



Advent

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Connect + Inspire + Transform

February 10, 2021

5:00 PM ~ Evening Prayer ~ *Rite II*

Absalom Jones, *Priest 1818 (Transferred)*

Welcome to Advent Episcopal Church, offering worship of The Episcopal Church to the Northwest Valley. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, this service of worship is live streamed through the Advent Facebook page. Tonight's service follows Evening Prayer according to the *Book of Common Prayer* with a brief homily. Hymn numbers are found in the *Hymnal 1982*; hymn numbers preceded by the letter "L" are found in *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*.

Thank you for joining us for worship this evening, and again: Welcome to Advent!

PRELUDE

OPENING VERSES BCP, 110

Yours is the day, O God, yours also the night; you established the moon and the sun. You fixed all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter. *Psalm 74:15, 16*

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall. *Psalm 16:7, 8*

Confession of Sin *Led by the Officiant* BCP, 116

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together,

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 alone 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.**

THE INVITATORY BCP, 117

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

People **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Officiant and People

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

Officiant and People

Hymn 36 **O GLADSOME LIGHT** *Phos hilaron*

- 1 O gladsome Light, O grace
of God the Father's face,
the eternal splendor wearing;
celestial, holy, blest,
our Savior Jesus Christ,
joyful in thine appearing.
- 2 Now, ere day fadeth quite,
we see the evening light,
our wonted hymn outpouring;
Father of might unknown,
thee, his incarnate Son,
and Holy Spirit adoring.
- 3 To thee of right belongs
all praise of holy songs,
O Son of God, Lifegiver;
thee, therefore, O Most High,
the world doth glorify,
and shall exalt for ever.

The appointed psalm is said in unison, led by the lector.

Psalm 126 *In convertendo*

- ¹ When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.
- ² Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- ³ Then they said among the nations, *
"The Lord has done great things for them."
- ⁴ The Lord has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.
- ⁵ Restore our fortunes, O Lord, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.
- ⁶ Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.
- ⁷ Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

Lector and People

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

The Lessons

Malachi 3:1-4

Thus says God, the Lord,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it
and spirit to those who walk in it:

I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people,
a light to the nations,
to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

I am the Lord, that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to idols.

See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth,
I tell you of them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

H 499

THE SONG OF SIMEON

Nunc dimittis

1 Lord God, you now have set your servant free
to go in peace as promised in your word;
my eyes have seen the Savior, Christ the Lord,
prepared by you for all the world to see,
to shine on nations trapped in darkest night,
the glory of your people, and their light.

A reading from the Gospel according to John [15:12-15]

Jesus said, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Homily

The Litany of Healing

Officiant Let us name before God those for whom we wish to pray.

Silence is observed. After each bidding, the People respond, "Hear and have mercy."

The officiant adds an appropriate concluding collect.

The Apostles' Creed

BCP, 120

Officiant and People together

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only 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.

THE PRAYERS

BCP, 121

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

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.

SUFFRAGES B*BCP, 122*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

We entreat you, O Lord.

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

We entreat you, O Lord.

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,

We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Absalom Jones and all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

We entreat you, O Lord.

The Collect of the Day

Set us free, heavenly Father, from every bond of prejudice and fear; that, honoring the steadfast courage of your servant Absalom Jones, we may show forth in our lives the reconciling love and true freedom of the children of God, which you have given us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Aid against Perils

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

Amen.

A Collect for Mission

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake.

Amen.

Collect for Hope during the Covid-19 Pandemic

Bountiful God, source of the greatest good for all of us: Guide us in the right direction towards a better future for your creation. Help us to overcome our own limitations during this pandemic, and grant us steadfast love to look after each other. Give us humbleness of heart to accept that without you we cannot be real stewards of your creation. Show us ways to spread the gospel that will touch hearts and change minds for a better tomorrow for all humanity, the preservation of every creature, and the planet. In the name of your beloved Son, we ask it.

Amen.

Hymn 24

OFFICE HYMN

- 1 The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended,
the darkness falls at thy behest;
to thee our morning hymns ascended,
thy praise shall sanctify our rest.
- 2 We thank thee that thy Church, unsleeping
while earth rolls onward into light,
through all the world her watch is keeping,
and rests not now by day or night.
- 3 As o'er each continent and island
the dawn leads on another day,
the voice of prayer is never silent,
nor dies the strain of praise away.
- 4 So be it, Lord; thy throne shall never,
like earth's proud empires, pass away;
thy kingdom stands, and grows for ever,
till all thy creatures own thy sway.

Your intercessions and thanksgivings are invited.

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

BCP, 125

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

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And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth
your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. **Amen.**

The officiant alone says

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with
one accord to make our common supplication to you;
and you have promised through your well-beloved Son
that when two or three are gathered together in his
Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O
Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us;
granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in
the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Then may be said

Deacon Let us bless the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Officiant may then conclude with the following

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
(✠) and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all
evermore. Amen. *2 Corinthians 13:14*

Closing announcements

Postlude



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Rev. Dr. Gary Nicolosi	Rev. Janice Watts