

**Sunday, December 8, 2024**

2 Advent

Second Sunday of Advent

## The Word of God



### Entrance Rite

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

*The Celebrant may say*

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.*

*The following is sung, all standing*

Lord, have mercy.

*Christ, have mercy.*

Lord, have mercy.

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* 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 Lessons

**FIRST READING: Baruch 5:1-9**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Baruch.

<sup>1</sup>Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God.

<sup>2</sup>Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting;

<sup>3</sup>for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven.

<sup>4</sup>For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory."

<sup>5</sup>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.  
<sup>6</sup>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.  
<sup>7</sup>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.  
<sup>8</sup>The woods and every fragrant tree  
have shaded Israel at God's command.  
<sup>9</sup>For God will lead Israel with joy,  
in the light of his glory,  
with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

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

*Silence may follow.*

### **PSALM: Canticle 16: The Song of Zechariah**

*Remain seated.*

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.

**SECOND READING: Philippians 1:3-11**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Philippi.

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup>constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup>because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup>to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup>having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.

*People*            Thanks be to God.

*Silence may follow.*

**GOSPEL: Luke 3:1-6**

*All stand.*

*Priest*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People*            Glory to you, Lord Christ.

<sup>1</sup>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, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup>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.

<sup>5</sup>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;

<sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’ ”

*Priest*            The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*            Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## **THE SERMON**

### **THE CREED**

*All stand.*

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**

*All remain standing.*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy” (*or* “Kyrie eleison”).

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Here and after every petition the People respond*

*Kyrie eleison or Lord, have mercy.*

For *N.* our Presiding Bishop, for *N. (N.)* our own Bishop(s), for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

[For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the Gospel, we pray to you, O Lord.]

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

For those in positions of public trust [especially \_\_\_\_\_], that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

[For all who live and work in this community [especially \_\_\_\_\_], we pray to you, O Lord.]

[For a blessing upon all human labor, and for the right use of the riches of creation, that the world may be freed from poverty, famine, and disaster, we pray to you, O Lord.]

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

For this *congregation* [for those who are present, and for those who are absent], that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

[For our enemies and those who wish us harm; and for all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, O Lord.]

[For ourselves; for the forgiveness of our sins, and for the grace of the Holy Spirit to amend our lives, we pray to you, O Lord.]

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

[For \_\_\_\_\_, we pray to you, O Lord.]

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of [the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, (*blessed N.*) and] all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

*To you, O Lord our God.*

*Silence*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect, or the following Doxology*

For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*The Deacon or 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.*

*All stand.*

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

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## The Holy Communion

### The Great Thanksgiving

*The People remain standing.*

*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:

*Celebrant and People*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*The People stand or kneel.*

*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;

*The Celebrant continues*

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 [\_\_\_\_\_ 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 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.

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*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.

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People*

Thanks be to God.