



# Advent

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Connect + Inspire + Transform

The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter ~ May 2, 2021

8:00 & 10:00 AM

Holy Eucharist ~ Rite II

**Welcome to Advent Episcopal Church**, offering worship in the Episcopal tradition to the Northwest Valley. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, worship is presently limited to 90 persons indoors at 8 AM and 10 AM, as well as livestreamed through the Advent Facebook page and on our YouTube channel. **Wearing facemasks and social distancing are required at all services.** The Holy Eucharist as outlined in this service bulletin is according to the Book of Common Prayer with a sermon. Thank you for being with us for worship today, and again: *Welcome to Advent!*

## Prelude

## Processional hymn

H-47

*All standing, the Celebrant says*

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People:* **The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

*Celebrant* 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.**

**Gloria** (8:00, said; 10:00, sung S-280)

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles [8:26-40]

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 22:24-30

- <sup>24</sup> My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*  
***I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.***
- <sup>25</sup> The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: \*  
***"May your heart live for ever!"***
- <sup>26</sup> All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn  
to the LORD, \*  
***and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.***
- <sup>27</sup> For kingship belongs to the LORD; \*  
***he rules over the nations.***
- <sup>28</sup> To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down  
in worship; \*  
***all who go down to the dust fall before him.***
- <sup>29</sup> My soul shall live for him;  
my descendants shall serve him; \*  
***they shall be known as the LORD's for ever.***
- <sup>30</sup> They shall come and make known to a people yet  
unborn \*  
***the saving deeds that he has done.***

A reading from the First letter of John [4:7-21]

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is

this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

**Sequence hymn** (10:00 only) H-178

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. [15:1-8]

*People* ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

*Deacon* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

## Sermon

**Nicene Creed** BCP 358

*Deacon:* Sisters and brothers, it is only when we love one another that we can truly say:

***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.*

**Prayers of the People, Form III**

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for Jennifer, our Bishop; for Debbie, Gary, Janet, Janice, Meg and Timothy, our clergy; for Sharon, our Licensed Lay Pastoral Care Minister; and for all bishops, priests, and deacons,  
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We honor and pray for our Indigenous neighbors.  
**That we may dwell together in respectful harmony.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest;  
**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

*It is traditional to omit the General Confession of Sin during the Great Fifty Days of Easter.*

**Peace (All Stand)**

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

*Maintaining proper social distance, the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

**The Offertory Sentence and Music**

*Offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, given by the People, are presented, and placed on the Altar.*

*The people remain standing.*

**Presentation and blessing of the gifts**

*Celebrant and People*

**All things come of thee, O Lord.**

**And of thine own have we given thee.**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

*Eucharistic Prayer B*

*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 him thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

*Here a Proper Preface is sung or said as appointed.*

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Sanctus**            *(8:00 said; 10:00, sung, S-130)*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*In keeping with the tradition of the Early Church since the 4th Century, we invite you to stand—as you are able—throughout the Eucharistic prayer, and especially for the Post-communion prayer.*

*The Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the

remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where with the ever-blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has 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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

### The Breaking of the Bread

*A period of silence is kept*

### Fraction Anthem

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

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God.  
*and may add* Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

### Communion hymn

H-304

*The ministers at the altar receive the Sacrament and then deliver it to the People. Maintaining a safe social distance from each other, the People come forward single file, one at a time at each communion station to receive the bread, returning to their seat before lifting their face mask to consume it.*

*After communion the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, Father, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

### The Blessing

### Retiring procession hymn

H-296

### Dismissal

*Priest* Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

### Postlude



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AFFILIATED CLERGY (*non-stipendiary*)

Rev. Dr. Janet Gooltz      Deacon Debbie Greenleaf

Deacon Meg Lewis      Rev. Dr. Gary Nicolosi

Rev. Janice Watts