

Second Sunday of Advent Holy Eucharist Rite II
December 10, 2023 8:45am

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Prelude

Light Two Candles

Yiddish folk tune

Light two candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd, gently lead them homeward.

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

Sometimes By Step

Mullins/Beaker

Sometimes the night is beautiful, sometimes the sky was so far away
Sometimes it seemed to stoop so close you could touch it, but your heart would break
Sometimes the morning came too soon, sometimes the day could be so hard
There was so much work left to do, but so much you'd already done

Chorus:

***Oh God You are my God And I will ever praise You
Oh God You are my God And I will ever praise You
And I will seek You in the morning, And I will learn to walk in Your ways
And step by step You'll lead me, And I will follow You all of my days***

Sometimes I think of Abraham, How one star he saw had been lit for me
He was a stranger in this land, And I am that no less than he
And on this road to righteousness, Sometimes the climb can be so steep
I may falter in my steps, but never beyond Your reach

Acclamation

pg. 355 in Book of Common Prayer

Collect for Purity

Gloria

Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord

Prepare ye the way of the Lord. Prepare ye the way of the Lord.

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.**

Part of a Heavenly Plan - solo

Mark & Helen Johnson

Why choose the shepherds to visit the King, Why choose the lowly with nothing to bring
It is too marvelous to understand, It was part of a heavenly plan, It was part of a heavenly plan

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.

Sequence Hymn

Emmanuel

***Emmanuel, Emmanuel, wonderful Counselor, Lord of life, Lord of all,
He is the Prince of Peace, Mighty God, Holy One. Emmanuel. Emmanuel.***

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 – *Emmanuel*

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

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934)

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain:

***In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.***

I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father.

I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus.

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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Music

Lead Us to Your Table

Steve Angrisano, Tom Tomaszek

Lead us to your table, feed us for the journey, bind us all together for the sacrifice.
Lead us to communion, be our hope and vision; we will be your presence in the world today.

Refrain:

***We are one in your love. We are one in your love.
We are one in your love. We are one in your love.***

Shepherd Me, O God

Refrain:

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want, I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love, I walk by the quiet waters of peace.

Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul, you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth, my spirit shall sing the music of your name.

Though I should wander the valley of death, I fear no evil, for you are at my side, your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope.

You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred, crowning me with love beyond my pow'r to hold.

Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life; I will dwell in the house of my God for evermore.

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

Lead Me Lord

John D. Becker

Refrain:

***Lead me, Lord, lead me, Lord, by the light of truth to seek and to find the narrow way.
Be my way; be my truth; be my life, my Lord, and lead me, Lord, today.***

Blessed are the poor in spirit, longing for their Lord,
for God's coming kingdom shall be theirs.
Blessed are the sorrowing, for they shall be consoled,
and the meek shall come to rule the world. (Refrain)

Blessed are the merciful, for mercy shall be theirs,
and the pure in heart shall see their God.
Blest are they whose hunger only holiness can fill,
for I say they shall be satisfied. (Refrain)

Blest are they who through their lifetimes sow the seeds of peace;
all will call them children of the Lord.
Blest are you, though persecuted in your holy life,
For in heaven, great is your reward. (Refrain)

Dismissal

Postlude

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ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
12251 ANTIOCH ROAD, OVERLAND PARK, KS 66213 913-451-0512
EMAIL: STTHOMAS@STTHOMASOP.ORG
WEBSITE: WWW.STTHOMASOP.ORG
FACEBOOK: WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/STTHOMASOP