

The First Sunday of Advent

December 5, 2021

MORNING PRAYERS

Rite Two

Officiant

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together. *Isaiah 40:5 Thanks be to God*

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Officiant and People together

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 Officiant

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins
through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy
Spirit keep us in eternal life. *Amen.*

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People

Our King and Savior now draws near: Come let us adore him

Invitatory

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice

Canticle 4

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, *
for he hath visited and redeemed his people;
And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us *
in the house of his servant David,
As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, *
which have been since the world began:
That we should be saved from our enemies, *
and from the hand of all that hate us;
To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers, *
and to remember his holy covenant;
To perform the oath which he swore to our forefather Abraham, *
that he would give us,
That we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies *
might serve him without fear,
In holiness and righteousness before him, *
all the days of our life.
And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest, *
for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord
to prepare his ways;
To give knowledge of salvation unto his people *
for the remission of their sins,
Through the tender mercy of our God, *
whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us;
To give light to them that sit in darkness
and in the shadow of death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
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.

The Lessons

A Reading from the Book of Baruch

(Baruch 5:1-9)

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem,
and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God.

Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God;
put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting;
for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven.

For God will give you evermore the name,
"Righteous Peace, Godly Glory."

Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height
look toward the east,
and see your children gathered from west and east
at the word of the Holy One,
rejoicing that God has remembered them.

For they went out from you on foot,
led away by their enemies;
but God will bring them back to you,
carried in glory, as on a royal throne.

For God has ordered that every high
mountain and the everlasting hills be made low
and the valleys filled up, to make level ground,
so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.

The woods and every fragrant tree
have shaded Israel at God's command.

For God will lead Israel with joy,
in the light of his glory,
with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Third Song of Isaiah

(Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19)

Arise, shine, for your light has come, *
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.

For behold, darkness covers the land; *
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.

But over you the Lord will rise, *
and his glory will appear upon you.

Nations Will stream to your light, *
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.

Your gates will always be open; *
by day or night they will never be shut.

They will call you, The City of the Lord, *

The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.
Violence will no more be heard in your land, *
ruin or destruction within your borders.
You will call your walls, Salvation, *
and all your portals, Praise.
The sun will no more be your light by day; *
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.
The Lord will be your everlasting light, *
and your God will be your glory.
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.

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Philippians

(Philippians 1:3-11)

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Song of Zechariah

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *
born of the house of his servant David.
Through his holy prophets he promised of old, that he would save us from our enemies, *
from the hands of all who hate us.
He promised to show mercy to our fathers *
and to remember his holy covenant.
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, *
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship him without fear, *
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.
You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation *
 by the forgiveness of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God *
 the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, *
 and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
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.

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke

(Luke 3:1-6)

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John, son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord,
 make his paths straight.
Every valley shall be filled,
 and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
 and the rough ways made smooth;
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'

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

The Message: The Reverend Deacon Susan Riis

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 and born of the Virgin Mary.
 He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again.
 He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

The Prayers

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

Officiant and People

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.

SUFFRAGES

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. *And grant us your salvation.*

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. *Let your people sing with joy.*

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. *For only in you can we live in safety.*

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. *And guide us in the way of justice and truth.*

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. *Your saving health among all nations.*

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. *Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.*

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. *And sustain us with your Holy Spirit*

The Officiant then says the following Collect

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Prayer For Mission (BCP p. 100)

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. *Amen.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Officiant and People

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Let us bless the Lord, Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God, Alleluia! Alleluia

The Grace

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. *Amen. 2 Corinthians 13:14*

Announcements

SHOEBOXES ~

"The shoeboxes for the children at Eastside Community Ministry will again be available for you to get this Sunday. The boxes and lists for suggested item will be in the Undercroft. I also have boxes that you can pick u at my house—1226 East Drive. We would like to have them returned to the Church or to my house by Sunday, December 12th. We are also accepted monetary donations. The Director of E C M is so thankful that we are willing to help with Christmas Giving in this way. And all of us at St. James are blessed to have such a generous and thoughtful congregation.

Thank you, Janet for Daughters of the King "

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES ~

The Christmas Eve services will be held at 4:00 and 11:00 pm. Evan Abood, Annette Porter and Vickie MacLaine will be servicing at the 4:00 service. The office will be verifying with Santa for his visit after the 4:00 service.

Our 11:00 pm service will have to assisted as needed Eric Blake along with Tom and Dianne Ischy.

Thank you to all who volunteered!

December 26 will only have one service – our 10:00. Susan Riis will also be holding the Zoom 11:00 morning prayers

GREENING OF THE CHURCH ~

After the 11:00 service on December the 12th, we will be greening the church. You are welcome to stay and help!



POINSETTIAS

We will be ordering Poinsettia plants to decorate the church for Christmas again this year. Our poinsettia plants are ordered from Timber Run Gardens to assist with the Genesis Volunteers' fundraiser. The flowers have always been beautiful. Cost is \$20.00 per plant. Plants may be taken home after 10:00 service on January 2nd.

Please fill out exactly as you wish it to appear in the Christmas Eve bulletin – if necessary, please continue on the back.

Given by _____

In Memory of:

In Thanksgiving for: -

Number of plants _____ x \$20.00 = _____

Please write “Poinsettias” in the memo portion of your check.

**THE FINAL DATE FOR ORDERING IS
SUNDAY, December 5, 2021.**

PRAYER LIST

Our Military

Christopher Benson
Ben Spiker

Zachary Spiker
Jacob Spiker

We pray also for:

Jane and Sharon Donoho
Deborah Robinson Sekou
Ray Gillespie
John Graham
Fr. Rob Willmann
Shirley Stephens
Greg Meadows
Barbara Schriefer
Dave Michael
Jim Horton
Greta Hauser
George Preston
Andrea Salahub
Rudy Arnold
Theresa Bray
Stephanie Schwieterman
Ruth Anderson
Cathy Rice
Beth Fineran
Becky Yinger
Teri Chacon
Larry and Charline Jeffers
Mark Steen
Richard Sands
Steve Averill
Azalea Miranda
Karen Siegfriedt
Noah Spiker
David Desquin
John Benson
Jim Hoskinson
Anthony Gillespie

Cindy Yost
Judy Sowell
Joann Huntwork
Melissa Gabriel
Gary Michael
Katie Shannon
Jim Cope
Dr. Kathleen Riley
Sarah Merikkam
Phylis Hammer
Eileen Adams
Susan Nichols
Cindy Downs Greaves
Bob Oppenheimer
Lisa Ferguson
Cris Morrison
Sharon Bauer
Dan and Brenda Ransom
Brooke Anderson
Kane Warden
Chad Raymond
Sam Plummer
Dennis Grimes
Donna Rush
Linda O'Neill
EJ Spiker
Stephanie Sherman
Susan Spiker
Janet Slack
Marcus Gaiters