

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 6, 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.
Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets,
but in our days you speak through your Son,
whom you have appointed the heir of all things.
Grant us, your people, to walk in his light,
that we may be found ready and watching
when he comes again in glory and judgement;
for you are our light and our salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.

Opening Acclamation		351 (prayer book)
Opening Hymn	<i>There's a voice in the wilderness crying</i>	73 (hymnal)
Confession		352 (prayer book)
Kyrie		S95 (hymnal)
Collect of the Day		211 (prayer book)
I reading—Isaiah 40: 1-11		

Reader: A reading from Isaiah

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,

and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

A voice says, “Cry out!”
And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;

lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,
“Here is your God!”

See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;

his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,

and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13

708 (prayer book)

You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.

I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.

Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

II reading— 2 Peter 3: 8-15a

Reader: A reading from Second Peter

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Gospel—Mark 1:1-8

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

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	<i>Signs of ending all around us</i>	Thomas John Williams
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	<i>Prepare the Way O Zion</i>	65 (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 will baptize us with Spirit and fire.

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, Bob & Betty Johnson and David & Grace Cotte.

silence

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For the church throughout the world and the faithful in every place. Especially for Trinity Episcopal Church in Seneca Falls and Church of the Epiphany in Sherburne.

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, Dottie Divers, Garth Foster, Agnes Morgan, Fern Butler, Dottie Carrie, Rachel 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, Isabella

...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 Elaina Renfrew 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, the Prophet Isaiah, John the Baptist, 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 Root of Jesse, who rises as a signal among all peoples, in whose presence rulers stand silent and nations bow in worship, come and deliver us without delay. 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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