



# **Church of the Advent**

The Liturgy of the Word  
Second Sunday After Epiphany

January 17, 2021  
10:00 am

PRELUDE - by Bradford Dale

OPENING SENTENCES

*People*      Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.  
**Glory to God for ever and ever.**

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 OF THE DAY

*Celebrant*      God be with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

**A**lmighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT - 1 Samuel 3:1-10

**N**ow the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People*

**Thanks be to God**

PSALM 139:1-5, 12-17

1 **L**ORD, you have searched me out and known me; \*  
you know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.

2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places \*  
and are acquainted with all my ways.

3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, \*  
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.

4 You press upon me behind and before \*  
and lay your hand upon me.

5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; \*  
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; \*  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

13 I will thank you because I am marvelously made; \*  
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

14 My body was not hidden from you, \*  
while I was being made in secret  
and woven in the depths of the earth.

15 Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;  
all of them were written in your book; \*  
they were fashioned day by day,  
when as yet there was none of them.

16 How deep I find your thoughts, O God! \*  
how great is the sum of them!

17 If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; \*  
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

#### THE EPISTLE - 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

**"A**ll things are lawful for me," but not all things are beneficial. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be dominated by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food," and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, "The two shall be one flesh." But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People

**Thanks be to God**

MUSIC

I Have Decided To Follow Jesus

ADVENT CHOIR

*I have decided to follow Jesus;  
I have decided to follow Jesus;  
I have decided to follow Jesus;  
No turning back, no turning back.*

*Though none go with me, still I will follow;  
Though none go with me, still I will follow;  
Though none go with me, still I will follow;  
No turning back, no turning back.*

*I have decided to follow Jesus;  
I have decided to follow Jesus;  
I have decided to follow Jesus;  
No turning back, no turning back.*

THE GOSPEL: John 1:43-51

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

People

**Glory to you, Lord Christ**

**J**esus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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 loving God, you see into the deepest needs of our hearts and invite us to follow you and to listen to your voice: Receive our prayers as we call upon you in your Temple: Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

*Intercessor*    Holy One, you have called us your children and given us the Holy Spirit: Grant that you Church may share with our friends the Good News of Jesus of Nazareth and invite them to "come and see" so that others may share our fellowship in his Name.

We call upon you in your Temple:  
**Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.**

*People*

*Intercessor* Eternal One, you search our hearts and know us: Lay your hand upon our nation and upon all in authority throughout the world, that they may be instruments of your compassion and peace, and that we may be known as a people in whom there is no deceit.

We call upon you in your Temple:

**Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.**

*Intercessor* Wonderful Creator, you have woven our bodies in the depths of the earth: Look upon the needs of a suffering world and bless all humanity, that your healthful Spirit and presence may do marvelous works for the relief of the world.

We call upon you in your Temple:

**Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.**

*Intercessor* Loving One, you visit us in friendship and invite us to be generous and hospitable neighbors to all among whom we live: Fill us with your grace, that we may be a community of kindness and compassion.

We call upon you in your Temple:

**Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.**

*Intercessor* Good and Holy God, you fashion our lives day by day in your Spirit. Increase in us your vision that we may see great things for our community. Hear our prayers for those for whom we intercede, especially \_\_\_\_.  
(Congregation is welcome to add their own petitions.)

We thank you for your gifts of freedom and blessing, and especially for \_\_\_\_.  
(Congregation is welcome to add their own thanksgivings.)

By your power you raise our bodies into union with you, remember those who have died, especially \_\_\_\_.  
(Congregation is welcome to add those names to remember.)

May all people see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.

We call upon you in your Temple:

**Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.**

*Officiant* You have freed us from all domination and made us one body in your Spirit, O God: Give us childlike faith to listen to what you are speaking and to follow you in faith, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

## THE CONFESSON OF SINS

Let us confess our sins to God.

Celebrant and people

**God of all mercy,  
we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.  
We have denied your goodness in each other,  
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.  
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done,  
and the evil done on our behalf.  
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us  
through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
that we may abide in your love  
and serve only your will. Amen.**

#### THE ABSOLUTION

**A**lmighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of 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 Christ be always with you.  
**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

#### My Soul Gives Glory To My God

#### ADVENT CHOIR

*My soul gives glory to my God. My heart pours out its praise.  
God lifted up my lowliness in many marvelous ways.*

*My God has done great things for me: yes, holy is his name.  
All people will declare me blessed, and blessings they shall claim.*

*From age to age, to all who fear, such mercy love imparts,  
dispensing justice far and near, dismissing selfish hearts.*

*Praise God, whose loving covenant supports those in distress,  
remembering past promises with present faithfulness.*

#### 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.**

*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**

**Y**ou are marvelously made, known and loved by God your Creator. Be alert, so that whenever God calls, you will answer faithfully, "Here I am!"

Joyfully follow Christ and be a person in whom there is no deceit; invite others to come and see, so everyone may share in this beautiful journey toward wholeness.

Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit; live boldly in goodness and glorify God in your body.

And the blessing of our intimate God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be within you and among us, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*People*      Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE - by *Bradford Dale*



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