



Holy Eucharist ~ Sunday, December 4, 2022

The Second Sunday of Advent

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

North Main at Fourth Street, Jamestown, New York

The Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe, Bishop

The Rev. Luke Fodor, Rector; The Rev. Deacon Cathy Smith;

Mr. Paul Johnson, Verger; Canon Ron McEntire, Minister of Music;

The Rev. Deacon Jessica Frederick, Curate for Children, Youth & Family Ministry

www.stlukesjamestown.org ~ email: stlukes@stlukesjamestown.org

*The mission is simple: to **Connect** all people, help them **Discover** God's love, empower them to **Serve** and watch them **Grow**."*

WELCOME TO ST. LUKE'S

We welcome you this morning to St. Luke's Church and are delighted to have you join us for worship today. If you are **visiting** for the first time, or are looking for a church home, please fill in a **pew card** and place it in the offering plate.

At the time of Communion, all are invited to God's Table. In addition to the altar rail, at the 10 a.m. service a floor-level Communion station is made available, and includes gluten-free wafers and grape juice, please indicate your preference.

Available to children is a visit to the Children's Corner, or the use of a "Children's Activity Bag" found near the front of the church nave (ask an usher).

Join us downstairs for refreshments. All are welcome! Audio transmitters are available for those who have difficulty hearing the service; please ask an usher.

~ Copies of today's sermon are available at the doors. ~

PRELUDE

Wake, Arise, the Voice Calls Us

- J. S. Bach

LIGHTING AND BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Come, O Holy One, as the water of life and as refiner's fire! Prepare us for your work of justice; and encourage us for your service, that, in all the creation and among every people, your peace may be established and your kingdom recognized; through Jesus Christ our Deliverer. Amen.

OPENING HYMN # 65, Prepare the way, O Zion

- blue pew Hymnal

ADVENT ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People: **You come to your people and set them free.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY, said by all

Almighty 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.

TRISAGION (3X)

music next page, or see front pages of the Blue pew Hymnal, S-102

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,
 Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

Setting: *Missa Oecumenica*, from the *Trinitatis Choral Review*, arr. Richard Proulx,
 after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924), © 1999 Oregon Catholic Press.
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THE COLLECT OF THE DAY: The Lord be with you. *Response: And also with you.*

Let us pray: Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING IS FROM THE ISAIAH 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

The Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM # 72:1-7,18-19, please join in saying the Psalm in unison - *The Saint Helena Psalter*

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
 and your righteousness to the King's Son,
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously *
 and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
 and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
 he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *

from one generation to another.
6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace
till the moon shall be no more.
18 Blest are you, O God of Israel; *
you alone do wondrous deeds!
19 And blest is your glorious Name for ever! *
May all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen. Amen.

THE SECOND READING IS FROM ROMANS 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the LORD. *Thanks be to God.*

GOSPEL SEQUENCE HYMN # 75, *There's a voice in the wilderness crying* - blue pew Hymnal

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 3:1-12

Response before the Gospel: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume 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. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his

threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

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

SERMON

The Rector

NICENE CREED, *said by all, standing as able*

**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 OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We pray for the Episcopal Partnership churches of St. James Memorial, Titusville, PA; St Paul's Springville, NY; St. Paul's, Stafford, NY; The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & the Middle East.

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation.

We pray for Sharon Drennen, Beth Snow, Erma Morrison; Carol Yaggie;

Richard and Sonja Stahlman; Mark Bender; Joe and Julian; Jane; Edward; Levi; Marie Jim; Ron McEntire; Tim Pickett; Tom Small; Bill Haberman; Matteo Dominick; Marcia Goodman; Barbara Bumsted; Christi Carson and her family; Donald Ruland; Kirk and Deb Cardone; Pete Nagle; Joyce Crate; Mary Holton; Barbara Lissfelt; and those others we now name... *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Remembering *Iva Jeanne Nalbone*, we commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor ...

CONFESSION OF SIN, *said by all, kneeling as able*

**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

THE PEACE *Let us exchange the Peace of Christ with one another!*

The peace of the Lord be always with you. *People* **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY HYMN # 76, *On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry*

- blue pew Hymnal

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Celebrant continues

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,

Celebrant and People

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 Saint Luke and 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 pray,

**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 *Silent moment*

***Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.***

THE COMMUNION

*Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, all are invited to receive Communion.
Gluten-free wafers, as well as grape juice, are available, please indicate your preference;
the 10AM service, at the floor communion station.
If you have difficulty coming forward, communion can be brought to you at your seat.
You are invited to light a candle for a person or concern in your prayers.
A candle station is located at the rear of the Chapel; and to the right of the sermon pulpit in the Church.*

COMMUNION HYMNS

HYMN # 67, *Comfort, comfort ye, my people* - blue pew Hymnal

HYMN # 56, vss. 5-8, *O come, O come Emmanuel* - blue pew Hymnal

POST COMMUNION PRAYER, *said by all*

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

SENDING HYMN # 74, *Blest be the King whose coming* - blue pew Hymnal

DISMISSAL Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*Response: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!***

POSTLUDE *O Thou of God the Father* - J. S. Bach

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Kris and Tim Morrison in thanksgiving for their 50th wedding anniversary, November 25th. Praise God!

