

# The Word of God

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

### OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 323)

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

**Celebrant** Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

**People** **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

### COLLECT FOR PURITY (BCP p. 323)

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

### OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE (BCP P. 324)

*The following is said, all standing*

**Glory be to God on high,  
and on earth peace, good will towards men.**

**We praise thee, we bless thee,**

**we worship thee,  
we glorify thee,  
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,**

**O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;**

**O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,**

**that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.**

**Thou that takest away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,  
have mercy upon us.**

**For thou only art holy;**

**thou only art the Lord;**

**thou only, O Christ,**

**with the Holy Ghost,  
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 325)

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And with thy spirit.

*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.*

### FIRST READING:

**Isaiah 35:1-10**

A Reading from Isaiah.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,  
    the desert shall rejoice and blossom;  
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,  
    and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
    the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.  
They shall see the glory of the Lord,  
    the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,  
    and make firm the feeble knees.  
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
    "Be strong, do not fear!  
Here is your God.  
    He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.  
    He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
    and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
    and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
    and streams in the desert;  
the burning sand shall become a pool,  
    and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,  
    the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,  
    and it shall be called the Holy Way;  
the unclean shall not travel on it,  
    but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.  
No lion shall be there,  
    nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;

they shall not be found there,  
but the redeemed shall walk there.  
And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,  
and come to Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
they shall obtain joy and gladness,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

**Psalm 146:4-9**

<sup>4</sup> Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! \*  
whose hope is in the Lord their God;  
<sup>5</sup> Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; \*  
who keeps his promise for ever;  
<sup>6</sup> Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \*  
and food to those who hunger.  
<sup>7</sup> The Lord sets the prisoners free;  
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; \*  
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;  
<sup>8</sup> The Lord loves the righteous;  
the Lord cares for the stranger; \*  
he sustains the orphan and widow,  
but frustrates the way of the wicked.  
<sup>9</sup> The Lord shall reign for ever, \*  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
Hallelujah!

## SECOND READING:

**James 5:7-10**

A Reading from James.

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL:

**Matthew 11:2-11**

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

*People* **Glory be to thee, Lord Christ.**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight,

the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way before you.’

“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

**THE SERMON - Father Peter J. Vazquez Schmitt, OSB (Order of St. Benedict)**

## THE 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.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (BCP p. 328)

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers especially

Sarah Mullaly, Archbishop of Canterbury

Sean Rowe, our Presiding Bishop;

Michael Hunn, our Bishop;

and our clergy;

The work of all missionaries, especially Bobby with the Helping Hands Orphanage in Honduras,

The leaders and programs of this parish and our Diocese; In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we Pray for Emerging Congregations: Angel Fire & Magdalena; in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we Pray for Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present and the students and staff at Mesilla Park Elementary School; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land especially:

Donald, our President;

The Congress & Supreme Court of the United States;

Our men and women in the armed forces, for those seeking peace in the Middle East, Jerusalem, Ukraine and throughout the whole world, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor:

Marty	Robin Daviet	Charlie Mathis
Leigh	Matilda Evaro	Winnie Meyer
Margaret	Albert Evaro	Alayna Ozbun
Chuck	Mary Ganier	Rodolfo Padilla
Janet Acosta	Ted Gray	Margo Schultz
Michelle Archuleta	Edward Haines	Christina Scott
Mary Lou Arend	People of Holy Cross	Amber Shinas
Madisyn Arrowsmith	Edgewood	Lorraine Southward
Chris Ashby	Mary Jaspers	Allen Kit Stemsrud
Sue Bateman	Sandy Johnson	Becky Stemsrud
Rey Beltran	Mike Kosnick	Susan Tellez
Jean Berg	Willard & Joan Lamb	The Wellborn Family
Vivian Beuyukian	Amy Latour	Marta Zepeda
Frances Campbell	Glenna Lowe	Libby & Luke

For all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

We also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of St. James and of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate.  
*Amen.*

## CONFESSON OF SIN (BCP p. 330)

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us humbly confess our sins unto almighty God.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

**Most merciful God,**

**we confess that we have sinned against thee  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved thee with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

**For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in thy will,  
and walk in thy ways,  
to the glory of thy Name. Amen.**

*The Priest stands and says*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

*A minister may then say one or more of the "comfortable words."*

## THE PEACE (BCP p. 332)

*All stand.*

**Celebrant** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People** And with thy spirit.

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

# The Holy Communion

## Regarding Communion

We believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

In the Episcopal Church all baptized Christians are invited to receive the Sacrament.

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

If you do not wish to receive Communion,

you may cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing.

Children who have been baptized may receive at the discretion of their parents.

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE (BCP p. 343)

*The Celebrant says an appropriate selection of scripture.*

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

*Ephesians 5:2*

## OFFERTORY HYMN & DOXOLOGY (HYMNAL 380)

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 Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA (BCP p. 333)

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is meet and right so to do.**

## PROPER PREFACE (BCP p. 333)

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because thou didst send thy 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 with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

## SANCTUS (BCP p. 334)

*People and Celebrant*

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:**

**Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.**

**Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**

**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION (BCP p. 334)

*The people kneel or stand. Then the Celebrant continues*

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ’s holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 336)

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

### FRACTION ANTHEM (BCP p. 337)

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

**have mercy upon us.**

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

**have mercy upon us.**

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

**grant us thy peace.**

### PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS (BCP p. 337)

*The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer.*

**We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people. To receive wine, you may sip from the chalice. You may also decline the chalice, as Communion in one kind constitutes a full Communion.*

*Those watching via live-stream are invited to pray the following prayer at this time*

A Prayer for those who are not present to receive

**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 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 physical presence of my community, 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 the life to come. Amen.**

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 339)

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray

*The People may join in saying this prayer*

**Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

## ADVENT BLESSING

*The deacon or celebrant may dismiss the people with these or other words.*

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**