



THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
HOLY EUCHARIST
DECEMBER 11, 2022 + 10:30 A.M.



In the name of Jesus Christ, welcome! Whether you are our guest today or a long-time member, we are so glad to have you with us today at St. Luke's. We worship in the Episcopal tradition, placing an emphasis on both Word and Sacrament as we strive to participate in the timeless worship of the Church through the ages. We invite you to fully join in this liturgy through song, prayer, and physical action. Copies of The Book of Common Prayer (BCP) and the Hymnal 1982 are found in the pew racks. Along with this bulletin, these resources will guide you in today's liturgy.

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THE WORD OF GOD

VOLUNTARY Adagio pour orgue

Denis Bédard

Bells have bid worshippers to arise and come to worship for generations. This Advent, a season in which we are expectantly waiting for Christ, we will be using our sanctus bells to signal the start of our liturgy. When the sanctus bells ring, please stand.

HYMN #72 Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes *Sung by all.* Richmond
The Procession symbolizes both our pilgrim journey as travelers in the world, and also our following of Christ as our Head. Music helps us to lift our voices in beauty and song as we praise God.

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. *The Book of Common Prayer, 351*
People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Andrew, Hannah, Sawyer, and Ingrid Jacobson

Family leader: In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

All: **To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.** *The Advent candle is lit.*

Family leader: O God, rejoicing, we remember the promise of your Son. As the light from this candle shines, may the blessing of Christ come upon us, brightening our way and guiding us by his truth. May Christ our Savior bring life into the darkness of our world, and to us, as we wait for his coming. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SONG *Led by the children. Congregation joins on repeat.*

“Come to Us, Emmanuel”

Carol McClure

Come to us, Emmanuel. Christ whose joy we now await.
Whose birth the prophets did foretell. Come to us, we pray.

INTRODUCTION TO & CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant: ... Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Please kneel.*

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.

TRISAGION S-100

Sung by all, kneeling.

New Plainsong, David Hurd

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

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

THE ABSOLUTION

COLLECT OF THE DAY *The Collect is a prayer that is connected to the theme 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 FIRST READING *Please be seated.*

Isaiah 35:1-10

Each Eucharistic liturgy contains four readings from Scripture: from the Old Testament, the Psalms, a Letter of Paul or other New Testament book, and one of the Gospels.

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.

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

MAGNIFICAT S-242 *Sung by all.* Plainsong, adapt. Bruce E. Ford
(*The Service Music, "S", is found in the front section of the Hymnal 1982*)

THE SECOND READING **James 5:7-10**

Be 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. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

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

HYMN #75 There's a voice in the wilderness crying *Please stand. Sung by all.* *Ascension*
In the ancient Church, the Gradual was a psalm sung by the Cantor on the lower step of the sanctuary. The word "Gradual" comes from the Latin word meaning "step." Liturgically, we are stepping towards the climax of the Liturgy of the Word – the proclamation of the Gospel.

THE HOLY GOSPEL **Matthew 11:2-11**

Deacon: 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."

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

THE SERMON

Please be seated.

The Rev. Dr. Robert Black

SERMON NOTES FOR REFLECTION

- What doubts and concerns are you carrying?
- How do you handle difficulties in healthy and unhealthy ways?
- What reversals do you hope and pray for?
- What kinds of transformation do you resist?
- What signs of the Messiah do you see? What signs do you miss?
- How can you further allow Scripture to shape your expectations?
- What is bringing you joy this Advent?

THE NICENE CREED

Please stand.

BCP, 358

THE PEACE *Please stand.*

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *Please be seated.*

JESSE TREE ORNAMENTS & PRAYER *Malachi Whitson, reader*

BIRTHDAY PRAYER *Prayed by all. Church members and guests are invited to come forward if they are celebrating a birthday in the previous or upcoming week. No contribution is required, but many put money into the small birthday box in thanksgiving for a year of life. The funds go to the Rector's Discretionary Fund which is used in assisting those in economic hardship.*

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE *If you are our guest today, we encourage you to fill out a Guest Information card (found in the pew rack in front of you) and place it in the offering plate or give it to the clergy after church today. We want to be able to fully welcome you into the life of this parish. May God bless you this and every day.*

At the Offertory, we offer gifts back to God, in thanksgiving for, and acknowledgment of, the divine source of all that we are and have. Gifts to support the ministries of St. Luke's may be placed in the Offering Plate or online via credit card. For instructions on online giving, please see the bulletin newsletter insert.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Please be seated.*

This is the record of John Kathy Carter, soloist

Orlando Gibbons

This is the record of John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him,

Who art thou?
 And he confessed, and denied not; and said plainly,
 I am not the Christ.
 And they asked him, Who are thou then? Art thou Elias?
 And he said, I am not.
 Art thou the prophet? And he answered, No.
 Then they said unto him, What art thou? that we may give an answer unto them that sent us.
 What sayest thou of thyself?
 And he said, I am the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness,
 Make straight the way of the Lord.
 (John 1:19)

THE DOXOLOGY Hymn #56, Verses 5, 6 *Please stand.* *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*
During the Presentation, we offer not only financial gifts to the glory of God and the work of his Church, but we also present the bread and wine that will become for us Christ's Body and Blood. This gesture flows into the Sursum Corda (Latin for "Lift up your hearts") - we pray that our hearts and minds may be lifted up to God as we approach the Holy Table.

*O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;
 make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

*O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
 disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER D

BCP, 372

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.

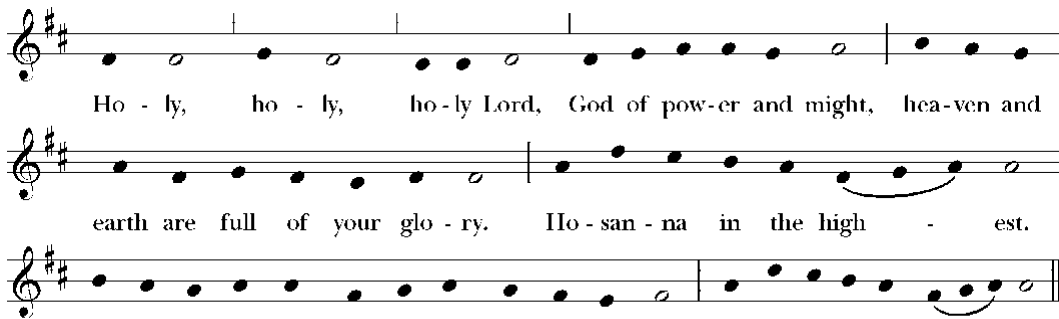
People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks... and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

SANCTUS S-124 *Sung by all.*

New Plainsong, David Hurd

The Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) is the hymn of the angelic Seraphim in Isaiah 6:3 that never ceases before God's throne. We now join in the hymn that is constantly sung in heaven.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Please remain standing, or kneel.

The Celebrant continues... and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

People: **We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

The Celebrant continues... all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

People: **AMEN.**

“Amen” is a Hebrew word of assent, meaning, “so be it” or “I agree.” It has had an important place in Christian worship since the earliest days of the Church, and the Amen proclaimed by the people here, whether sung or spoken, is known as the “Great Amen” – representing one of the supreme high points of the entire Eucharistic liturgy, concluding the Eucharistic Prayer. It is printed in all capital letters in the Prayer Book to highlight its importance.

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
All: **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.**

FRACTION ANTHEM S-154

Sung by all.

David Hurd

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
 Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
 there - fore let us keep the feast.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God...

The celebration of the Holy Eucharist has been called the “source and summit” of the faith and it is central to our identity, as in this sacred meal we are intentionally gathered in beloved community, made present to the Passion of our Lord, and receive God’s abundant grace in the Body and Blood of Christ, the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation. Therefore, all are welcome and invited to come forward to participate in the gift of Communion. There are a few ways that you can do this:

- Receive both the bread and wine: Place one palm on top of the other and you will be given a piece of bread, which you consume. Then the chalice will come to you, please assist by guiding the chalice to your lips.
- Receive only the bread: Cross your arms across your chest after receiving the bread to indicate that you do not wish to receive the chalice. ***Please note that there is no intincting (dipping) of the bread into the chalice. If you would like the clergy to intinct the bread for you, have your palms face down at the altar rail. After intincting, the clergy will place the host on your palm. Please still cross your arms to indicate that you do not wish to receive from the chalice.
- Receive a prayer of blessing: If you prefer not to receive Communion, or are not Baptized, cross your arms across your chest before receiving the bread. All Baptized Christians (in any tradition or denomination) are welcome to receive Communion. If you are not Baptized and desire to be a part of and receive the Body of Christ, please speak with our clergy.

Please fill the Altar Rail from right to left (wall to the middle on the right side & middle to wall on the left side), return to your pew via the side aisles. If you need Communion brought to you, please let an usher know. As you wait to go forward to receive Communion, or afterward, you might find prayers 66 & 67 on page 834 of the Prayer Book to be helpful. It is our hope that as we share in this meal that we behold what we are and become what we receive.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION Hymns, anthems, or other musical offerings may be included during this time, as further meditation and reflection upon the great gift of life and grace offered to us through Christ’s Sacrament.

Hymn #66 Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Stuttgart

Anthem “Lift thine eyes” (from Elijah)

Felix

Mendelssohn

Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes to the mountains, whence cometh help.

*Thy help cometh from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.
He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved. Thy Keeper will never slumber.*
Psalm 121

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *Please stand or kneel.* BCP, 366

All: Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

HYMN IN PROCESSION #68 Rejoice! rejoice, believers *Llangloffan*

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. *People:* **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY Fantasia-Finale on Picardy Denis Bédard

Please be seated or exit quietly, mindful of those who remain to listen or pray.

The concluding Voluntary, much like the opening Voluntary, is a musical offering of prayer in celebration of God's great gifts to us. Those who wish to listen are invited to come forward to sit in the front pews of the nave.

Eucharistic and office candles in memory of: James Allan Dunn, Sr., Lois Sanford Dunn, Mary Dunn Goodman, Lois Dunn Lore, Grover Watson Allen, Carrie Bailey Allen, Dolores Allen Swaim; given by Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Dunn, Sr.

Sanctuary Lamp in memory of:

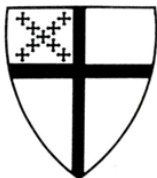
Katherine L. Boland, Sidney R. Boland, II, Barbara Ann Johnson; given by Reg Boland Lorraine Naylor Brownell; given by Dr. Richard Brownell

Altar Flowers in memory of: Robert Neal Garrison, Mary Louise White Garrison, Anne White Strawn, Eleanor Phoebe Dunn, Maurice Dunn; given by Alex and Ann Dunn

Servers	This Sunday	Next Sunday
<i>Lectors:</i>	Bethany Sinnott, Gary Thornburg	Dick Martin, Luke Hamaty
<i>Verger:</i>	Lee Piper	Reg Boland
<i>Chalicians:</i>	Penny Roemer, Stephen Collins	Pati Carter, Dick Martin
<i>Acolytes:</i>	Grace Eppehimer, Constantine Cook, Nicholas Eppehimer, Rowen Black	Nicholas Eppehimer, Marlee Speir, Anna Bentley, Stephanie Collins
<i>Greeter:</i>	Andrew and Susanna Lund	Ryan Poag
<i>Ushers:</i>	George Simons, Graham Corriher, Drew Griffith, Gary Thornburg	Donny Clement, Stewart Ash, Mark Stephenson
<i>Emergency Response:</i>	Cris Leckonby	Greg Shields, Stephen Collins
<i>Vestry Deposit:</i>	Anne Scott Clement, Stephen Collins	Ed Hall, Tory Curran
<i>Children's Church:</i>	Danielle Corriher, Lisa Godbey	Katie Setzer

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At St. Luke's we seek to be good stewards of the Earth. This service order is printed on 100% recycled paper, and we invite you to leave it at the end of each pew after the service for recycling.



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Established 1753

A Parish of the Diocese of North Carolina

The Rt. Rev. Samuel Rodman, Bishop

The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, Assistant Bishop

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