



**ST. DAVID'S ON-THE-HILL  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Liturgy of the Word of God  
December 13, 2020**

**The Reverend Jennifer Kezirian West, Priest**

**The Lighting of the Advent Candle:**

**Celebrant:** God our Father, the angel Gabriel told the Virgin Mary that she was to be the mother of you Son. Though Mary was afraid, she responded to your call with joy. Help us, whom you call to serve you, to share like her in your great work of ringing to our world your love and healing. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the light who is coming into the world. **Amen.**

**Opening Hymn: "O come, O come, Emmanuel**

**H 56**

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

2 O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times didst give the law, in cloud, and majesty, and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

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

**People:** **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

**Collect for Purity:** 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.**

**All:** Lord, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**  
Lord, have mercy.

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

**Collect of the Day:** 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 forever.

**Amen..**

## **First Reading**

### **A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah**

#### **Isaiah 61: 1-4. 8-11**

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

**Celebrant:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God

**Let us say the Magnificat together**

**The Song of Mary Magnificat**

**Luke 1:46-55**

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,**

**my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.**

**From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.**

**He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.**

**He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.**

**He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.**

**He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.**

**He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,**

**The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children forever.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**Sermon: The Rt. Rev. Nicholas Knisely**

## The Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only begotten 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.**

## Prayers of Intercession

Pleading for God's gift of a renewing Spirit, let us offer our prayers to God.

That our lives may be songs of praise and thanksgiving rising from joyful hearts and proclaiming in every work we speak and gesture we make that God fills us with holy presence, **let us pray to the Lord.**

That we may accept with courage God's anointing of our lives to share in the divine mission of rescue for the world, bringing justice to all peoples. We give thanks for the donations of books and games from the people of St. David's for those in prison, and we pray for our service members: Jake Knight, Elizabeth Butler, Matthew Paiva and George Frank, **let us pray to the Lord.**

That we may reverently offer in service to the world the ministry of light which we hold in fragile human hands, this sharing in the saving work of Christ the Light. We commend to your protection our first responders who are on the front lines during this COVID Pandemic especially Lynne Schoer, Cheryl Boscia, Lyndsey Bain and Alan Cotnior, **let us pray to the Lord.**

That the mercy of God which lasts from age to age may wash over us and bless us and stir up in us the bold courage to be its faithful prophets in our world. We remember those who are sick especially Diane, John, Carol, Bob, Jim, Vincent, Martha, Michael, Richard, Lauren, David, Frank, Bob, MJ, Brad, Paul, Ronnie, Donald, and Elanor, **let us pray to the Lord.**

We ask for your prayers either silently or our loud.

That, with all the saints in light, we may shine forth as lights for the world. We pray for the family of Wayne Atwood, whose funeral was this past week, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Send the Spirit of Jesus upon us, O God, that we may be your songs of peace and joy in the world. We pray in the name of the one who is our peace and joy in Christ our Lord.

**Let us say the Lord's Prayer together**

**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 Agape Meal***

**A Prayer and Thanksgiving for Bread**

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Creator of the universe. You bring forth bread from the earth; you have fed us with the bread of life in the Body of your Son. Feed us now with your presence among us and your presence in your Word. As grain scattered upon the earth is gathered into one loaf, so gather your Church in every place into the kingdom of your Son. To you be glory and power forever and ever. **Amen.**

## **A Prayer for Wine**

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Creator of the universe. You create the fruit of the vine; and you refresh us with the cup of salvation in the Blood of Jesus Christ, crucified yet risen. May the time come quickly when we can share that cup again, even as you are with us now in our very thirst for you. Glory to you forever and ever. **Amen.**      (*Please eat and drink together in silence for a few moments.*)

With love and compassion,

**come, Lord Jesus.**

With judgement and mercy,

**come, Lord Jesus.**

In power and glory,

**come, Lord Jesus.**

In wisdom and truth,

**come, Lord Jesus.**

## **The *Peace*:**

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, To give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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

**People:**     **And also with you**

## **Advent Blessing**

### **Dismissal**

**Closing Anthem: A voice cries out in the wilderness.**

**By M. Joncas**

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The Liturgy of the Word is adapted from the Anglican Church of England  
The Prayers of the People are from Intercessions for the Christian People  
The Agape Meal is from the Book of Occasional Services