

## Divine Service Second Sunday in Advent

December 6, 2020

*“Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe...”* (Heb. 12:28)

### The Opening Hymn: 350 ss 1-4

1. Come, Thou precious Ransom, come,  
Only Hope for sinful mortals!  
Come, O Savior of the world!  
Open are to Thee all portals.  
Come, Thy beauty let us see;  
Anxiously we wait for Thee.

2. Enter now my waiting heart,  
Glorious King and Lord most holy.  
Dwell in me and ne'er depart,  
Though I am but poor and lowly.  
Ah, what riches will be mine  
When Thou art my Guest Divine!

3. My hosannas and my palms  
Graciously receive, I pray Thee;  
Evermore, as best I can,  
Savior, I will homage pay Thee,  
And in faith I will embrace,  
Lord, Thy merit through Thy grace.

4. Hail, hosanna, David's Son!  
Jesus, hear our supplication!  
Let Thy kingdom, scepter, crown,  
Bring us blessing and salvation,  
That forever we may sing:  
Hail, hosanna! to our King.

### The Invocation

PASTOR: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

CONG: Amen.

### Call to Confession

PASTOR: Beloved in the LORD. Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, imploring him in the name of our LORD Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

### The Confession

PASTOR: Our help is in the name of the LORD.

CONG: Who made heaven and earth.

PASTOR: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.

CONG: And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

PASTOR: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to you that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against you by thought, word, and deed; therefore we flee for refuge to your boundless mercy, seeking and imploring your grace for the sake of our LORD Jesus Christ.

ALL: O most merciful God, since you have given your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy on us and for his sake grant us forgiveness of all our sins; and by your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of you and of your will and true obedience to your Word, to the end that by your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## The Absolution

**PASTOR:** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**CONG:** Amen.

## The Introit of the Day LUKE 3:4b; PSALM 81:8, 10-11, 13

The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”

Hear, O my people, while I admonish you!

O Israel, if you would but listen to me!

I am the Lord your God,

who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.

Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.

But my people did not listen to my voice;

Israel would not submit to me.

Oh, that my people would listen to me,

that Israel would walk in my ways!

## Gloria Patri

**CONG:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## The Kyrie

**CONG:** Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

## The Collect

**PASTOR:** Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**CONG:** Amen.

## The Old Testament Reading: ISAIAH 40:6-8

6 A voice says, “Cry!”

And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All flesh is grass,

and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

7 The grass withers, the flower fades

when the breath of the Lord blows on it;

surely the people are grass.

8 The grass withers, the flower fades,

but the word of our God will stand forever.

## The Gradual ZECH 9:9; PSALM 118:26

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.

Behold, your king is coming to you;

Righteous and having salvation.

Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

From the house of the Lord we bless you.

## The Epistle: PHILIPPIANS 1:2-11

2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 I thank my God in all my remembrance of you,

4 always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy,

5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.

6 And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

7 It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel.

8 For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.

9 And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment,

10 so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,

11 filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

### **The Verse** LUKE 3:4b, 6

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

### **The Holy Gospel:** ST. MARK 1:1-8

1 The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

2 As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,  
“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way,

3 the voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight,’”

4 John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

5 And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

6 Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey.

7 And he preached, saying, “After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop

down and untie.

8 I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

### **Choir:** “O Come, O Come, Emanuel” 357 ss. 1

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel

Shall come to thee, O Israel!

### **The Nicene Creed** (We Confess Together)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and Apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### **The Sermon Hymn:** 354 ss. 1-4

1. Arise, O Christian people! Prepare yourselves today;  
Prepare to greet the Savior, Who takes your sins away.  
To us by grace alone The truth and light were given;  
The promised Lord from heaven To all the world is shown.
2. Prepare the way before Him; Prepare for Him the best.  
Cast out what would offend Him, This great, this heav'nly guest.  
Make straight, make plain the way: The lowly valleys raising,  
The heights of pride abasing, His path all even lay.
3. The humble heart and lowly God raises up on high;  
Beneath His feet in terror The haughty soul shall lie.  
The heart sincere and right, That heeds God's invitation  
And makes true preparation— It is the Lord's delight.
4. Prepare my heart, Lord Jesus; Turn not from me aside.  
And help me to receive You This blessed Advent-tide.  
From stall and manger low Come now to dwell within me;  
I'll sing Your praises gladly And forth Your glory show.

### **The Sermon:** Where Our Partnership Takes Us

PHILIPPIANS 1:2-11

### **The Offertory**

**CONG:** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a  
right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take  
not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and  
uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

### **The Prayers and The LORD's Prayer**

### **The Closing Hymn:** 577 ss 1-4

- 1 Almighty God, your word is cast  
like seed into the ground;  
now let the dew of heav'n descend,  
and righteous fruits abound.
- 2 Let not the sly satanic foe  
this holy seed remove,  
but give it root in ev'ry heart  
to bring forth fruits of love.
- 3 Let not the world's deceitful cares  
the rising plant destroy,  
but let it yield a hundredfold  
the fruits of peace and joy.
- 4 So when the precious seed is sown,  
Life giving grace bestow,  
that all whose souls the truth receive,  
its saving pow'r may know.

### **The Benediction**

**PASTOR:** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord  
make His face shine on you and be gracious  
to you. The Lord look upon you with favor  
and † give you peace.

**CONG:** Amen.

Liturgist: Pastor Brock Abbott

Preacher: Pastor Bill Abbott

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