

Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. The liturgy begins on page 355 of the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP). Hymns that are listed in the bulletin may be found in the blue Hymnal 1982. We hope this bulletin provides the information you need in order to participate fully in our worship. We are glad you are here!

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Celebrant Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.
People For behold, darkness covers the land, and deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.
Celebrant But over you the lord will rise, and his glory will appear upon you.
People Nations will stream to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawning.
Celebrant The Lord will be your everlasting light.
People And your God will be your glory.
Celebrant O God, by whose Word all things are sanctified and who gave light to all creation: Grant that this wreath and the light that comes from its candles may serve as a reminder to us of our need to prepare ourselves in heart and mind for the coming of Christ, and that by his indwelling presence our lives might be transformed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Shout to the North and the South (Martin J. Smith) (FMSB pg. 102)

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.

SONG OF PRAISE

O come, O come, Emmanuel (Hymn 56 V. 1, 2, 3) (FMSB p. 83)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant 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.

The People sit.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

After a prayer, children ages 4 through 5th grade are dismissed for Children's Chapel. Children under age 4 may attend with a parent or be cared for in the nursery.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:1-10

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus ²it 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. ³Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴Say 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." ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then 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; ⁷the 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. ⁸A 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. ⁹No 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. ¹⁰And 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: Psalm 146:4-9

⁴Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, *
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

⁵Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; *
who keeps his promise forever;

⁶Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
and food to those who hunger.

⁷The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind; *
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

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

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

SECOND READING: James 5:7-10

A Reading from the letter of James.

⁷Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN

He Is Lord (Marvin V. Frey) (FMSB pg. 46)

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-11

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

²When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" ⁴Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the 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. ⁶And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." ⁷As 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? ⁸What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.

¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'

¹¹Truly 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."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Doug Hodsdon

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

Please kneel or stand, as best helps you to pray.

At the end of each petition, the Intercessor says "O God, we wait for you in hope."

The People respond,

Come and save us, Emmanuel.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept. Minister and People

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.

The Priest stands and says

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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Mary, Did You Know? (Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene) (FMSB pg. 80)

PRESENTATION HYMN

Doxology

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A (BCP p. 361)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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

Because you sent your 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 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

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Lord we sing your praise
Hosanna in the Highest Hosanna in the Highest
Hosanna in the Highest Lord we sing your praise.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of power and might
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna in the Highest Hosanna in the Highest
Hosanna in the Highest Lord we sing your praise.

The People stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 363)

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

People and Celebrant

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, forever and ever. Amen.

FRACTION ANTHEM

S 161 Lamb of God (Hurd)(BCP pg. 364)

We welcome you to receive the true presence of Jesus in this Holy Communion. Come forward to the altar rail and kneel or stand with an upturned palm to receive the bread. (Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.) To receive the wine, you may either drink from the chalice or intinct (dip) your bread carefully in the chalice. If you'd prefer not to receive communion, but would like to receive a blessing, kneel or stand at the altar rail with your arms

crossed over your chest. Please do not hesitate to ask for communion to be brought to you in your pew.

Notify an usher, who will let the clergy know to assist you.

COMMUNION HYMN

Jesus, Name Above All Names (Naida Hearn)(FMSB pg. 70)

COMMUNION HYMN

Wonderful Counselor (Unknown Author)(FMSB pg. 131)

COMMUNION HYMN

Come, Take of His Bread (Earle C. Page)(FMSB pg. 24)

SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Celebrant In the Name of Christ and of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People We who are many are one body, as we share one bread, one cup. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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

CLOSING PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Because He Lives (William J. and Gloria Gaither)(FMSB pg. 14)

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

† † †

*The flowers on the Altar are given by Leigh Coulter Beal & David Beal
to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for their children and grandchildren.*