was doing and drove the family the rest of the way.

At the end of the Advent season, we hear of weary travelers who have no place to go. The kindness of a complete stranger gave Mary and Joseph a place to rest and to give birth to the One who later on told the story of the Good Samaritan. I wonder if Jesus had in mind his own birth story when telling the story of the Samaritan who dropped everything to help a stranger. Did he think of the stable owner when telling the story of the people who asked, "When did we see you in need?" Regardless, we now have a modern version of that story. It seems to me that when the good Samaritan-Canadian Gary Bath drove the Marchessault's to Alaska, that he did the same for Jesus.

- Fr. Dave