



Advent

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Connect + Inspire + Transform

February 3, 2021

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

The Feast of the Presentation

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

It is not ourselves that we proclaim; we proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your servants, for Jesus' sake. For the same God who said, "Out of darkness let light shine," has caused his light to shine within us, to give the light of revelation—the revelation of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. *2 Corinthians 4:5-6*

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 84

Quam dilecta!

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts
of the Lord; my heart and my flesh rejoice in
the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow
a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts,
my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

- ⁵ Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- ⁶ They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- ⁷ Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.
- ⁸ Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.
- ⁹ For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- ¹⁰ For the Lord God is both sun and shield; *
he will give grace and glory;
- ¹¹ No good thing will the Lord withhold *
from those who walk with integrity.
- ¹² O Lord of hosts, *
happy are they who put their trust in you!

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 the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

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 Luke [2:22-40]

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

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, and all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

We entreat you, O Lord.

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Peace

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

A Collect for Mission

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship you, all nations obey you, all tongues confess and bless you, and men and women everywhere love you and serve you in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 635

OFFICE HYMN

- 1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee,
and hope in him through all thy ways,
he'll give thee strength whate'er betide thee,
and bear thee through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
builds on a rock that nought can move.
- 2 Sing, pray, and keep his ways unswerving;
so do thine own part faithfully,
and trust his word, though undeserving;
thou yet shalt find it true for thee;
God never yet forsook in need
the soul that trusted him indeed.

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.
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*

Postlude



ADVENT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

13150 W Spanish Garden Drive
Sun City West, Arizona 85375
Phone (623) 584-0350

E-mail: information@adventaz.org

Website www.adventaz.org

The Rt. Rev. Jennifer A. Reddall, *Bishop of Arizona*

The Rev. Canon Timothy M. Dombek, *Rector*

timothy@adventaz.org

Mr. Eldon Wold, Jr., *Music Director*

AFFILIATED CLERGY (*non-stipendiary*)

Rev. Brian Couvillion

Rev. Dr. Janet Gooltz

Deacon Debbie Greenleaf

Deacon Meg Lewis

Rev. Dr. Gary Nicolosi

Rev. Janice Watts