



Christ Episcopal Church Kensington
Morning Prayer
Second Sunday of Advent
December 6, 2020

Prelude *Gottes Sohn ist kommen*

Buttstedt/Walther

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

In Advent, we prepare for the coming of Christ, the true light, into the world.

Bring us peace, Lord Christ.

Christ is coming. Christ is among us already: entering a troubled world,
a wounded heart, a broken spirit.

Bring us peace, Lord Christ.

Lord God, as your prophets called us to your healing work of justice and peace,
**May this shining light kindle in us a passion for reconciliation and
compassion in our church, country and world.**

Giver of Life, let your healing light shine in our darkness.

Bring us peace, Lord Christ.

the candles of hope and peace are lit

Loving God, we open ourselves to you this Advent season. Show us how to live in hope.
Teach us that true peace is only possible with justice and mercy.

Transform us, that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.

Opening Acclamation

Presider Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People You come to your people and set them free.

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A moment of silence may be 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 Presider offers absolution.

The Invitatory and Psalter

Presider Lord, open our lips.
People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Presider and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

The Lessons

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah (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.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 *Benedixisti, Domine*

- 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 you LORD God are saying, *
**for you are speaking peace to your faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to you.**
- 9 Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, *
that your 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 you, *
and peace shall be a pathway for your feet.

A Reading from the Second Letter of Peter (2 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.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 67 *Comfort, comfort ye my people*

Jason Saffell, Tenor



1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus
2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert
3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er



saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -
since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry



ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



tell her that her sins I cov - - er,
let the val - - leys rise to meet - him
and all flesh shall see the to - ken



and her war - fare now is o - - ver.
and the hills bow down to greet - him.
that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

Words: Johann G. Olearius (1611-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: *Psalm 42*, melody and bass Claude Goudimel (1514-1572); harm. *Hymnal 1982*

The Gospel Mark 1:1-8

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ according to Mark
All: 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.”

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

**On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

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 Suffrages

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in you can we live in safety.

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. Your saving health among all nations.

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Collect for 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.*

The Prayers of the People

We are called to watch and pray, therefore let us pray together saying:

Christ, in your mercy,
come to your people.

Gracious God, we thank you for coming to us in flesh at Bethlehem, and for coming to us whenever we gather in your name. Keep us alert and watchful through the dark night of this world, and give us confidence as we await your coming in glory.

Christ, in your mercy,
come to your people.

We pray for your church—its people and its leaders. Keep us alert and watchful in support of one another, guard us from everything false and untrue, and shine on us with the light of your holy word.

Christ, in your mercy,
come to your people.

We pray for the nations. Lift the hearts of those in authority that they may govern wisely and well, for the good of all. Bring your peace to all nations torn by violence and war. Keep us alert and watchful that we might serve you by giving good service to others in our daily lives.

Christ, in your mercy,
come to your people.

We thank you, O God, for providing for our needs. We give thanks for those celebrating their birthdays this week including Carl Keith, and for the continued healing of Ted Thanos, Doug Leavens and Rick Whiting, Jr. Keep us alert and watchful to the blessings in our lives, and move us to give generously out of our abundance.

All are invited to add their prayers of thanksgiving either silently or aloud.

Christ, in your mercy,
come to your people.

Loving Christ, stand by all who need your comfort. Give rest to those who are weary. Soothe those who suffer. Be with those whom we know in particular need, especially Florence Crozier, Mary Lou Cumberpatch, Bill Daisley, Kate Ganascioli, Carl Keith, Jon Martineau, Mary Padgett, Lissa Ramsepal, Betsy Robbins, Amy Saylor, and Kitty Shuler.

All are invited to add their petitions either silently or aloud.

Christ, in your mercy,
come to your people.

We pray for all who have died. We remember especially Alex Governatori, Jo Crozier, and Lisa Davies, in whose memory the flowers are dedicated this week:

All are invited to add their remembrances either silently or aloud

May light perpetual shine upon them, and their souls rest in peace.

Lord Jesus, we do not know the day or the hour of your arrival. Keep us always alert and watchful that we may welcome you with joy. For you live and reign with the Creator and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen.**

The Peace

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

Announcements

- Help bring Christmas cheer to a child at Arcola Elementary School! Details and the link to the Sign-Up to sponsor a child for Christmas are in the Christ Church Connection.
- One service live on Zoom at 10:00am on Dec 13th: Christmas Pageant and Holy Communion. All are invited to dress as their favorite character in the Nativity story. This is your chance to wear your bathrobe, scarf and tie to church...and be a shepherd *On the way to Bethlehem.*

Offertory *Hymn 65 -- Prepare the way, O Zion*

Bereden vag for Herran
Richard Giarusso, baritone

Electronic Offering

Even though we are not able to meet together during this time, the work of the Church continues. Please mail your offering to Christ Church, 4001 Franklin St., Kensington, MD 20895, or take this

time to contribute online <https://christchurchkensington.org/give/>
We are so very grateful for your generosity.

Benediction

Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Postlude *Gottes Sohn ist kommen (S. 600)* J.S. Bach

Welcome to all our visitors

If you'd like more information about Christ Church, please email Parish Administrator Jen Luna administrator@ccpk.org, we'll add you to our weekly e-newsletter, or call us at 301-942-4673.

Send an email to the Rector, the Rev. Emily Guthrie, at emily@ccpk.org. We are better for your presence with us today, and would love to get to know you!

Thank you to all who participated in today's service

Wreath Lighting: The Beatty Family (Nikki, Jackson, Aiden and Chase)

Lectors: Bob Quinn, Kurt Ellison, Rusty & Tina Cleland,
The Boniface-Finn family (Duane, Shannon, Aiden, and
Sydney)

Musicians: Richard Giarusso, Baritone; Jason Saffell, Tenor;
Christine Taylor, Soprano;
Dr. Theodore M. Guerrant, Organist

Worship Leaders: The Rev. Emily Guthrie, Rector;
The Rev. Hope Christensen, Deacon & Seminarian

Technical Staff: Daniel Mears, Video Engineer

virtual flower dedication

The virtual flowers this week are given by Bill Davies in loving memory of his sister, Lisa.

If you would like to dedicate virtual flowers that appear in the weekly email, please contact Jen Luna, administrator@cpk.org.

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www.ChristChurchKensington.org