

December 10, 2023 Second Sunday of Advent Holy Eucharist Rite One

Welcome to
St. David's Episcopal Church

The Word of God

Processional Hymn The King shall come when morning dawns (St. Stephen) Hymnal 73

- 1) The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks; when beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes.
- 2) Not, as of old, a little child, to bear, and fight, and die, but crowned with glory like the sun that lights the morning sky.
- 3) The King shall come when morning dawns and earth's dark night is past; O haste the rising of that morn, the day that e'er shall last;
- 4) and let the endless bliss begin, by weary saints foretold, when right shall triumph over wrong, and truth shall be extolled.
- 5) The King shall come when morning dawns and light and beauty brings: Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy people pray, come quickly, King of kings.

The people standing, the Celebrant says

BCP 323

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

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

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

The following is said, all standing

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day

BCP 325

Celebrant The Lord be with you.People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

Old Testament: Isaiah 40:1-11

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

"Comfort, O comfort my people," says your God.

²"Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins."

³A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?"

> All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!"

> ¹⁰See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

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

The Psalter:

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

'You have been gracious to your land, O LORD; * you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

²You have forgiven the iniquity of your people * and blotted out all their sins.

⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *

for he is speaking peace to his faithful people

and to those who turn their hearts to him.

⁹Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, * *that his glory may dwell in our land.*

- ¹⁰Mercy and truth have met together; * righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- ¹¹Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
 and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- ¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, * and our land will yield its increase.
- ¹³Righteousness shall go before him, *

 and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

New Testament: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

A Reading from the Second letter of Peter.

⁸Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day.

⁹The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance.

¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

¹¹Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness,

¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire?

¹³But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ^{15a} and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn Prepare the way, O Zion (Bereden väg för Herran)

Hymnal 65

1) Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near! Let every hill and valley a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.

Refrain:

Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy Name.

2) He brings God's rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above. His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love. Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.

[Refrain]

3) Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace. His tidings of salvation proclaim in every place. All lands will bow before him, their voices will adore him.

[Refrain]

The Holy Gospel:

Mark 1:1-8

All stand.

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to

Mark.

People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way;

3the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,'"

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon: the Rev. Jeff Wallace

The Nicene Creed

BCP 326

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

BCP 328

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

After each paragraph of this prayer, the People may make an appropriate response, as directed.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Justin, the archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our presiding bishop; Ruth, our bishop; Jeff, our priest; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

Heavenly Father, give grace for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, especially St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Kingstree; the congregations of St. David's Anglican Church, St. David's Episcopal Church; and St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church; and St. David's Episcopal School & Daycare staff and families.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Joe, our president; Henry, our governor; and Andy, our mayor; that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, especially:

(Please see the Prayer List insert.)

We remember also our shut-ins, chronically ill, and those who live alone, and any you wish to name aloud or in your heart.

Members of the congregation may add their own petitions or thanksgivings.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, especially Rosalynn Carter, Betty Anne Rehm, Parker Linder, and Henry Kissinger; beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of St. David and of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

The Deacon or Celebrant says

BCP 330

Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men:

We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.

We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.

**Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

1 Timothy 1:15

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.

1 John 2:1-2

The Peace BCP 360

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.

Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Celebrant says

BCP 376

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2

Offertory Hymn Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding (Merton)

Hymnal 59

- 1) Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say; "Cast away the works of darkness, O ye children of the day."
- 2) Wakened by the solemn warning, from earth's bondage let us rise; Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling, shines upon the morning skies.
- 3) Lo! the Lamb, so long expected, comes with pardon down from heaven; let us haste, with tears of sorrow, one and all to be forgiven;
- 4) so when next he comes with glory, and the world is wrapped in fear, may he with his mercy shield us,

and with words of love draw near.

5) Honor, glory, might, and blessing to the Father and the Son, with the everlasting Spirit while unending ages run.

Doxology (Old 100TH)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow Praise him all creatures here below Praise him above ye heavenly host Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

The Great Thanksgiving

All things come of thee, O Lord, *And of thine own have we given thee.*

Eucharistic Prayer I

BCP 333

Celebrant The Lord be with you.People And with thy spirit.Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is meet and right so to do.

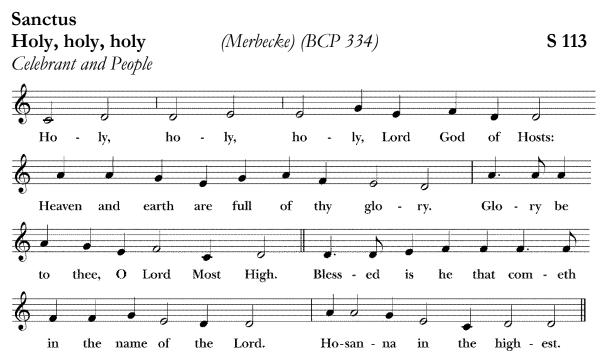
Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because thou didst send thy 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 with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,



The people kneel or stand. Then the Celebrant continues

BCP 334

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world;

and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

"Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying,

"Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty,

with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee,

the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;

rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine;

that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving;

most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee;

humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ,

be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction,

and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *AMEN*.

The Celebrant then continues

BCP 336

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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

BCP 337

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

The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies.

We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table.

But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy.

Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen*.

The Celebrant says

BCP 338

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.

All are welcome to receive Communion at St. David's, regardless of denomination or where you find yourself in your spiritual journey. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms

across your chest when you come up to the altar, and the priest or Eucharistic minister will offer you a simple blessing.

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 of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [Amen.]
The Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [Amen.]

After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray.

BCP 339

The People may join in saying this prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ;

and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us;

and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom.

And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

The priest blesses the people, saying

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Recessional Hymn On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry (Winchester New)

Hymnal 76

- 1) On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh; awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings.
- 2) Then cleansed be every breast from sin; make straight the way for God within, and let each heart prepare a home where such a mighty guest may come.
- 3) For thou art our salvation, Lord, our refuge, and our great reward; without thy grace we waste away like flowers that wither and decay.
- 4) To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and bid the fallen sinner stand; shine forth, and let thy light restore earth's own true loveliness once more.
- 5) All praise, eternal Son, to thee, whose advent doth thy people free; whom with the Father we adore and Holy Spirit evermore.

Dismissal BCP 340

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

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Announcements:

- ◆ Our friends from the **Cheraw Mennonite** community will not be able to hold their **Annual Christmas Singing Program** at Old St. David's because of ongoing repairs to the historic structure, so they'll be coming to our sanctuary instead. Please plan to be in the pews at 6:00 pm on December 17 to give them a warm welcome and to hear some gorgeous *a cappella* singing.
- ◆ Would you like to make a donation toward St. David's Christmas Flower Fund? Pick up a card on Sunday or stop by the church office and reserve your **Christmas Poinsettias** for the Christmas season. We'll use the poinsettias to decorate the church, and you can then take yours home following the Christmas Eve service.
- ◆ You'll want to go ahead and mark your calendar for the St. David's Children's Christmas Pageant, which will be held on **Thursday**, **December 14** at 9:30 am in the St. David's sanctuary.
- ◆ St. David's members should have received a letter regarding the **Stewardship Campaign**. Pledge cards and Estate Planning brochures were also included. If you have not yet returned your pledge card, please do so by placing it in the offering tray or by mailing it to the Church. If you have questions about parish finances, Senior Warden Phil Powell can help.

- ◆ We have resumed our **Conversational Social Time** between Sunday School and our service, and again following the service. Join us for a light snack and pleasant chat in the Chapel. This will also help preserve the quiet of the Sanctuary.
- ◆ St. David's **Sunday School Bible Study** meets at 9:30am in the Chapel Library. We're studying the first seven chapters of First Samuel. You can bring your Bible or use the lesson handouts prepared for each of the six weekly sessions. Please come join us. We want to hear your ideas and we put no one on the spot. The class starts at 9:30 and we should finish by 10:10, so you have a few minutes to visit in the Chapel.
- ◆ St. David's Daycare & Preschool has great long-sleeve **tee-shirts** on hand, with the school logo on the back and the school name on the front. They come in sizes from 2T to 3XL. What an incredible Christmas Gift! See Jimmy Carol Avent, Director/Principal, for more information.
- ♦ St. David's Episcopal Church is a distribution point for the Chesterfield County *FoodShare* program, which makes fresh produce available to local citizens at reasonable cost. Contact Lobie Hammond or the Church Office to volunteer to help out. Our next delivery day is: Order by Monday, 12/18/2023.....pick up on Thursday, 12/21/2023



Welcome!

Regardless of whether or not you regularly attend here, we are happy to have you as one of us today! Feel free to come up close, and kneel before our Lord's altar and receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. All Baptized Christians, regardless of denomination (or status as Protestant or Roman Catholic) are welcome here, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. If you need a gluten-free wafer, then please indicate this to one of the ushers.

Of course, if you prefer to remain seated during Eucharist, we are fine with that as well. We merely hope that your experience with us today is divinely positive and truly meaningful.

As Priest-in-Charge, I would be glad for us to have a conversation during the coffee hour or to have a scheduled appointment for another time. I love answering questions about why we do what we do and about who we are as Episcopalian Christians. If you have a confidential matter to voice, I can be trusted as a priest and as a certified grief counselor.

Again, I am very happy that you have chosen to be with us this day. Feel free to contact me personally. On Sunday afternoons, I am only available for pastoral emergencies.

Blessings, Father Jeff+

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