



# Advent

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Connect + Inspire + Transform

Welcome to Advent Episcopal Church, offering worship of The Episcopal Church to the Northwest Valley. Everyone is welcome to come in person or you can join us on-line on Advent's Facebook page or Advent's YouTube channel. Our worship follows the Holy Eucharist according to the *Book of Common Prayer* with a brief homily. Following the Litany of Healing, healing prayers will be offered for those who desire it. *We hope you enjoy the service!*

All standing, the Celebrant says

BCP 355

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People *And blessed be God's kingdom now and forever.  
Amen.*

*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.*

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* *And also with you.*

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

## OPENING COLLECT (SEE HANDOUT)

## OLD TESTAMENT READING (SEE HANDOUT)

READER: THE WORD OF THE LORD

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

## PSALM (SEE HANDOUT)

## GOSPEL (SEE HANDOUT)

READER: THE WORD OF THE LORD

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

## THE HOMILY

### A LITANY OF HEALING

*The Celebrant introduces the Litany with this bidding*

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers.

*The People name those for whom they are interceding. A Person appointed then leads the Litany.*

God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation;

***We praise you and thank you, O Lord.***

God the Son, you came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly;

***We praise you and thank you, O Lord.***

God the Holy Spirit, you make our bodies the temple of your presence;

***We praise you and thank you, O Lord.***

Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being;

***We praise you and thank you, O Lord.***

Lord, grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or disabled, that they may be made whole;

***Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Grant to all who seek your guidance, and to all who are lonely, anxious, or despondent, a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence;

***Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Mend broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit;

***Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Bless physicians, nurses, and all others who minister to the suffering, granting them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience;

***Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Grant to the dying peace and a holy death, and uphold by the grace and consolation of your Holy Spirit those who are bereaved;

**Hear us, O Lord of life.**

Restore to wholeness this broken world, forgive our sins and bring us to everlasting life.

**Heal us, and make us whole.**

*Celebrant* Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and console all those who are suffering in mind, body or spirit. Be present to them in their weakness and restore them to health that they may praise your holy Name and live in the fullness of your love and truth. We pray this in the name of Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

The ministry of Jesus invites us to new life in God and with each other. In the laying on of hands and anointing we proclaim the Good News that God desires us to be healthy and one in the body of Christ.

You are invited to offer yourself, whatever your sickness of spirit, mind, or body, and ask for healing and wholeness in the Name of the Holy and undivided Trinity.

*The minister then lays hands upon the person and anoints the person. Laypersons with a gift of healing may join the celebrant in extending hands in prayer at a second station. After all have been blessed, the following prayer is said:*

*Celebrant:* May God the Father bless you, God the Son heal you, God the Holy Spirit give you strength. May God the holy and undivided Trinity guard your body, save your soul, and bring you safely to his heavenly country; where he lives and reigns forever and ever. **Amen.**

THE PEACE *All standing, as able.*

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

*People:* *And also with you.*

*The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *Eucharistic Prayer A*

*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.

*Then, facing the Holy Table, 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.

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:

*Celebrant and People*

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.

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues:*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption,  
O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.  
Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people  
the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink  
of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we  
may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you  
in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring  
us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal  
kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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.*

*People and Celebrant:*

*And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold  
to say,*

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.

*The People come forward single file, one at a time at each  
communion station to receive the bread and intinct the wine  
at the nearest chalice station. In place of the usual post-  
communion prayer, the following prayer is said:*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People:*

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously  
accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior  
Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now  
into the world in peace, and grant us strength and  
courage to love and serve you with gladness and  
singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May the Lord of love keep us all in peace, transform our  
conflict into the beauty of his grace, and give us joyful  
hearts to do his will. And the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you  
and remain with you always. *Amen.*

DISMISSAL

*Minister:* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People:* Thanks be to God.



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### THE COLLECT

Almighty God, who raised up your servant Alcuin as a beacon of learning: Shine in our hearts, we pray, that we may also show forth your praise in our own generation, for you have called us out of darkness and into your marvelous light; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for

ever. *Amen.*

### THE LESSON: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

- <sup>1</sup> For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:
- <sup>2</sup> a time to be born, and a time to die;  
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
- <sup>3</sup> a time to kill, and a time to heal;  
a time to break down, and a time to build up;
- <sup>4</sup> a time to weep, and a time to laugh;  
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
- <sup>5</sup> a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;  
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
- <sup>6</sup> a time to seek, and a time to lose;  
a time to keep, and a time to throw away;
- <sup>7</sup> a time to tear, and a time to sew;  
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
- <sup>8</sup> a time to love, and a time to hate;  
a time for war, and a time for peace.

### PSALM 107 1-8

- <sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, \*  
and his mercy endures for ever.
- <sup>2</sup> Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim \*  
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
- <sup>3</sup> He gathered them out of the lands; \*  
from the east and from the west,  
from the north and from the south.
- <sup>4</sup> Some wandered in desert wastes; \*  
they found no way to a city where they might dwell.
- <sup>5</sup> They were hungry and thirsty; \*  
their spirits languished within them.
- <sup>6</sup> Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, \*  
and he delivered them from their distress.
- <sup>7</sup> He put their feet on a straight path \*  
to go to a city where they might dwell.
- <sup>8</sup> Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy \*  
and the wonders he does for his children.

### THE GOSPEL: Matthew 13:24-30

<sup>24</sup>He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; <sup>25</sup>but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. <sup>26</sup>So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. <sup>27</sup>And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' <sup>28</sup>He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' <sup>29</sup>But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup>Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"