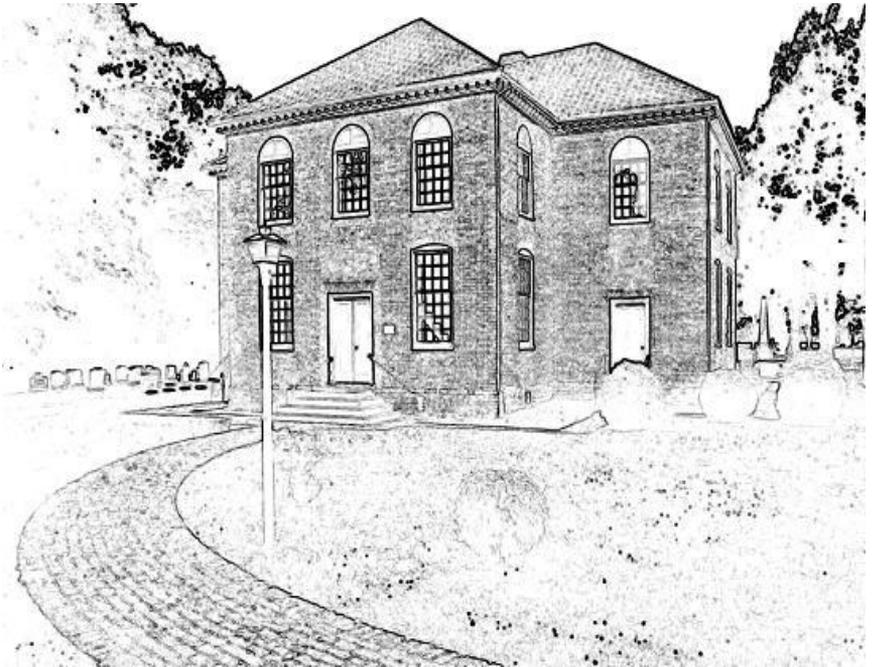


St. Paul's Episcopal Church

King George County, Virginia

Sunday, December 11, 2022
The Third Sunday of Advent



1766-1770

"You are the light of world.

A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid"

(Matthew 5:14)

Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
Rector: The Reverend "Padre" Lee Gandiya
Lector: Gail Hock

Hymnal refers to the red Hymnal 1982.

*LEVAS Hymnal refers to the red and black Lift Every Voice
& Sing II hymnal.*

Prelude

Introductory Sentence

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.
The Lord is near.

Philippians 4:4-5

Processional Hymn 65 Prepare the Way, O Zion

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation (Please stand.)

Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

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

Amen.

Priest: 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.

Gloria in Excelsis

Hymnal S-280

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the

Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;

Christ, Be Our Light!

A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent

Words and Music by
BERNADETTE FARRELL

Congregation:

Christ, be our light! Shine in our
 hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.
 Christ, be our light! Shine in your
 Church gath - ered to - day.

for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Lighting of the Advent Candle(s) - Jan Taczak

Leader: Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Leader: Today is the Third Sunday of Advent and we will light the Candle of Joy.

Last Sunday we lit the Candle of Peace. We light it and the Candle of Hope again as we remember Jesus, born in Bethlehem, our hope and our peace.

(A person lights the Candles of Hope, and Peace.)

Today we light the Third Candle of Advent, the Candle of Joy.

In their old age God gave to Zechariah and Elisabeth a son called John. John spoke to the people bravely in the desert denying his own comforts and prepared to die for what he believed. John taught that we should share what we have with others, treat each other kindly and show Gods love. He did this because he cared for people and wanted them to repent and find God's forgiveness.

(A person lights the Third Candle, the Candle of Joy here)

Joy is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at this candle we celebrate the joy we find in Jesus Christ.

Leader: Let us pray:

All: Thank you God for the joy you give us. We ask that as we wait for all your promises to come true, and for Christ to come again, that you would remain present with us.

Help us today, and everyday to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your joy with each

other. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen.

Repeat *Christ Be Our Light!*

The Lessons (*Please be seated*)

The First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10

Lector: A reading from Isaiah

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.

The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 146:4-9 *Lauda, anima mea*

Read responsively by verse

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Epistle

The Second Reading: James 5:7-10N

Lector: A reading from James

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.

The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn 81 Lo, How a Rose

The Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

(Please stand)

Alleluia! **Alleluia!**

If you are willing to accept it, John is the Elijah who is to come. Let anyone with ears listen! **Alleluia!**

Matthew 11:14-15

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

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.”

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

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon (*Please be seated.*)

Time to Reflect (*Silence*)

The Nicene Creed (*Please 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

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; and especially in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for **The Anglican Church of Kenya** and we pray also for the Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic, and United Methodist dioceses, synods, and conferences in Virginia and their bishops.

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; we pray especially for **Christ Church**, Gordonsville, and **St. James the Less**, Ashland.

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; for our Bishops **Justin Welby** (Archbishop of Canterbury); **Michael Curry** (Presiding Bishop); **Mark Steveson** (our Bishop); **Susan Goff** (Assistant Bishop) and our rector **Lee Gandiya**.

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; especially for our President, **Joe Biden**, and our Governor, **Glen Youngkin**. **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake.

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; including those we now name.

That they may be delivered from their distress.

We commend to your mercy and your unfailing love all those who are in anyway afflicted or distressed, in body, mind, or spirit; comfort and relieve them in their need, give them patience in their sufferings, and bring good out of all their afflictions. We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom including those we now name.... that your will for them may be fulfilled; and according to your promises, grant us with them a share in your eternal kingdom.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We pray for peacemakers, essential workers, teachers, health workers, first responders; and those in the military, **Stephen Bogue**; **Cameron Moore**; **Caite Rerucha**; **Clare Shippee**; **Lucy Shippee**; **Stuart Shippee**; **Brandon Witt**, **Ben Broadhead** and **Nathan Merian**.

We pray for those celebrating birthdays, especially **Sharlene Mullen, Caitlyn Fish, Carole Barcolow, Carol Thomas** and those we now name and those celebrating anniversaries including those we now name...

(Silence.) The Celebrant may add a concluding Collect.

Priest: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. Silence may be kept.

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 Absolution

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

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then, were they glad when they saw the Lord.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

Offertory Sentence

Priest: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. (Eph. 5:2)

(Please be seated.)

Choir Anthem

Gracious God, accept these gifts, and with them our lives, to be used in your service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

During the offertory, a hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung. Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Prayer At The Preparation Of The Table

Stir up your power, O God, and come among us; heal our wounds, calm our fears and give us peace; through Jesus our Redeemer. Amen.

Offertory Anthem

The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer A

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Then, 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.

Proper Preface

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.

Sanctus Hymnal S-130

**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, then 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 faithful-

ly 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.

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

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant: [Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
All: Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]

In Lent, Alleluia is omitted, and may be omitted at other times except during Easter Season. In place of, or in addition to, the preceding, some other suitable anthem may be used.

(8am Service) Agnus Dei Hymnal S-164

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.

(10:00 am Service) Hymnal S164

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins: Have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:

Give us your peace, give us your peace

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. **Amen.**

or with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen.**

During the ministration of Communion, hymns, psalms, or anthems maybe sung.

Invitation to Communion

All baptized Christians, regardless of church affiliation, are invited to receive communion. You may kneel or stand at the altar rail. Gluten-free wafers and a separate chalice are available for those with gluten or wheat allergies—please let the priest know when you come forward. If you are unable to come forward to receive communion, please notify an usher and the priest will bring communion to your seat.

Communion Hymn 640 Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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 Blessing

God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn 72 Hark, the Glad Sound

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

All: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Postlude

Welcome Visitors! We are glad you joined us for worship today. We invite you to fill out a "Visitor Card" (found in the pew pocket) and place it in the offering plate. Please join us for fellowship and refreshments in the Parish House after the service. Thank you for worshipping with us this morning.



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