



# Church of the Advent

The Liturgy of the Word: Rite Two  
21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Proper 25A

October 25, 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

**A**lmighty 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

**A**lmighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT – Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the LORD showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. The LORD said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it to your descendants’; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.” Then Moses, the servant of the LORD, died there in the land of Moab, at the LORD’s command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the LORD had commanded Moses.

Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face. He was unequaled for all the signs and wonders that the LORD sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

PSALM 90:1-6, 13-17

1 Lord, you have been our refuge \*  
from one generation to another.

2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, \*  
from age to age you are God.

3 You turn us back to the dust and say, \*  
"Go back, O child of earth."

4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past \*  
and like a watch in the night.

5 You sweep us away like a dream; \*  
we fade away suddenly like the grass.

6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; \*  
in the evening it is dried up and withered.

13 Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry? \*  
 be gracious to your servants.

14 Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; \*  
 so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

15 Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us \*  
 and the years in which we suffered adversity.

16 Show your servants your works \*  
 and your splendor to their children.

17 May the graciousness of the LORD our God be upon us; \*  
 prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.

THE EPISTLE: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

The Word of the Lord  
 People **Thanks be to God**

MUSIC

In Deepest Night, In Darkest Days

*In deepest night, in darkest days,  
 when harps are hung, no songs we raise,  
 when silence must suffice as praise,  
 yet sounding in us quietly there is the song of God.*

*When friend was lost, when love deceived,  
 dear Jesus wept, God was bereaved;  
 so with us in our grief God grieves,  
 and round about us mournfully there are the tears of God.*

*When through the waters winds our path,  
 around us pain, around us death:  
 deep calls to deep, a saving breath,  
 and found beside us faithfully there is the love of God.*

ADVENT CHOIR

## THE GOSPEL: Matthew 22:34-46

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

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

**W**hen the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"?' If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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*     Gracious and generous God, you have taught us to fulfill your will by loving you and our neighbor: Hear our prayers, and let your loving kindness bring healing and peace, as we bring to you the needs of your creation, saying: You are our refuge, from one generation to another.

*Intercessor*   Holy and Glorious One, you have filled your Church with your divine love and given us courage to declare the message of the gospel: Increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity that we may carry your love to the ends of the earth.

    You are our refuge

*People*       **from one generation to another.**

*Intercessor*   Holy and Eternal One, you rule the world with justice and love: Fill all earthly leaders with the spirit of wisdom that they would do mighty deeds for the common good.

    You are our refuge

*People*       **from one generation to another.**

*Intercessor*   Holy and Compassionate One, look upon the life of earth and its inhabitants, for we fade away like the grass: Satisfy the needy with your loving-kindness in the morning and be their protector from age to age.

People You are our refuge  
**from one generation to another.**

Intercessor Holy and Gentle One, be with us and our neighbors, that we may love and serve one another with generous and humble hearts.

People You are our refuge  
**from one generation to another.**

Intercessor Holy and Infinite One, hear our prayers for those for whom we intercede, especially for \_\_\_\_\_. (Congregation is welcome to add their own petitions)

Receive our gratitude for all the blessings of our lives, especially for \_\_\_\_\_. (Congregation is welcome to add their own thanksgivings)

A thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is passed. Receive into your eternal loving heart those who have died, especially \_\_\_\_\_. (Congregation is welcome to add those names to remember)

People You are our refuge  
**from one generation to another.**

Officiant You are our God from before the mountains were brought forth or the land and the earth were born: Let your infinite heart pour forth to fill us with your grace, that we may love you with all our heart and soul and mind, and love our neighbor as ourselves, through Jesus Christ our Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit, live and love, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE CONFESSON 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

**A**lmighty 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*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

## MUSIC

### Lord Speak to Me

### ADVENT CHOIR

*Lord, speak to me, that I may speak in living echoes of thy tone;  
as thou hast sought, so let me seek thy erring children lost and lone.*

*O lead me, Lord, that I may lead the wandering and the wavering feet;  
O feed me, Lord, that I may feed thy hungry ones with manna sweet.*

*O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the precious things thou dost impart;  
and wing my words, that they may reach the hidden depths of many a heart.*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant and people

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,  
now and for 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

May you love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul and mind, and love your neighbor as yourself.

May you be filled with courage to live and to declare the good news of God in Christ.

May the Holy Spirit increase in you the gifts of faith, hope, and charity.

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

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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

POSTLUDE – by Bradford Dale