

Second Sunday of Advent Holy Eucharist Rite II
December 10, 2023 11:00am

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Prelude

Candlelighting (Lucernaria)

- V. Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.
R. Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.
V. Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved:
R. O Lord God of hosts.
V. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
R. Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.
V. Show us your mercy, O Lord:
R. And grant us your salvation.



Opening Hymn

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

Hymnal #67

Rejoice! rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear!
The evening is advancing, and darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising, and soon he will draw nigh;
up, watch in expectation! at midnight comes the cry.

See that your lamps are burning, replenish them with oil;
look now for your salvation, the end of sin and toil.
The marriage-feast is waiting, the gates wide open stand;
rise up, ye heirs of glory, the Bridegroom is at hand!

Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;
arise, thou Sun so longed for, above this darkened sphere!
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption, and ever be with thee!

Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907)

Acclamation

pg. 355 in Book of Common Prayer

Collect for Purity

Gloria

Hymnal #96 (refrain)

Gloria, in excelsis deo. Gloria, in excelsis deo.

Collect of the Day

- Celebrant* The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Reading: *Isaiah 40:1-11*

¹“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. ⁹Get 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.

The Psalm: *Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13*

¹*You have been gracious to your land, O LORD; *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.*
²*You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.*
⁸*I 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.*
⁹*Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.*
¹⁰*Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.*
¹¹*Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.*
¹²*The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.*
¹³*Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.*

The Second Reading: *2 Peter 3:8-15a*

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.

Gospel Acclamation*O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (verse 3, Chorus)

Hymnal #56

***O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times didst give the law, in cloud, and majesty, and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!***

The Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

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. ⁶Now 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."

Gospel Response*O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (verse 4, Chorus)

Hymnal #56

***O come, thou Branch of Jesse's tree, free them from Satan's tyranny
that trust thy might power to save, and give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!***

The Sermon**Nicene Creed**

pg. 358 in Book of Common Prayer

Prayers of the People

Deacon or other leader: In waiting on your return, we lift our prayers saying, ***Hear our Prayer. . .***

Confession of Sin

pg. 360 in BCP

The Peace

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Music

Keep Your Lamps
St. Thomas Chancel Choir

Andre Thomas

Offertory

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

People ***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.***

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing . . . to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

People ***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.***

Celebrant We give thanks to you, O God . . .

. . . Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice and thanksgiving . . .

. . . 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

Fraction Anthem

Gerald Near

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

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Music

Dona Nobis Pacem

Women's Trio

Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

Karen Lafferty

Seek ye first the kingdom of God And its righteousness,
And all these things Shall be added unto you,
Allelu, alleluia.

Ask and it shall be given unto you; Seek and ye shall find;
Knock and the door Shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, alleluia.

We do not live by bread alone, but by every word
That proceeds from the mouth of God.
Allelu, alleluia.

Postcommunion Prayer

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.**

Blessing

Closing Hymn

Blest be the King Whose coming

Hymnal #74

Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
For him let doors be opened, no hearts against him barred!
Not robed in royal splendor, in power and pomp, comes he;
but clad as are the poorest, such his humility!

Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
By those who truly listen his voice is truly heard;
pity the proud and haughty, who have not learned to heed
the Christ who is the Promise, who has atonement made.

Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
He only to the humble reveals the face of God.
All power is his, all glory! All things are in his hand,
all ages and all peoples, till time itself shall end!

Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
He offers to the burdened the rest and grace they need.
Gentle is he and humble! And light his yoke shall be,
for he would have us bear it so he can make us free!

Federico J. Pagura (b. 1923); tr. Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000), alt.

Dismissal

Postlude

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