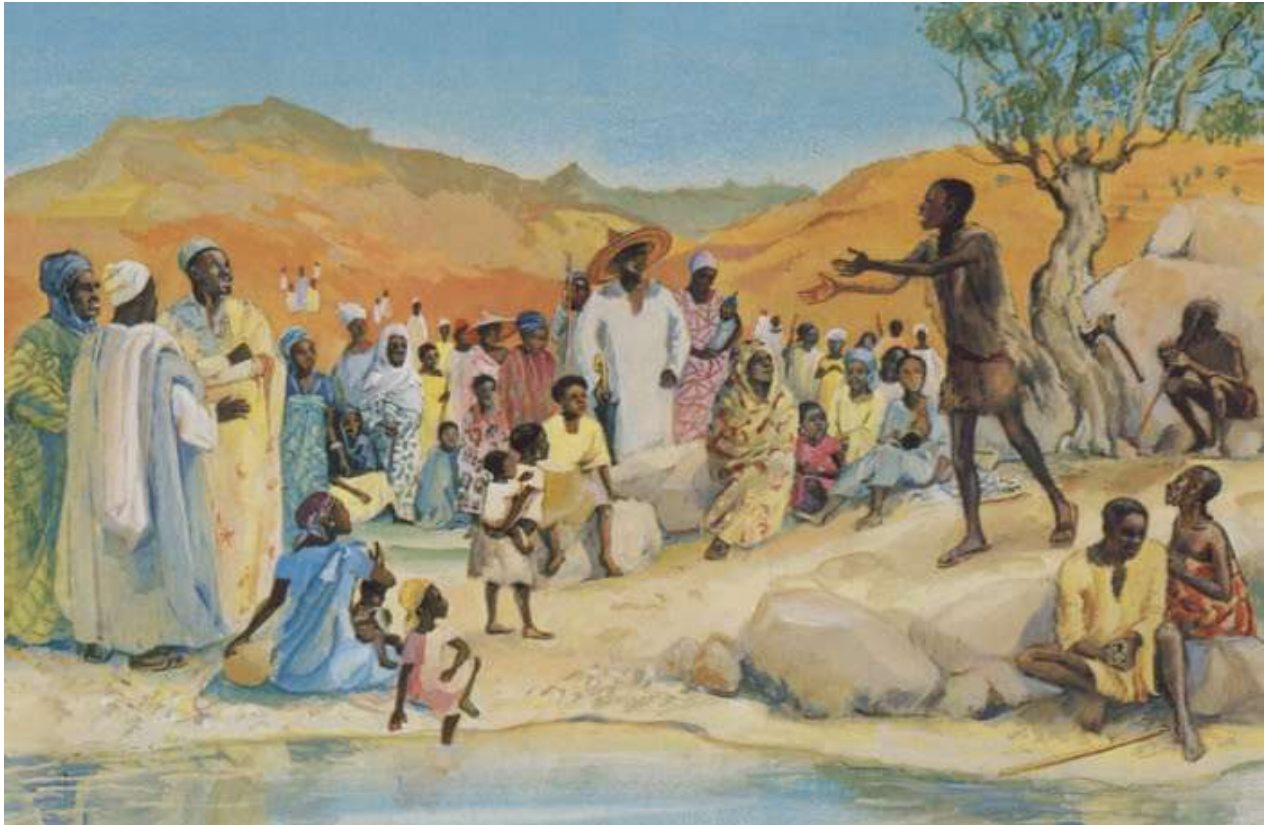


# The Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2020

Meeting ID 715 310 766

Password 01495



**Introit**      *Rejoice in the Lord always*

## Lighting the Advent Wreath

*Celebrant and people*

Grant us, O God, the lamp of charity which never fails, that it may burn in us and shed its light on those around us, and that by its brightness we may have a vision of your beloved kingdom, where dwells the true and never-failing light, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Celebrant**      Blessed by God, Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier  
**People**      *And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.*

## An Invitation to Repentance

*The Celebrant says:*  
We repent the wrongs we have done:

*Celebrant and people:*

Loving God, you have made each of us in the image of your creative, life-giving spirit, and yet we fail to reflect your love and justice. We do not always treat each other as a precious reflection of you. We see only our own needs; acknowledge only our own hurts; pursue our own agendas. Forgive us for our lack of concern and respect for those you place around us, and for all of your creation. Open our eyes so that we may recognize you in everyone we meet, and help us to love, serve and protect all those whom you send our way.  
Amen

*Celebrant:*

Listen to what I have to say! Our past is behind us. We are free to live new lives, to be a new people, to try again to be who God intends for us to be. Let us hear this word of God, embodied in the loving heart of Jesus Christ, who proclaims God's forgiveness to all. Amen.

## **The Collect of the Day**

*The Celebrant says to the people*

God be with you

*People And also with you*

Celebrant 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 Lessons**

### **A Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures**

**Isaiah 61: 1 – 4, 8 - 11**

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the Lord has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,

to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners;  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise  
instead of a faint spirit.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord,  
to display his glory.  
They shall build up the ancient ruins,  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.  
For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing;  
I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.  
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,  
and their offspring among the peoples;  
all who see them shall acknowledge  
that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.  
I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

*The Reader may say*

Lord, oil the hinges of my heart's door

*People: That it may swing gently and easily to welcome your coming.*

**Psalm 126** (*Sung*)

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

Glory to God, source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit  
As it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.

### **A Reading from the Epistles of the Early Church**

#### **1 Thessalonians 5: 16 - 24**

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

*The Reader may say*

In the former days, God spoke to us through the prophets

*People: But in these last days, God speaks to us through a Son.*

**Gradual**     *Prepare the way, O Zion*

### **The Holy Gospel**

*Then the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (1: 6 - 8, 19 - 28)

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

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**The Sermon**          The Rev. Ken Phelps, Jr.

**The Prayers of the People**

As witnesses to your light and truth, we come to you in prayer, O Lord..

Infuse the heart of your Church with your Spirit and focus it on your mission. Renew your people and their leaders as they serve your purpose. Especially we pray for Michael, our presiding bishop; Eugene and Robert, our bishops; for Ken, our priest; Lisa, our deacon; Betsy, our deacon emeritus; for Kip, Patrick, Deb, Tom and Barbara, our wardens; for Steve, our treasurer; for our vestry and other leaders; for John M. Hayes; E. Bernard Anderson; and Joshua Rodriguez-Hobbs; and, for our brothers and sisters at St John's, Mt Washington; St Katherine of Alexandria, Baltimore; and, The Slate Project, Baltimore. Remind us continually who and whose we are.

*Silence*

Turn the hearts and actions of all the world's leaders to justice and peace. We pray for Donald our President; Joe, our President-elect; Larry, our Governor; the Congress and the courts of this land.

*Silence*

Open our eyes to what is going on around us. Open our hearts to our brothers and sisters throughout the world. We remember those who have contracted the COVID-19 virus, those who suffer hardship from its impact, and especially those who risk their safety to ease suffering. We remember those whose lives have been forever altered by racial violence and all injustices spawned by the sin of racism. We pray for those suffering from natural disasters, from unjust economies, from hunger and want. Move us to open our hands in love when they are in need and to stand up for them when they are oppressed.

*Silence*

We know people around us who are suffering from anxiety, scarcity, illness and loneliness. Some of them we know, and most are unknown to us. We ask that you assure them of your presence and sustain them with your grace. We pray for those we know by name: *(The congregation is invited to offer their intercessions either silently or aloud)*

*Silence*

Our hearts break when someone whom we love dies. Today we mourn for Lucille Robinson and Karen Ward, recently departed. May we be a comfort as we walk with her grieving loved ones.

*Silence*

*The celebrant concludes*

Remind us, loving God, that in darkness or in light, you are present. Bless us with vision enough to see your future and grant us the things we need to hasten the day of its coming. In the name of your Son Jesus Christ, we pray.

*Amen*

**The Peace**

The peace of Christ be always with you

*People And also with you*

## Announcements

### The Holy Communion

The Offertory    *Wayfaring Stranger*    Traditional

Celebrant:    Blessed be God, for the gifts which are given to us.

People:        *May we, by God's grace, share with all who wait upon  
the Lord..*

### The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant:        God 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 God.

People:        *It is right to give God thanks and praise.*

*The Celebrant continues*

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Christ Jesus and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. You sent your son to redeem from sin and death, and to make us inheritors of your kingdom of Love.

Therefore, joining angels and archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we offer our thanks and praise:

*Celebrant and People*

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.

*Then the Celebrant continues*

Blessed are you gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own creative image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet, you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of healing for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.

Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made human in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night Jesus was betrayed, he sat at supper with his disciples. He took bread, said a blessing, broke it and gave it to them with the words, "Take. Eat. This is my body. It is broken for you. Do this to remember me."

Later, he took a cup of wine, saying, "This cup is God's new covenant, sealed with my blood. Drink from it, all of you, to remember me."

Therefore we acclaim you, O Christ, as we await your coming to us:

*Celebrant and People:*

This is the death we celebrate. This is the new life we proclaim. This is the vision we live.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation, this bread and this wine. By our Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with your Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints past, present and yet to come, we may praise your name forever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory and praise, for ever and ever. Amen.

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

*People and Celebrant*



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: We are one people; one body in Christ, for we eat of  
one loaf and drink from one cup.

*People: Thank you, gracious God, for the food that makes us one with  
you, and one with each other*

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church,  
where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you  
praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your  
resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you  
today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come  
spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord  
Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in  
me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen

### **Benediction**

**Closing Hymn**     *There's a voice in the wilderness crying*

### **All Saints Staff**

The Rev. Ken Phelps, Jr., Rector  
The Rev. Lisa Siciliano, Regional Deacon  
The Rev. Margaret Van Auker, Deacon Emeritus  
Tamara Timmermann, Parish Administrator  
Deborah Watson, Music Director

### **Officers and Vestry**

Kip AtLee, Senior Warden	410 474-3008
Patrick Herlihy, Junior Warden	443-964-6470
Tom Hyde, Property Warden	410-257-6173
Deb Shupe, Program Warden	410-231-8150
Barbara Brown, Prayer Warden	610-869-4456
Steven Watson, Treasurer	301-801-0961

Bryan Dowell (2023)	410-257-5527	Nate Pope (2022)	301-855-0251
Tom Hyde (2021)	410-257-6173	David Shupe (2023)	202-669-7463
Patrick Herlihy (2021)	443-964-6470	Lissi Mojica (2023)	443-362-0479
Sherrill Munn (2022)	404-443-7560	Barbara Brown (2021)	610-869-4456
Deb Watson (2022)	301-801-0960		

### **All Saints Commissions and Committees**

#### **Worship Commission**

Deb Watson 301-801-0960  
Dennis Laurie 410-714-2533

#### **Parish Family Commission**

Hope Sayles 301-855-0251 or  
301-467-1467

#### **Christian Formation Commission**

Paul Dickson 410-257-3893  
Erryn Fleming 764-913-4042

#### **Living Our Values Commission**

Sherrill Munn 443-404-7560

#### **Giving Back Commission**

Patti At Lee 202-669-5594

#### **Finance Commission**

Patrick Herlihy 202-603-3273

#### **Connections Commission**

Deb Shupe 410-231-8150  
Lisa Herlihy 410-610-1084

#### **Property Committee**

Tom Hyde 443-684-4583

#### **Planned Giving Board**

Carl Bucheister 301-855-4687

#### **Episcopal Church Women**

Cindy Overstrom 410-474-  
0086

#### **Calvert Arts Festival**

Lisa Herlihy 410-610-1084

#### **Cemetery Committee**

Bryan Dowell 410-257-5449