

Third Sunday in Advent

The Holy Eucharist: Rite One

December 15, 2024

The Word of God

Opening Hymn

No. 59

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding. "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
"Cast away the works of darkness, O ye children of the day."

Wakened by the solemn warning, from earth's bondage let us rise;
Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling, shines upon the morning skies.

Lo! the Lamb, so long expected, comes with pardon down from heaven;
let us haste, with tears of sorrow, one and all to be forgiven;

so when next he comes with glory, and the world is wrapped in fear,
may he with his mercy shield us, and with words of love draw near.

Honor, glory, might, and blessing to the Father and the Son,
with the everlasting Spirit, while unending ages run.

Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, alt.

Music: *Merton*, William Henry Monk (1823-1889); desc. Alan Gray (1855-1935)

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A Penitential Order: Rite One

Celebrant Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

People And blessed be his kingdom now and forever. Amen

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us; but if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:8,9*

The Deacon or Celebrant then says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept

Minister and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against thee
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved thee with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in thy will,
and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, 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.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

A Reading from the Book of Zephaniah

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Canticle 9 – The First Song of Isaiah

1. Surely, it is God who saves me; *
 I will trust in him and not be afraid.
2. For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
 and he will be my Savior.
3. Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
 from the springs of salvation.
4. And on that day you shall say, *
 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
5. Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
 see that they remember that his Name is exalted.
6. Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
 and this is known in all the world.
7. Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
 for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

The Epistle

Philippians 4:4-7

A Reading from the Letter to the Philippians

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

Hymnal 68

Rejoice! rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear!
The evening is advancing, and darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising, and soon he will draw nigh;
up, watch with expectation! at the midnight comes the cry.

See that your lamps are burning, replenish them with oil;
look now for your salvation, the end of sin and toil.
The marriage-feast is waiting, the gates wide open stand;
rise up, ye heirs of glory, the Bridegroom is at hand!

Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;
arise, thou Sun so longed for, above this darkened sphere!
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption, and ever be with thee!

Words: Laurentius Laurenti, tr. Sarah B. Findlater

Music: *Llangloffan*

The Holy Gospel

Luke 3:7-18

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

People Glory be to thee, O Lord

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has

food must do likewise.” Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.” As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Martin Gutwein

The Nicene Creed

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.

The Prayers of the People

All remain standing.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Surely, it is God who saves us; therefore, we joyfully pray to the Lord, "God our salvation: thank you."

Though hindered by our sins and in need of your bountiful grace and mercy, you never leave us. You are ever in our midst. Renew your Church in love.

God our salvation
People: Thank you.

Make your deeds known among the people, O God. Save the lame; gather the outcast. May the exiles know home and all people know your peace.

God our salvation
People: Thank you.

May your springs of salvation renew the earth. Heal our planet and restore in us a sense of responsibility and gratitude.

God our salvation
People: Thank you.

Merciful God, in this month of great excess and consumerism, call the financial and business communities to act justly and generously. Grant that those without coats be clothed and those without food be fed.

God our salvation
People: Thank you.

O God, you have done great things. With thankful hearts we pray to you for those burdened by shame, grief, or weakness. Be for them a stronghold and a sure defense.

God our salvation

People: Thank you.

God our salvation, gather us, with all those who have died, into your sacred heart. Grant us to sing your praises for all eternity.

God our salvation

People: Thank you.

Celebrant adds a concluding collect

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Announcements

The Celebrant says

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2

Offertory Anthem

“Amazing Grace”
(Pachelbel’s Canon)

Arr. Jean Anne Shafferman

Eucharistic Prayer II

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because thou didst send thy beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying:

Celebrant and People

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.*

*Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

The celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *AMEN.*

The Celebrant then continues

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

*Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast.*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

The People may join in saying this prayer

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen*

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Spiritual Communion

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. *Amen. (St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)*

Communion Hymn

Hymnal 314

Humbly I adore thee, Verity unseen,
who thy glory hidest 'neath these shadows mean;
lo, to thee surrendered, my whole heart is bowed,
tranced as it beholds thee, shrined within the cloud.

Taste and touch and vision to discern thee fail;
faith, that comes by hearing, pierces through the veil.
I believe whate'er the Son of God hath told;
what the Truth hath spoken, that for truth I hold.

O memorial wondrous of the Lord's own death;
living Bread that givest all thy creatures breath,
grant my spirit ever by thy life may live,
to my taste thy sweetness never-failing give.

Jesus, whom now hidden, I by faith behold,
what my soul doth long for, that thy word foretold:
face to face thy splendor, I at last shall see,
in the glorious vision, blessed Lord, of thee.

Words: St. Thomas Aquinas. Music: *Adoro Devote*,
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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray.

The Celebrant and People together say

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

The Blessing

The priest blesses the people, saying

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. *Amen.*

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. *Amen.*

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen*

Closing Hymn

Hymnal 72

Hark, the glad sound! the Savior comes, the Savior promised long:
let every heart prepare a throne, and every voice a song.

He comes, the prisoners to release in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before him burst, the iron fetters yield.

He comes, the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure;
and with the treasures of his grace to enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, thy welcome shall proclaim;
and heaven's eternal arches ring with thy beloved Name.

Words: Philip Doddridge Music: *Richmond*, melody, Thomas Haweis, adapt. Samuel Webbe, desc. Craig Sellar Lang

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Notes and Announcements December 15, 2024

PRAYER LIST

Anglican Cycle of Prayer for the Anglican Church of Tanzania...

Diocesan Calendar of Prayer for The Revs: Henry Alan Leonard, Richard M. C. Morley, Susan E. Osborne-Mott...

Parish Calendar of Prayer for everyone who gave of their time and energy to make Manger Mania a success...

For Our sons & daughters in the military Nathan, Kenney, Zach, Jack, Garrett, Willie, Charley, Erin...

For those Celebrating Birthdays this week Jeremy Gallo 12/17...

For the Sick, Suffering & Infirm Denise, Dan Sr., Stephen, Matt, Mark, Tanya, Joseph, Julia, Olivia, Lisa, Amanda, John, Sue, Bob, Dennis, Alex, Lisa, Ben, McKensie, Margie, David R, Bill, Virginia, Brigid, Sharon C, Kate, Louise, Megan, Lisa & Frank, Mindy, Carol, Michael, Douglas, Lois M, Christine, Al, Barbara, Maureen, Lin, Anna, Ella, Erin, Drew, Greg, Tina, Peggy...

PLEASE CONTINUE TO WELCOME The Rev. Martin Gutwein whose ongoing care of our Holy Trinity family is deeply appreciated.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

- Tuesday, December 17 – Vestry Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- Sunday, December 22 – Poinsettias and final decorating 1:00 p.m.
- **Tuesday, December 24- Christmas Eve-**
 - 5:00PM – Creche Service and Family Mass
 - 11:00PM – Festival Midnight Mass of the Nativity
- **Wednesday, December 25- Christmas Day**
 - 9:00AM – Holy Eucharist with Carols



SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH FELLOWSHIP We generally meet the first and third Sundays of each month, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m., however, we will not meet on December 15. Instead, our Sunday School families will join us on Saturday, December 14 for our tree lighting and caroling. Look for our January dates coming soon.

UPCYCLING GREETING CARD PROGRAM – Please bring in no longer wanted greeting cards. They will be given to St. John of God Community Services in Westville. The Vocational Rehabilitation and Adult Services group will remove the front of each card to create a new greeting. You may leave your cards in the box at the back of the Church. For more information call Craig Burgess at 856-667-2003.

ONLINE GIVING– To make it easier for folks to make their weekly offering, just follow the link on the Holy Trinity website and send your contribution electronically through Vanco. (You are still welcome to mail your weekly offering if it is easier for you.) Thank you all for your continued faithful giving.