



SAINT LUKE'S PARISH
1864 Post Road, Darien, Connecticut 06820

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 6, 2020

10:00 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST

PREACHER: *The Reverend Susan C. Wyper*
CELEBRANT: *The Reverend Ryan C. Fleenor*

The Opening Voluntary

Rector's Greeting

Advent Wreath Prayers

Sung by the Quartet.

setting by Malcolm Archer

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, just and true: to you be praise and glory forever!

Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets, but in our days you speak through your Son whom you have appointed the heir of all things. Grant us, your people, to walk in his light, that we may be found ready and watching when he comes again in glory and judgement; for you are our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever.

Hymn in Procession 56

Please stand and sing.

*Cantor O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times didst give the law, in cloud, and majesty, and awe.*

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

*Cantor O come, thou Branch of Jesse's tree, free them from Satan's tyranny
that trust thy mighty power to save, and give them victory o'er the grave.*

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

Text: Latin, 9th century

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

A Penitential Order

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

The Celebrant says,

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Please kneel.

Silence is kept.

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.

The Celebrant stands and says,

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.***

Kyrie

Sung by the Quartet.

*setting by Robert Lehman
Richmond Mass*

*Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.*

The Word of God

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

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.**

Please be seated.

The First Lesson

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm: 85 1-2, 8-13

Chanted by the Quartet.

Plainsong Mode II.1

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1 | You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, * |
| | you have restored the good fortune of Jacob. |
| 2 | You have forgiven the iniquity of your people * |
| | and blotted out all their sins. |
| 8 | I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, * |
| | for he is speaking peace to his faithful people |
| | and to those who turn their hearts to him. |
| 9 | Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, * |
| | that his glory may dwell in our land. |
| 10 | Mercy and truth have met together; * |
| | righteousness and peace have kissed each other. |
| 11 | Truth shall spring up from the earth, * |
| | and righteousness shall look down from heaven. |
| 12 | The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, * |
| | and our land will yield its increase. |
| 13 | Righteousness shall go before him, * |
| | and peace shall be a pathway for his feet. |

The Second Lesson

II Peter 3:8-15a

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn 75

Please stand and

sing.



1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a
 2 O Zi - on, that bring - est good tid - ings, get thee
 3 but the word of our God en - du - reth, the

call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a
 up to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late
 arm of the Lord is strong; he stands in the midst of

high - way, a high - way for our God! The
 peo - ple the com - ing of their King. Like the
 na - tions, and he will right the wrong. He shall

val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the
 flowers of the field they per - ish, like
 feed his flock like a shep - herd, the

lof - ty hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed
 grass our works de - cay, the power and pomp of
 lambs he'll gent - ly hold; to pas - tures of peace he'll

pla - ces where the Lord our God may go!
 na - tions shall pass like a dream a - way;
 lead them, and bring them safe to his fold.

Text: James Lewis Milligan (1876 - 1961)

Music: Ascension, Henry Hugh Bancroft (1904 - 1988)

The Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'"

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by

him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Susan C. Wyper

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.***

Prayers of the People

Please kneel.

BCP, Form III

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

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. ***Amen.***

Please stand.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

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 a gift today, please either visit www.sainthlukesdarien.org/give or scan the QR code below with your phone. Thank you for your generosity.



The Offertory Anthem

Sung by the Quartet.

*Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.
Children don't get weary 'til your work is done.
Christian journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.*

*Text: Traditional Spiritual
Music: André Thomas (b. 1952)*

The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand.

Eucharistic Prayer B

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 God 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. 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 the Quartet.

*setting by Robert Lehman
Richmond Mass*

*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.

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,

***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 the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, 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. **AMEN.**

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

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

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

In union, dear God, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my self, my soul and body, with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. I tie myself to you and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live, now and forever, in your love. Amen.

The Communion Motet

Sung by the Quartet.

*I'm just a poor wayfaring stranger, a-travelin' through this world of woe;
But there's no sickness, toil, or danger in that bright world to which I go.
I'm goin' there to meet my father, I'm goin' there no more to roam;
I'm just a-goin' over Jordan, I'm just a-goin' over home.*

*I know dark clouds will gather round me, I know my pathway's rough and steep;
But golden fields lie out before me, where weary eyes no more shall weep.
I'm goin' there to meet my mother, she said she'd meet me when I come;
I'm just a-goin' over Jordan, I'm just a-goin' over home.*

*I want to sing salvation's story in concert with the blood-washed band;
I want to wear a crown of glory when I get home to that good land.
I'm goin' there to meet my brothers, they passed before me one by one;
I'm just a-goin' over Jordan, I'm just a-goin' over home.*

*I'll soon be free from every trial; This form will rest beneath the sod;
I'll drop the cross of self-denial and enter in my home with God.
I'm goin' there to meet my Savior who shed for me His precious blood;
I'm just a-goin' over Jordan, I'm just a-goin' over home.*

Text: Traditional

Music: African-American Folk Song

The Post Communion Prayer

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

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.***

The Dismissal

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

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make
 3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our
 4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -
 3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we
 4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy
 5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
 2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.
 3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.
 4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
 5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin (1676 - 1749)

Music: Winchester New, harm. Wm. Henry Monk (1823 - 1889)

The Closing Voluntary

*Altar flowers are given today to the Glory of God
 and in loving memory of Dale Edward Miller by his family;
 and in loving memory of Andrea Dickson Wells by her loving husband and family.*

*The Columbarium is decorated for Advent and Christmas in loving memory of Bertram T. Blake, Jr.,
 Margaret O. Blake, and Margaret Blake Mills by the Blake Family.*

Welcome to Saint Luke's!

We are a vibrant community of faith that welcomes everyone, regardless of where you are on your faith journey, to hear God's word, to be fed at God's table, and to experience the love of community, so that you will be strengthened to serve God in the world.

*To begin receiving our weekly e-newsletter, join our mailing list by visiting www.saintlukesdarien.org.
To learn more about getting more involved or becoming a member of Saint Luke's Parish,
please contact Cindy Scam in the Parish Offices.*

*cindy.scam@saintlukesdarien.org
(203) 655-1456.*

***We are thankful for everyone serving today;
especially today's Lay Readers, Altar Guild, Flower Guild, and Ushers.***

Altar Guild: Patty Winter, Renee Gregory

Flower Guild: Pam Domittner, Nancy Heitz

Flower Delivery: Sally Houlihan

Lay Readers: Fred Elliott, Peter Wells

Sexton: Dave Scam

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We encourage parishioners to pray throughout the week for these members of our parish family:

For those who are ill: Sheila, Janetta, Charlie, Chris, Rob,
Jim, Jessica, Karen, Verna, Deedee, Bridgette, Pat, John,
Joan, Peter, Jeff, Andrea, Michelle, Jim, Pam, and Cecilia,

For those with special needs: Allison, Aldin,
Zeke, Simon, Jack, Lilia, and Elizabeth

If you or someone you know is in need....

*If you or someone you know is facing an illness, hospitalization, death in the family or any other stressful life situation,
please consider a visit or call from one of our clergy or trained lay volunteers.
Please call the parish office at 203.655.1456. We can also place your name on the list
of people who receive prayers during our worship service.*

CLERGY AND PROGRAM STAFF

The Reverend Ryan C. Fleenor, *Rector*

The Reverend Derek J. Stefanovsky, *Associate Rector*

The Reverend Susan C. Wyper, *Associate Rector*

H. David Pulliam, *Director of Music and Organist*

Will Roslak, *Associate Organist*

Naomi Cunningham, *Youth Director*

& Assistant for Adult Spiritual Ministry

Erika Caputo, *Director of Children's Ministries*

The Reverend Dr. Don Thompson, *Assisting Clergy*

Cindy Scam, *Director of Administration*

Maggie Domont, *Dir. of Stewardship & Communications*

Ron Wilson, *Director of Finance*

Leslie Santiana, *Communications Asst. for Digital Media*

Elizabeth Hearle, *Parish School Director*

Nancy Coughlin, *Director of Person-to-Person*

Dave Scam, *Buildings and Grounds Supervisor*



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