

The Holy Eucharist

The First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021

10:00 AM



Saint Luke's Parish
Darien, Connecticut

Welcome!

Whoever you are and wherever you may be on your spiritual journey, we are so glad you have joined us for worship today. May you know the presence of the living God who welcomes you here. Everything you need to participate in today's service is included in this leaflet. Ushers are available to answer any questions or direct you as needed. If this is your first time with us, we invite you to complete and return a welcome card so we can be in touch. May God bless you now and always.

About Today's Service

The season of Advent begins today. The name of the season means "coming," and it celebrates God's coming to us in the birth of Jesus and looks toward Christ's return at the end of history as Savior and Judge. It is a time for watching and waiting, hope, expectation, and joyful preparation for the coming of Christ.

On the first Sunday in Advent, the liturgy is concerned with our preparation for the return of Christ at the end of time. The Gospel reading today is a portion of Jesus' words concerning that time. He tells us to see the events of history as signs of the approaching end and to recognize that end as the coming of our redemption.

The Old Testament reading today from the prophet Jeremiah looks forward to the time when God will fulfill the promise of a successor to David. The New Testament Christians understood the "righteous Branch" of David's line to be our Lord Jesus Christ.

The second reading is from Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians. His letters to that early Christian church were prompted by difficulties in that congregation due to their misunderstanding of the Lord's promise to return. In today's reading, Paul encourages the Thessalonians to see their ministry and mutual love as the way to prepare for the Lord's return.

There is an "already, but not yet" aspect to the New Testament's discussion of the Lord's return. God's Kingdom is not limited to a time in the far off future; it began breaking into human history in Jesus' life, death and resurrection. The Lord comes to judge and to save in each moment in the life of his people. Above all, he is revealed in our encounter with him in the Eucharistic meal.

Adapted from The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year. Copyright © 2009 by Michael W. Merriman. Church Publishing Incorporated, New York.

The First Sunday of Advent

The Holy Eucharist

In order to prepare for worship and allow for private prayers,
please observe silence upon entering the church.

“Be still and know that I am God.” -Psalm 46:10

Opening Voluntary

Rector’s Welcome

Hymn in Procession

Cantor O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

All **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

Cantor 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.

All **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

Text: Latin, 9th century

Music: Veni, veni, Emmanuel, plainsong Mode I, Processionale, 15th century

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living God;
People **You come to your people and set them free.**

Confession of Sin

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.”

—Mark 12:29-31

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The people kneel. A period of silence reflection is kept.

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of God’s kingdom,
yet we remain divided and enslaved by sin.

Lord, have mercy.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Celebrant Lord Jesus, you come in Word and Sacrament to strengthen us in holiness,
yet we turn away from you and resist your will for our lives.

Christ, have mercy.

People **Christ, have mercy.**

Celebrant Lord Jesus, you will come in glory with salvation for your people.
Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent.

Lord, have mercy.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Celebrant

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.**

Trisagion

Sung by all, repeated three times

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,
 Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Setting: Ver. *Hymnal* 1982, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924)

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The First Lesson | Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Reader

The Word of the Lord

People

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25:1-9

Sung by the Choir.

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

Show me your ways, O LORD, *
and teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.

Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

Gracious and upright is the LORD; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.

All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Setting: Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

The Second Lesson | 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Reader
People

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

The Nicene Creed

Said by all, standing.

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 III

Deacon In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

The people kneel. Silence may be kept.

Leader Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
People **That we all may be one.**

Leader Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
People **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

Leader We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
People **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

Leader We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
People **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Leader Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake.
People **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Leader Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
People **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Leader Give to the departed eternal rest;
People Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Leader We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
People May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Leader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The People may add their own petitions, aloud or silently.

Celebrant Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate.
People Amen.

The Peace Please stand.

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

The Clergy and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

At the Offertory, we gratefully offer back to God a portion of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and in the money we give. To make an electronic gift today, please either visit www.saintlukesdarien.org/give or scan the QR code below with your smart phone's camera. Thank you for your generosity.



Offertory Sentence

Celebrant In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

-Isaiah 40:3

Offertory Anthem

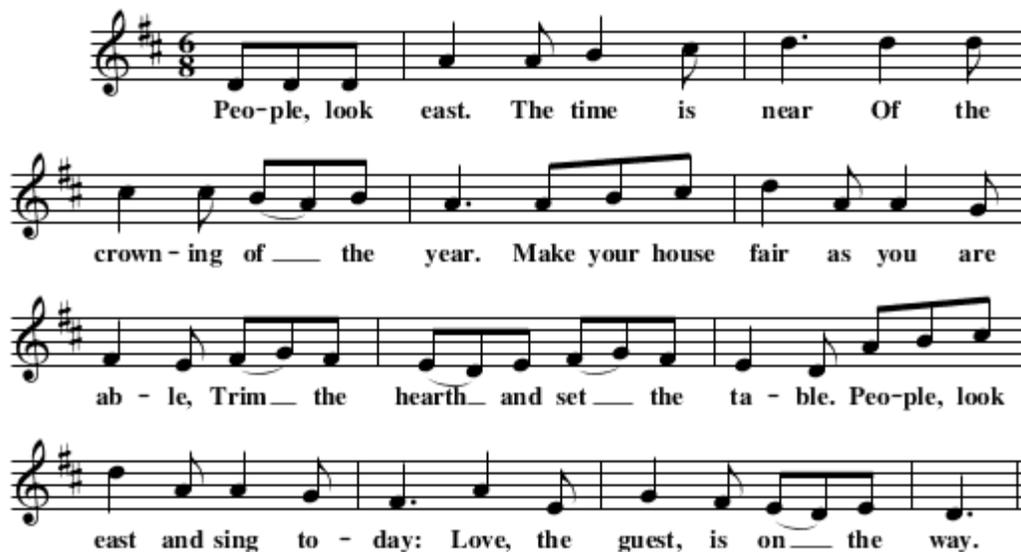
Sung by the Choir.

Peace be to you and grace from him
Who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed his blood
That we might saved be.
Sing, holy, holy, to our God.
The Lord, Almighty God,
Who was and is and is to come;
Sing holy, holy, Lord.

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Christ is coming, is coming soon!
E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come,
And night shall be no more;
They need no light nor lamp nor sun,
For Christ will be their all!

Text: Based on Revelation 22
Music: Paul Manz (1919-2009)

Presentation Hymn *Sung by all, standing.*



Peo-ple, look east. The time is near Of the
crown - ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are
ab - le, Trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo-ple, look
east and sing to - day: Love, the guest, is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
With the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text and Music: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965)

The Great Thanksgiving | Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

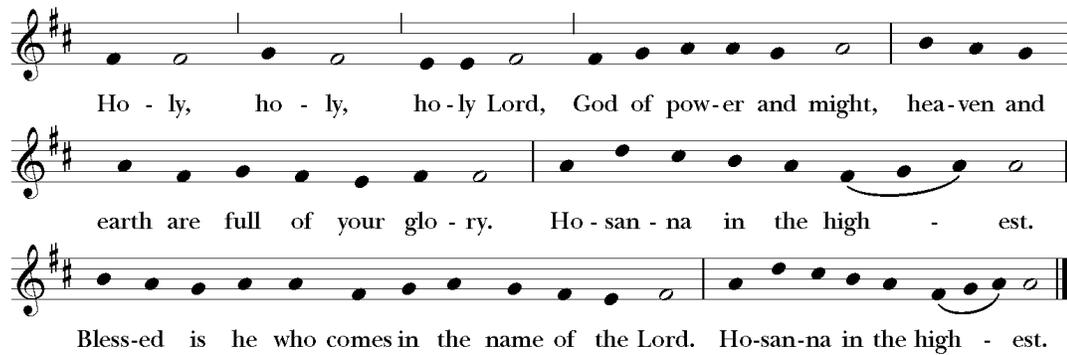
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant 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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus and Benedictus

Sung by all.



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.

Setting: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

The people stand or kneel as the Celebrant continues

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 before he died for us, 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,

All

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant

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 the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed John the Baptist, blessed Luke, and 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.

All

AMEN.

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

The Lord's Prayer

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

The Fraction Anthem

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Setting: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

The Invitation to Communion

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

At the direction of the ushers, please come forward to receive Christ's Real Presence in the sacrament of Holy Communion. Communion will be administered in one kind (only the consecrated Bread) due to COVID precautions. If you require a gluten-free wafer, please request one. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of Communion, please cross your arms over your chest.

Communion Anthem

Sung by the Choir.

My Lord, what a morning
When the stars begin to fall.

Done quit all my worldly ways,
Join that heavenly band.

Text: African American Spiritual
Music: Harry Burleigh (1846-1949)

The Postcommunion Prayer

Please kneel.

Celebrant
People

Let us pray.
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, Father, 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.

The Blessing and Dismissal

Celebrant

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path;
and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and
remain with you always. **Amen.**

Deacon
People

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn 57

Sung by all, standing.



1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
 2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
 3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on



our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
 dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
 daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
 thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the



saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
 nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
 ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
 power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine



train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
 ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
 own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Text: Charles Wesley (1707–1788)

Music: *Helmsley*, melody Thomas Augustine Arne (1710–1778); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958), alt.

Closing Voluntary

The Altar Flowers are given today to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Margery Forbes and Clark B. Winter from their sons, Clark B. Winter, Jr. and Schuyler Winter, and their families.

Participants in Today's Service

Celebrant	The Rev. Derek J. Stefanovsky
Preacher	The Rev. Ryan C. Fleenor
Deacon	The Rev. Susan C. Wyper
Lectors	Abby Shiner, Annie Slaughter
Intercessor	Rusty Martin
Musicians	The Saint Luke's Parish Choir David Pulliam, Will Roslak
Ushers	Charlie Barnett, Pat Houlihan, Eric Wagoner, David Rewcastle, Ed Lyons
Altar Guild	Linda Allen, Anne Huck, Kristen Nelson
Flower Guild	Karen Davey, Susan Doelp
Flower Delivery	Page Taylor

DID YOU KNOW?

Seasonal Changes for Advent. One way we mark the changing seasons of the Church year is to make adjustments to our Sunday liturgies that emphasize particular themes. Advent is a season of joyful preparation for the coming of Christ. It asks us to wait, to watch, and to refocus ourselves on God's activity among us. We begin our liturgies with a penitential order, confessing the ways we have failed to respond to God's coming among us. Our service music is more restrained and spare. Our prayers emphasize both the Incarnation (Christ's first Advent in Bethlehem) and our eschatological hope (Christ's coming again to make all things new).

Saint Luke's Parish

A parish in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut,
a member of the world-wide Anglican Communion.

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop
The Rt. Rev. Ian T. Douglas, Bishop of Connecticut The Rt. Rev. Laura J. Ahrens, Bishop Suffragen

Rector

The Rev. Ryan C. Fleenor

2021-2022 Vestry

Sally Houlihan, *Senior Warden* Rob Hulick, *Junior Warden* Adam Vandervoort, *Treasurer* Kristen Nelson, *Clerk*

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Chris Bolton
David Gray

Class of 2023

Al Briganti
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The Rev. Derek J. Stefanovsky
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Nancy Coughlin
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Saint Luke's Parish

Connect to God

Find Community

Serve Our World

Next Sunday | Dec. 5

The Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist (Rite II with hymns)
9:00 AM	The Forum
9:50 AM	Church School
10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist (Rite II with choir)
11:00 AM	Coffee Hour
5:00 PM	Advent Lessons & Carols

Upcoming Events

Dec. 14	Family Carol Sing
Dec. 19	Christmas Pageant
Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Services
Dec. 25	Christmas Day Worship
Dec. 26	Christmas Lessons & Carols