



Church of the Advent

The Liturgy of the Word: Rite Two
20th Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 24A

October 18, 2020

PRELUDE - *by Bradford Dale*

OPENING SENTENCES

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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

GLORIA

Celebrant and people

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT – Exodus 33:12-23

Moses said to the Lord, “See, you have said to me, ‘Bring up this people’; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, ‘I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.’ Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.” He said, “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” And he said to him, “If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.”

The Lord said to Moses, “I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.” Moses said, “Show me your glory, I pray.” And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, ‘The Lord’; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But,” he said, “you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live.” And the Lord continued, “See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.”

The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

PSALM 99

- 1 **T**he Lord is King; let the people tremble; *
he is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.
- 2 The Lord is great in Zion; *
he is high above all peoples.
- 3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *
he is the Holy One.
- 4 "O mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."
- 5 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and fall down before his footstool; *
he is the Holy One.
- 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, *
they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.
- 7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.
- 8 O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.
- 9 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and worship him upon his holy hill; *
for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

THE EPISTLE: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God**

MUSIC

In the Name of Christ We Gather

ADVENT CHOIR

*In the name of Christ we gather, in the name of Christ we sing!
Celebrate new vows, new promise of all life's whole offering,
here proclaimed to lead God's people at the gospel's beckoning.*

*Sons and daughters of the Spirit we are called to teach and care,
called as were the first disciples, commonwealth of Christ to share,
by the bread and wine and water sacraments of grace declare.*

*Now within this solemn moment we invoke the power of God
Through Christ's love laid on in blessing be there strength to take the load,
be there faithfulness in loving, be there courage for this road.*

*Word of joy, enlivening Spirit, more than lover, parent, friend,
born in Jesus, born in Mary, born in us, that love extend,
grow within your chosen servants, life of God that has no end!*

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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

THE SERMON - *The Rev. Jason Oden*

THE NICENE CREED

Celebrant and people

**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 FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

The congregation is invited to stand

Officiant Holy God, lover of justice, you have promised that your presence will go with us to guide and protect your people: Show us your glory, that we may know you and find

favor in your sight, as we pray: Proclaim the greatness of our God, for our God is the Holy One.

Intercessor Holy God, you have chosen your Church for your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ: Grant that we may be true to you, not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit, with full conviction.

People Proclaim the greatness of our God,
for our God is the Holy One.

Intercessor Transcendent God, you urge this nation and all in authority into your ways of peace and equality: Save our leaders from showing partiality and grant them vision and courage to give only that which is appropriate to the claims of politics and state, and to give to God the things that are God's.

People Proclaim the greatness of our God,
for our God is the Holy One.

Intercessor Immanent One, your presence is everywhere and your glory touches all the earth: Show your gracious goodness to people throughout the world, so that all may know you and find favor in your sight.

People Proclaim the greatness of our God,
for our God is the Holy One.

Intercessor Loving and gracious God, your presence inspires us and our neighbors in this community to continue to work in faith, to labor in love, and to be steadfast in hope. Let our welcome go forth in grace and peace.

People Proclaim the greatness of our God,
for our God is the Holy One.

Intercessor Merciful One, your grace and peace fill our community and connect us with ties of loving regard:

Hear our prayers for those whom we remember in intercession, especially ____.
(Congregation is welcome to add their own petitions.)

Accept our grateful thanksgiving for the goodness of life, especially for ____.
(Congregations are welcome to add their own thanksgivings.)

Receive into the full vision of your goodness and glory those who have died, especially ____.
(Congregation is welcome to add the names of those to remember.)

People Proclaim the greatness of our God,
for our God is the Holy One.

Officiant Living and true God, your strong arm is extended to bring justice and truth to the whole world: Guide the powerful into your ways and keep us ever faithful to your will, that everyone in heaven and earth may work to bring about your intention for universal reconciliation and peace; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant and people

**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 ABSOLUTION

**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.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always

People And also with you.

The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace

MUSIC

This Is My Father's World

ADVENT CHOIR

*This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears;
All nature sings and 'round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world, I rest me in the thought;
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas, his hands the wonders wrought.*

*This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise;
The morning light, the lily white declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world, he shines in all that's fair;
In rustling grass I hear him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.*

*This is my Father's world, O let me never forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world, why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is King, let the heavens ring, "God reigns! Let earth be glad!"*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Birthdays and Anniversaries of Weddings and Unions
- Necrology
- Re-Entry & Communion update

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant 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, forever and ever. 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

God has chosen you, for the message of the gospel has come to you not in word only, but also in power. Therefore give to God the things that are God's.

Let the Divine Word sound forth through your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Receive the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, that your trust in God's Spirit may become known in every place.

And the grace and peace of our wonderful God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you and empower you, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE – by Bradford Dale