

St. Philip's Episcopal Church

The Second Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2022

8:00 am and 10:30 am



The Rev. Marlene E. Forrest, Rector

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WELCOME!

We are so glad you are here, and I hope you find worship at St. Philip's Episcopal Church to be inspiring, spirit-filled, and nurturing for your faith journey. Here are two ways to take a next step:

- 1) Simply fill out the visitor card in the pew. Completed cards may be placed in the offering plate or given to an usher. Your responses are confidential, and we will contact you only if you make that request.
- 2) A calendar of events can be found on our website at stphilipsrva.org or in our e-News (subscribe on the website) as an invitation to you! All of our classes, services, and programs are open to all. If you are interested in learning more about St. Philip's or the Episcopal Church, please let me know!

As you prepare your heart, soul, mind, and body for worship, may the love of God and the mercy of Christ fill your heart with peace.

The Rev. Marlene E. Forrest
Rector of St. Philip's

About Today's Worship:

- ♦ We welcome all people to meet Christ in the sharing of our sacred meal. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of the sacraments of bread and wine, please come forward during communion and place your arms across your chest.
- ♦ **A gluten-free alternative** is available. Please communicate this preference to our priest.

Holy Baptism is our rite of initiation into the Christian faith and primary to membership in our parish. If you would like to learn more about this sacred rite and membership in our church, please speak with Rev. Marlene or contact our office at 804-321-1266.

In this second service in our Be Born in Us Today series for Advent, we remember that the prophet Isaiah declared that a Holy One from God would be born into this world to bring renewal to all the faint and weary. That Holy One was Jesus. And he is born in us today.

HOLY EUCHARIST - Rite II

PROCESSIONAL HYMN*

They Cast Their nets in Galilee

Hymn 661

**They cast their nets in Galilee
just off the hills of brown;
such happy, simple fisherfolk,
before the Lord came down.**

**Contented, peaceful fishermen,
before they ever knew
the peace of God that filled their hearts
brimful, and broke them too.**

**Young John who trimmed the flapping sail,
homeless, in Patmos died.**

**Peter, who hauled the teeming net,
head-down was crucified.**

**The peace of God, it is no peace,
but strife closed in the sod.**

**Yet let us pray for but one thing—
the marvelous peace of God.**

INVOCATION AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Celebrant: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

(The first and second blue or purple candles are lit.)

We light the second candle on the Advent wreath to celebrate the renewal of our lives through faith in Christ Jesus. The apostle Paul writes, “We were buried therefore with [Christ] by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.” (Romans 6: 4)

Holy Child of Bethlehem, be born in us today. You were born among us to bring us new life.

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” (Romans 12: 2)

Holy Child of Bethlehem, be born in us today. Renew our hearts and minds in the power of the Holy Spirit so that we might serve you by serving others.

Come to Jesus, you who are thirsty.

Alleluia!

Drink deeply of the Holy Spirit.

Alleluia!

Let your heart overflow with the living water that renews the face of the earth.

Hallelujah; thanks be to God.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

TRISAGION (*sung three times*)

Holy God,

Holy and Mighty,

Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 11: 1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 72: 1-7, 18-19

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!
- 19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen.

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 15: 4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name”; and again he says,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”; and again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him”; and again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.”

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN*

Draw Nigh and Take the Body of the Lord

Hymn 328

Draw nigh and take the Body of the Lord, and drink the holy Blood for you outpoured.

Saved by that Body and that holy Blood, with souls refreshed, we render thanks to God.

Salvation's giver, Christ, the only Son, by his dear cross and blood the victory won.

Offered was he for greatest and for least, himself the Victim, and himself the Priest.

Approach ye then with faithful hearts sincere, and take the pledges of salvation here.

He that his saints in this world rules and shields to all believers life eternal yields;

with heavenly bread he makes the hungry whole, gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

Alpha-Omega, unto whom shall bow all nations at the doom, is with us now.

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume 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.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON

The Rt. Rev. Oscar Christian Amoah
Bishop at Anglican Diocese of Kumasi, Kumasi, Ashanti Region

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

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

(A brief silence.)

God, you renew the church in every age. We give thanks for hymn writers and theologians. Inspire teachers, writers, and musicians to delight and instruct your people. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You give us a vision of creation in harmony, when hurting and destruction will be no more. Teach us to be stewards of the earth and companions to its creatures. Restore to balance and wholeness what human greed has harmed. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You defend the cause of all who are poor and oppressed. Raise up leaders who will govern with equity and serve the common good. Guide judges, lawmakers, and public officials to protect the rights of those who cannot advocate for themselves. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You deliver those in need from suffering and fear. Come to the aid of any who are exploited or abused, especially children, elders, and victims of human trafficking. Provide safety and help to our neighbors without shelter, refugees, and those fleeing violence. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants Mara Albertson, William Carter, Robnette Guthrie, Avery McGilvary, Renee McGilvary, and Eric Walker as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You embrace all who have died trusting in your promises, and we give thanks for their faithful witness, especially Elinor Martinez and Pam Southall. Sustain us in hope until we are united with them in the joy of your eternal presence. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lord and Savior, hear our prayers on behalf of those who are suffering through illness or enduring grief and loss, especially Norma Agnew, Marc Albertson, Trey Bankhead, Mary Carter, Alexander Corbett, Anaya Gavins, Kevin Giggetts, Harris Greene, Marvis Hazel, Eva Hicks, Francine L. Johnson, Alaina LaVonne, Mary Little, Steven Little, Barbara Lowe, Christian Miller, Robinette Miller, Edmund Moore, Romaine Morgan, Lela Morris, Tara Plummer, Hortense Powell, Inez Tuck, Clementine Washington, Ed West, Louise White, Cynthia Smith Williams, and John Williams. Renew and strengthen them in faith through the promises of your holy Word. Holy Child of Bethlehem,

Be born in us today. Lead us, as brothers and sisters in Christ, to serve one another in love and to bring comfort and hope to those in need.

Lord and Savior, in Baptism we were united to you in your death, buried with you, and raised to new life. Through faith in your name, we have forgiveness and eternal life. Holy Child of Bethlehem,

Be born in us today. Conform our hearts and minds to your will so that by our thoughts, words and actions we glorify your holy name.

Lord and Savior, you are ever watchful and caring, and you are present with us at all times. When we grow faint and weary in faith, forgive us and renew us according to the promises of your Word. Holy Child of Bethlehem,

Be born in us today. Refresh us through your forgiveness and strengthen our faith so that we might serve others in love.

Holy Savior, Lord of all nations, hear our prayer and accept our grateful praise. **Amen.**

CONFESSON 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.

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The musical score consists of four staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. The top staff is soprano, the second is alto, the third is tenor, and the bottom is bass. The lyrics are as follows:

1. The peace of God be al - ways with you, _____ And may God's

2. grace be al - ways in your heart. _____ And may His love keep

3. you in per - fect peace, _____ The love of God, _____ the love of God, _____

4. the love of God _____ keep you in per - fect peace.

Measure numbers 1, 6, 11, and 17 are indicated above the staves. A 'rit.' (ritardando) instruction is placed above the fourth staff.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY, AND TRAVEL BLESSINGS

LITURGY OF THE TABLE

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY*

LEVAS 56

**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.**

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.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

**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.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, and Jacob, Leah, and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

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

Our Father, which 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.

FRACTION ANTHEM**Lamb of God*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.**

COMMUNION HYMN**On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

Hymn 76

**On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings.**

**Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within,
and let each heart prepare a home
where such a mighty guest may come.**

**For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge, and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away
like flowers that wither and decay.**

**To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let thy light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.**

**All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
whose advent doth thy people free;
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Spirit evermore.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN*

Hark! The Glad Sound! The Savior Comes

Hymn 72

**Hark, the glad sound! the Savior comes,
the Savior promised long:
let every heart prepare a throne,
and every voice a song.**

**He comes, the prisoners to release
in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.**

**He comes, the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure;
and with the treasures of his grace
to enrich the humble poor.**

**Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
thy welcome shall proclaim;
and heaven's eternal arches ring
with thy beloved Name.**

DISMISSAL

Our worship has ended, but our service to the world begins. Let us depart in peace, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Music referenced is for the 10:30 am service.*

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Lay Eucharistic Ministers:

Dianne Beatty (8 am)
Gwen Jallah (10:30 am)

Lectors:

Joy Lee (8 am)
Sherrard Gardner (10:30 am)

Organist/Minister of Music: Dr. Willis L. Barnett

Verger: Nathaniel Lewis

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