

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 15, 2019, 10:00 a.m.



Please take a moment to silence your cellphone. Thank you.

*Purple was the traditional color of Advent, a color that represents penitence and fasting, as well, as royalty.*

*Purple will continue to be the traditional color of Lent. But for Advent, we shall use deep blue, as other churches have come to do, because deep blue represents the Advent themes of expectation, hope and anticipation of the dawn of Christ. It is the color in the sky before the sun rises, encouraging us to keep watch for the promised light of Christ to break over the horizon, changing night into day. The use of blue has deep historical roots.*

*The origins of the Advent wreath are found in the folk practices of the pre-Christian Germanic peoples who, during the cold December darkness of Eastern Europe, gathered wreaths of evergreen and lighted fires as signs of hope in a coming spring and renewed light. Christians kept these popular traditions alive to celebrate their Advent hope in Christ, the everlasting Light. Traditionally, the wreath is made of four blue or purple candles in a circle of evergreens, with a central white candle lit on Christmas Eve and Day. The meaning assigned to each candle varies by tradition.*

## The Word of God

Prelude

Variations on "Stuttgart" – Lind

Please STAND as able, and join in singing,

The Processional Hymn

Prepare the Way

Hymn #65

The Opening Acclamation

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

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

The Collect for Purity

All **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.**

*A † appears in the margin where you may wish to make the sign of the cross over your body. Making the sign of the cross is a choice left to each worshipper. It is simply a way to engage your entire body (not just your speech and mind) in worship, and physically to signify embracing the blessing of God.*

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.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

*A family steps forward:*

Leader Today we light the first, second and third candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE, and the third candle is JOY.

*The candles are lit.*

Leader "You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands."  
*(Isaiah 55:12)*

People **Gracious God, you came to us in human flesh and you abide with us in the Holy Spirit.  
Fill us with your joy, and help us shine as a light to the world.  
Through Jesus Christ, who makes our joy complete. Amen.**

**Celebrant:** The Very Rev. Paula Vukmanic

**Deacon:** The Rev. Jude Lyons

**Preacher:** Canon Hank Gatlin, *Licensed Lay Preacher*



*Please stand as able, and join in singing,*

## The Gospel Procession

## Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord

*From Godspell by Schwartz*

Two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive. The lyrics are: "Pre - - - pare ye the way of the Lord." The first staff starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second staff starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes.

## 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.**

*Please join in singing 'Prepare Ye', as the Procession returns.*

*Please remain seated for*



## The Sermon

Canon Hank Gatlin

*There will be a moment of silence for reflection following the sermon.*

*Please stand as able, and join in saying,*

## The Nicene Creed

*(Updated from The Book of Common Prayer addendum, Enriching our Worship I)*

**All 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became fully human.**

**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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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 People join in reading the words in **bold**.*

Our Advent prayers call upon God with our ancestors, the significant people of the Bible that led the way to the birth of Jesus.

God of the prophets, give your church courage to speak truth, and to tell of your love.

**God of the prophets, hear us and help us!**

God of the angels, give your church voice to sing your presence in the world. Give the world a freedom song, and help us to speak peace especially in all places of conflict in our world.

**God of the angels, hear us and help us!**

God of Mary and Elizabeth, give your church grace to bring forth new life into a world desperate for love, hope and opportunity for all.

**God of our mothers, hear us and help us!**

God of Zechariah and Joseph, give your church dreams and visions, and the courage to follow them.

**God of our fathers, hear us and help us!**

God of the shepherds, give your church humility, and to all who sit in darkness and anxiety, alone and afraid, light and peace.

**God of the shepherds, hear us and help us!**

God of the Magi, give your church gifts, and the will to find you among the poor and the marginalized.

**God of the Magi, hear us and help us.**

God of John the Baptist, give your church the grace to be a messenger of change and hope, to preach a message of love and peace in wilderness moments.

**God of messengers, hear us and help us!**

God of the Holy Innocents, give your church power to stand against violence and to protect the powerless.

For all first responders and members of the armed and foreign services and their families, especially Drew Deley, Kelly Hall, Mark Kappelmann, TJ Malzahn, Will Piepenbring, Scott Ruston, Michael Strong, Jonathan Zimmerman and Steve.

**God of Peace, hear us and help us!**

God of Healing, give hope in your promised coming, especially for those suffering in body, mind or spirit:

Andrea, Aidan and Lorcin, Barbara, Bob and Jane Africano, Stephanie Bezner, Howard Dale, Ceri Falk, Ann Godfrey, Sally Hill, Marjorie Morris, Karla Nicole, Nathan Reddall, Shelley Reece, Doug & Gwynne Shaw, and Steve Smith, and all those we name to you now

*(please add your own prayers, silently or aloud.)*

We pray: **God of Healing, hear us and help us!**

God of New Life, we pray for all who have died, especially those we name to you now

*(please add your prayers, silently or aloud)... that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.*

**God of New Life, hear us and help us!**

Let us pray together:

**All In you we find our true joy, O God. Let this Advent season be a time to become mindful and alert in service to your people. Open our minds, hearts and hands to receive your transforming grace. We pray through Jesus Christ who is always coming among us. Amen.**



## The Confession of Sin

(taken from *Liturgy of the Whole Church*, Susan F. Bock, Church Publishing)

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbors.

Please *STAND* or *kneel*, as able

Deacon Emmanuel, we want to believe you are with us dwelling in this and every moment,

**People Yet we catch ourselves longing for the past and rushing toward the future.**

Deacon We want to be found wide awake, alert with love, as you appear in this and every moment,

**People Yet we often slumber through, and laze away the miracle of ordinary days.**

Deacon We want to wait for you alone, and seek your will in all we do, with desire and hope,

**People Yet sometimes our trust fails, our longing grows cold, and our hope dims.**

Deacon We want to make room in our hearts, for you to be born again,

**People Yet we say or do things that hardens our hearts to you and your people.**

Deacon We confess our failure at missing the mark, of not loving from our highest self.

**People We are sorry and we ask your forgiveness as we journey together in this Advent season recognizing our need for you.**

† Celebrant May our Gracious God, 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.**

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

## Welcome and Announcements

# The Holy Communion

## Offertory Anthem

*People, Look East*

*arr. Malcolm Archer*

*People look east, the time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth, and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the Guest is on the way.*

*Furrows, be glad. 'Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there: give up your strength the seed to nourish that in course the flower may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the Rose is on the way.*

*Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim; shining beyond the frosty weather bright as sun and moon together. People look east and sing today: Love the Star is on the way.*

*Angels, announce to man and beast him who cometh from the East. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming! People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way!*

Please *STAND* as able, and join in singing,

## Offertory Hymn

### What Can I Give Him?

CRANHAM

9  
What can I give him poor as I am? If I were a shep-herd I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a wise man I would do my part, yet what I can I give him, give my heart.

Words by Christina Rossetti Music by Gusstav Holst

*Please continue STANDING, as able, for*  
The Offertory Prayers

Celebrant Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation; through your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer, which the earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the Bread of Heaven and the Cup of Salvation.

**People Blessed be God forever.**

Celebrant Receive, O Lord, these gifts presented by your holy people for the work of your holy Church.

**People Blessed be God forever.**

*Please remain standing for,*

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer 2 from *Enriching Our Worship 1*, supplement to *The Book of Common Prayer*)

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 our thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant continues. The People read the parts in bold.*

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant.

**From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.**

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways.

**But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; And yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.**

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy

FOREST GREEN

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of power and might. Heav'n and earth are full of thy glo-ry, Ho-  
san - na in th high-est. Bless - ed is the One who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

FOREST GREEN Traditional English tune adapt by Ralph Vaughn Williams

*All stand or kneel as the Celebrant continues. The People join in reading the text in bold.*

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.

**To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.**

Living among us, Jesus loved us.

**He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.**

Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you. On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: this is my Body, which is given for you.

**Do this for the remembrance of me."**

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, **do this for the remembrance of me.**"

† Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

**In the fullness of time bring us, with St Francis and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.**

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. AMEN.

Celebrant 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.*

Fraction Anthem

Of the Father's Love Begotten

DIVINIUM MYSTERIUM

Of the Fath-er's love be - got - ten, e'er the worlds be - gan to be, he is Al - pha  
 12 and O - me - ga, he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that have  
 24 been, and that fu - ture years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

Hymn # 82, The Hymnal 1982

### The Communion of the People

*All are invited to receive Holy Communion. Please follow the directions of the ushers. Kneeling or standing, each person receives the Bread\* in the palm of the right hand, eats, and then guides the cup for a sip of the Wine. If you do not wish to receive, we encourage you to come forward to receive a blessing. Simply fold your hands across your chest when you come forward. **The clergy will carry Communion to anyone in the congregation who is unable to come forward. Please notify an usher if you wish to be served in your seat.***

If you have come with a particular prayer concern today, after receiving Communion you may come to the Nason Prayer Chapel to the right of the altar rail where someone will be available to pray with you.

\*Gluten-free Communion wafers are now carried alongside regular wafers at Holy Communion. If you require one of these, simply ask at the Altar rail.

Communion Music

The Best of Rooms

Peter Mathews

*Christ, he requires still, where-so-e'er he comes to feed or lodge, to have the best of rooms.  
 Give him the choice. Grant him the nobler part. Of all the house, the best of all's the heart.*

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Holy and eternal God, you have graciously fed us with the Body and Blood of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

Celebrant May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Spirit. May the dawn of Christ's coming be the joy of your strength. And may the blessings of God our Creator, Jesus our Savior, and the Spirit our Sanctifier, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**



*Please STAND as able, and join in singing,*

The Recessional Hymn

**Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**

**Hymn #66**

The Sending Forth

Deacon Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God!**

*Postlude*

*Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him - Blake/Prichard*

