



Church of the Advent

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
24th Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 28A

November 15, 2020

PRELUDE - by Bradford Dale

THE WORD OF GOD

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

I Will Kindle My Fire

ADVENT CHOIR

*I will kindle my fire in the morn of the day,
in the presence of holy angels.
Without malice or jealousy, envy or fear,
without terror of anyone under the sun,
but the Holy Beloved to shield me.
O Holy one, kindle thou here in my heart,
a flame of pure love to my neighbor,
to my foe, to my friend, to my kindred all,
to the brave, to the knave, to the thrall.
O child of the loveliest Mary, from the lowliest thing,
to the Holy Name, the beloved of all.*

THE COLLECT

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT - Judges 4:1-7

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, after Ehud died. So the LORD sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the

Israelites cried out to the LORD for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The LORD, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God**

PSALM 123

- 1 **T**o you I lift up my eyes, *
to you enthroned in the heavens.
- 2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, *
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,
- 3 So our eyes look to the LORD our God, *
until he show us his mercy.
- 4 Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy, *
for we have had more than enough of contempt,
- 5 Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, *
and of the derision of the proud.

THE EPISTLE - 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus

Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

People The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

MUSIC Tell Out, My Soul ADVENT CHOIR

*Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
Tender to me the promise of his word;
In God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.*

*Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
His mercy sure, from age to age to same;
His holy Name--the Lord, the Mighty One.*

*Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by;
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.*

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

People The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glorify to you, Lord Christ

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master

replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

People The Gospel of the Lord
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 **G**racious and generous God, you have given to your creation all things necessary for our abundant life: Hear us as we pray for people everywhere, that all may be protected from oppression and exploitation in order to live productive and meaningful lives, as we pray: To you we lift up our eyes; have mercy upon us, have mercy.

Intercessor Awaken your Church, O God, to encourage and build up one another as children of light and children of the day, serving as instruments of your compassion and justice.

People To you we lift up our eyes;
have mercy upon us, have mercy.

Intercessor Infinite One, inspire our leaders, with wisdom and discipline, and rescue all people from the scorn of the indolent rich and the derision of the proud.

People To you we lift up our eyes;
have mercy upon us, have mercy.

Intercessor Compassionate One, protect the vulnerable of the earth from economic abuse: Grant that all who work may receive a proper return for their labor and that every person may enjoy a fair portion of the riches of your creation.

People To you we lift up our eyes;
have mercy upon us, have mercy.

Intercessor Loving One, bless our community with wisdom, healing and honor, that we may be bearers of faith, hope and love.

People To you we lift up our eyes;
have mercy upon us, have mercy.

Intercessor We commend to your mercy those for whom we pray, especially ____.
(*Congregation is welcome to add their own petitions.*)

We raise our eyes to you in thanksgiving, especially for _____. (*Congregation is welcome to add their own thanksgivings.*)

We entrust to your never failing care and love those who have died, especially _____. (*Congregation is welcome to add those names to be remembered.*)

People To you we lift up our eyes;
have mercy upon us, have mercy.

Officiant Merciful God of light and promise, multiply your grace upon us and be generous to all the earth, that we may treasure your eternal work of reconciliation and resurrection, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Birthdays and Anniversaries of Weddings and Unions

MUSIC

I Lift Up Mine Eyes

ADVENT CHOIR

*I lift up my eyes to the mountains for my aid.
For here lies my help; I shall not be afraid.
My strength comes from you, God, your depth and your height;
In you my safe darkness, in you my great light.
To walk on this path and not stumble nor stray,
And to know you'll not slumber nor abandon by day,
But as guide and as guardian beyond me will lead,
A light to my path and a lamp for my feet.*

*For God is my keeper, my shelter, my shade.
The sun shall not scorn you, nor the night's chill abrade.
God keep me from harming and from harm well secure.
From wanderings unsteady, and footings unsure.
And let every shadow safe passage convey,
A sign of your presence with each passing day.
Till weary, my feet on the border will land,
In the country eternal where now mountains stand.*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Proper Preface

For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are filled with your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The people stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

**We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

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.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you**

**with gladness and singleness of heart;
through 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

Keep awake and be sober, for you are God's children of light and children of the day.

Embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life given us in our Savior Jesus Christ.

Encourage one another and build up each other in faith, hope and love, always strong in the Spirit.

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

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE – by *Bradford Dale*

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Making Connections

Today's Collect addresses how God continues to speak to us through the Bible. In "An Outline of the Faith" (The Catechism, BCP 853), we have the church's explanation of what we believe the Bible to be – the Word of God.

The Holy Scriptures (BCP 853)

Q. What are the Holy Scriptures?

A. The Holy Scriptures, commonly called the Bible, are the books of the Old and New Testaments; other books, called the Apocrypha, are often included in the Bible.

Q. What is the Old Testament?

A. The Old Testament consists of books written by the people of the Old Covenant, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, to show God at work in nature and history.

Q. What is the New Testament?

A. The New Testament consists of books written by the people of the New Covenant, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, to set forth the life and teachings of Jesus and to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom for all people.

Q. What is the Apocrypha?

A. The Apocrypha is a collection of additional books written by people of the Old Covenant, and used in the Christian Church.

Q. Why do we call the Holy Scriptures the Word of God?

A. We call them the Word of God because God inspired their human authors and because God still speaks to us through the Bible.

Q. How do we understand the meaning of the Bible?

A. We understand the meaning of the Bible by the help of the Holy Spirit, who guides the Church in the true interpretation of the Scriptures.



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