



**The Third Sunday of Advent  
December 11, 2022  
10:45am**

**Welcome**

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

Leader: We praise you, O God, for this victory wreath that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.

**ALL: As we light the candles on this wreath, strengthen our hearts as we await the Lord's coming in glory.**

Leader: Enlighten us with your grace, that we may serve our neighbors in need.

**ALL: Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. Amen.**

**Opening Songs**

*Jesus Messiah  
Glorious Day (Living He Loved Me)*

**Opening Acclamation**

*Clergy* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

**Collect of the Day**

*Clergy* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Clergy* Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Reading**

Isaiah 35: 1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;  
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,  
and rejoice with joy and singing.  
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.  
They shall see the glory of the Lord,  
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble knees.  
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
“Be strong, do not fear!  
Here is your God.  
He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.  
He will come and save you.”

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;  
the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,  
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,  
and it shall be called the Holy Way;  
the unclean shall not travel on it,  
but it shall be for God’s people;  
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.  
No lion shall be there,  
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;  
they shall not be found there,  
but the redeemed shall walk there.  
And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,  
and come to Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
they shall obtain joy and gladness,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

**Psalm 146: 4-6**

- 4     Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, \*  
      whose hope is in the Lord their God;
- 5     Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; \*  
      who keeps his promise forever;
- 6     Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \*  
      and food to those who hunger.
- 7     The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; \*  
      the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

8 The Lord loves the righteous; the Lord cares for the stranger; \*  
he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

9 The Lord shall reign forever, \*  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

**Gospel Song**

*The Word*

**Holy Gospel**

Matthew 11:2-11

*Clergy* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

*Clergy* The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Sermon**

The Rev. Dr. Becky Coerper

**The Creed**

*We Believe*

**The Prayers of the People**

*Leader*

In this diocese, we pray for our Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe; the people of Grace Episcopal Church in Elmira and their priest, the Rev. Jenny Scott-Jones, and the people of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Endicott and their priest, the Rev. John Martinichio. In our Companion Diocese of El Salvador, we pray for the people of Misión Virgen de Guadalupe and their priest, the Rev. Juan Pablo Alvarado. In the Episcopal Church, we pray for our Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Michael Curry; and the people of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania and their bishop, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Audrey Scanlan. In the Anglican Communion, we pray for the people of the Anglican Church of Kenya and their prime bishop, the Most Rev. Jackson Ole Sapit. May the church's life be marked by prayer, and loving service to those in need.

**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come among us.**

Lord Christ, we pray for your church around the globe, for our neighbors in other faith communities, and for all who long to hear your voice.

**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come among us.**

We pray for your creation, especially where it is wounded. Renew the whole earth with your love.  
**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come among us.**

We acknowledge the Onondaga Nation of the Haudenosaunee People, the traditional custodians of the land on which we are worshipping today. We acknowledge that they have occupied and cared for this land over countless generations, and we celebrate their continuing contributions to the life of this region.

**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come among us.**

We pray for countries recovering from famine or storms, and for those where human rights have been violated. Give wisdom to presidents, prime ministers, legislators, and judges in all nations, especially nations at war. **Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come among us.**

We pray for women preparing to give birth, for adoptive and foster families, for children with special needs, and for children who are orphaned and waiting for families.

**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come among us.**

We pray for those without homes or jobs, those in treatment for cancer or other illnesses, those who long for forgiveness, those who find the holidays difficult, and for the sick and the suffering, especially those we name silently or aloud \_\_\_\_.

**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come among us.**

We pray for those who have died and for the friends and family who grieve their loss, especially those we name silently or aloud \_\_\_\_\_. Be their comfort and guide through these days of grief and healing.

**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come among us.**

*Clergy*

You come to your people and set us free. As we are strengthened and sent out from this assembly, help us prepare your way in our daily lives.

**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come among us.**

### **Confession of Sin**

*Clergy*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept* \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

*All*

**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.**

### **Absolution**

*Clergy*

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**

*Clergy*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*

And also with you.

### **Announcements**

## Anniversary & Birthday Blessings

May the strength of God pilot you, May the power of God preserve you, May the wisdom of God instruct you, May the hand of God protect you, May the way of God direct you, May the shield of God guard you against the snares of evil and the temptations of the world. May the Spirit of God bless you in the coming year. *Adapted from Patrick, c.389 - c.46*

### Offertory

*Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

### The Holy Communion

#### The Great Thanksgiving

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Priest* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Priest* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

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

*A Proper Preface is said here.*

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:

### Sanctus

Michael Brown

Ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God Al - might - ty, ho - ly ho - ly Lord God of  
Hosts. Heav - en and earth are filled with Your glo - ry. Glo - ry be to Thee. Glo - ry  
be to Thee. Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord. Glo - ry be to Thee. Glo - ry be to  
Thee. Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord. Bles - sed is He Who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Bles - sed is He, ho - sa - na in the high -  
est, ho - sa - na in the high - est.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection  
We await his coming in glory.**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.**

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**

### **Breaking of the Bread**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

### **The Communion**

**Music at Communion.**

*The Table*

**The Postcommunion Prayer**

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.

**Blessing**

*Clergy* May God direct your ways in peace, make you abound in love for one another and for all, and strengthen your hearts until the coming of our Lord Jesus. And May Almighty God, Father Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

*All* **Amen.**

**Closing Song**

*I Am*

**Dismissal**

*Clergy* Go in the peace of Christ.  
Serve those living in poverty.  
Proclaim the Good News.  
Alleluia! Alleluia.

*All* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia.**

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Rector	The Rev. Dr. Becky Coerper
Deacon	The Rev. Dr. Charles N. Stewart
Organist/Choirmaster	Kip Coerper
Director of Contemporary Music and Technology	Michael Larkin
Assistant Director of Contemporary Music and Technology	Dr. Nicholas Kilkenny
Media Engineer	Laura Posezcnick
Lector and Chalice	Megan Glass
Prayers of the People	Jon Glass
Ushers	Bob & Nancy Lee