



Church of the Advent

Morning Prayer: Rite One
Third Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2020
8:00am

Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Isaiah 40:3

CONFSSION OF SIN

The Officiant says to the people

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,
we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts,
we have offended against thy holy laws,
we have left undone those things which we ought to have done,
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
spare thou those who confess their faults,
restore thou those who are penitent,
according to thy promises declared unto mankind
in Christ Jesus our Lord;
and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

Officiant stands and says

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen**

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips.

People And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

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.

Officiant Our King and Savior draweth nigh:

People O come, let us adore him.

VENITE

Psalm 95:1-7

O come, let us sing unto the Lord; *
 let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
 and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God, *
 and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are all the corners of the earth, *
 and the strength of the hills is his also.
The sea is his, and he made it, *
 and his hands prepared the dry land.
O come, let us worship and fall down, *
 and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is the Lord our God, *
 and we are the people of his pasture
 and the sheep of his hand.
O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
 let the whole earth stand in awe of him.
For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth, *
 and with righteousness to judge the world
 and the peoples with his truth.

Officiant Our King and Savior draweth nigh:
People **O come, let us adore him.**

PSALM 89:1-4, 19-26

1 **Y**our love, O LORD, for ever will I sing; *
 from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
2 For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; *
 you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
3 "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; *
 I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
4 'I will establish your line for ever, *
 and preserve your throne for all generations.'"
19 You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people: *
 "I have set the crown upon a warrior
 and have exalted one chosen out of the people.
20 I have found David my servant; *
 with my holy oil have I anointed him.
21 My hand will hold him fast *
 and my arm will make him strong.

22 No enemy shall deceive him, *
 nor any wicked man bring him down.

23 I will crush his foes before him *
 and strike down those who hate him.

24 My faithfulness and love shall be with him, *
 and he shall be victorious through my Name.

25 I shall make his dominion extend *
 from the Great Sea to the River.

26 He will say to me, 'You are my Father, *
 my God, and the rock of my salvation.'

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.

OLD TESTAMENT - 2 Samuel 7:1-11,16

When the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SONG OF MARY *Luke 1:46-55*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, *
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

For he hath regarded *
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth *
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, *
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him *
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm; *
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, *
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, *
as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed for ever.

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.

THE EPISTLE - Romans 16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith-- to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE SONG OF SIMEON *Luke 2:29-32*

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, *
according to thy word;
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, *
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, *
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

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.

THE GOSPEL: *Luke 1:26-38*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

People The Gospel of the Lord
 Praise to you, Lord Christ

SERMON *by The Rev. Jason Oden*

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Officiant Let us recite together the Apostle's Creed.

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
 who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
 born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, dead, and buried.
 He descended into hell.
 The third day he rose again from the dead.
 He ascended into heaven,
 and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
 From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

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.

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

The congregation is invited to stand

Officiant Extend your greeting to your favored ones, O God, and let your Holy Spirit overshadow us, that we may proclaim your love to our generation, as we await the coming of Christ, saying: Let your faithfulness and love be with us; for your love is established for ever.

Intercessor Gracious and Loving God, build your Church into a house that shall be made sure forever before you, that we, like Mary, may respond in faithfulness and be bearers of the Christ Child unto all the world.

Let your faithfulness and love be with us;

People **for your love is established for ever.**

Intercessor Eternal and Infinite One, raise up just leaders, and guide the nations of the world, that all people may live in their own place, and not be disturbed; and that evildoers shall afflict them no more.

Let your faithfulness and love be with us;

People **for your love is established for ever.**

Intercessor Compassionate One, let the prophetic writings be made known to all the nations to bring release and comfort to all who are oppressed, to lift up the lowly and fill the hungry with good things.

Let your faithfulness and love be with us;

People **for your love is established for ever.**

Intercessor Loving God, empower your Holy Spirit to come upon this community that we may be the servants of the Lord and live graciously according to your word.

People Let your faithfulness and love be with us;
for your love is established for ever.

Intercessor Gracious One, visit all for whom we pray with your mysterious love, and honor the intercessions of your people as we pray for _____. (*Congregation is welcome to add their own petitions.*)

Hear our glad tidings as we offer you our praise and thanksgiving, especially for _____. (*Congregation is welcome to add their own thanksgivings.*)

Raise up into your glorious eternal presence those who have died, especially _____. (*Congregation is welcome to add those names to remember.*)

People Let your faithfulness and love be with us;
for your love is established for ever.

Officiant Holy One, let your Word of perfect love cast out all fear, for the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages is now disclosed; guide us that we may joyfully bring about the obedience of faith to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A COLLECT FOR SUNDAYS

O God, who makest us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of thy Son our Lord: Grant us this day such blessing through our worship of thee, that the days to come may be spent in thy favor; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A COLLECT FOR GRACE

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day: Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that we, being ordered by thy governance, may do always what is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and his Lutheran counterpart Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton welcome congregations and individuals to regularly pray "A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit among the People of God." This prayer is meant to unite us in common prayer and revive us for common mission, wherever and however we may be gathered.

A PRAYER FOR THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT AMONG THE PEOPLE OF GOD
Celebrant and people

God of all power and love,
we give thanks for your unfailing presence
and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss.
Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire.
Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world:
a people who pray, worship, learn,
break bread, share life, heal neighbors,
bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit.
Wherever and however we gather,
unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission,
that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Greetings, favored ones! The Lord is with you. Do not be afraid, for you have found favor with God.

In your lives you are the bearers of Jesus the Son of God, for the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages is now made known to all, and nothing will be impossible with God.

May the Holy Spirit come upon you and the power of the Most High overshadow you, to lead you in lives of holiness and joy.

And the blessing of our glorious God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you and dwell within you, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Romans 15:13



Church of the Advent

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