

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 13, 2020

11 A.M. ANTE COMMUNION RITE II

Prelude

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, just and true:
To you be praise and glory for ever.
Your prophet John the Baptist was witness to the truth
As a burning and shining light.
May we your servants rejoice in his light,
And so be led to witness to him
Who is the Lord of our coming kingdom,
Jesus our Savior and King of the ages.

Blessed be God for ever.

Opening Acclamation		351 (prayer book)
Opening Hymn	<i>On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry</i>	76 (hymnal)
Confession		352 (prayer book)
Kyrie		S95 (hymnal)
Collect of the Day		212 (prayer book)

I reading—Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Reader: A reading from Isaiah
The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.
They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

For I the Lord love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.
I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Canticle 15—The Song of Mary *Magnificat*

Luke 1:46-55

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

II reading—1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Reader: A reading from the First Letter to the Thessalonians

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Gospel—John 1:6-8,19-28

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John

People: Glory to you, O Christ

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’” as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, “Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?” John answered them, “I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.” This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily

The Rev. Catherine Carpenter

The Nicene Creed

358 (prayer book)

Prayers of the People

Anthem

Come thou long expected Jesus

66 (hymnal)

The Lord’s Prayer

364 (prayer book)

The Peace

360 (prayer book)

The Blessing

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 is 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

The king shall come when morning dawns

73 (hymnal)

Dismissal

366 (prayer book)

Postlude

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Celebrant

As we prepare the way of the Lord, let us offer prayers to God who causes righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

Intercessor

For the coming of Jesus Christ in power and glory.

silence

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For the coming of Wisdom to teach and guide us.

silence

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For the coming of Emmanuel, the hope of all the peoples.

silence

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For the peace of the world, and for our unity in Christ.

silence

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, DeDe our bishop and all bishops, for our rector Cathy and all the presbyters, for the deacons and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God. And especially for our parish families, Ron & Laura Moreau, and Pam Cassidy.

silence

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For the church throughout the world and the faithful in every place. Especially for Gethsemane Church in Sherrill and St. James' Church in Skaneateles. In our companion diocese, for Misión Virgen de Guadalupe.

silence

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For the leaders of the nations and all in authority.

silence

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For justice, peace, and freedom among peoples of the earth.

silence

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For travelers, for the sick and the suffering, for the hungry and the oppressed, and for those in prison and especially Gordon Tall, John Rogers, Garth Foster, Agnes Morgan, Fern Butler, Dottie Carrie, Rahel Reger, Donny Witkowski, Tom Mangan, Joyce Rowan, Jason, Bill, Steven, Merle, Sharon, Linda, Linda W., Becky, Alice, Debbie, James, Rosalee, Dawn, Lila, Missy, Bill, Erin, Penny, Ann, Sue, Mary Ann, Barb, Anna, Jerry, Isabel-la

...and those we now name, silently or aloud,

silence

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For those who rest in Christ and for all the departed especially Edith Rogers and Dottie Divers, and those whom we now name silently or aloud

silence

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need.

silence

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Joining our voices with the blessed Virgin Mary, and with all the saints and angels of God, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

To you, O Lord our God.

Celebrant

O Key of David, scepter of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut, you shut and none can open: Come and free the captives from prison, who sit in darkness and the shadow of death. Glory to you for ever.

Amen.



GRACE'S MISSION STATEMENT

*To be a visible sign of Christ's love,
seeking and serving Christ in all persons.*

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