

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023



St. John the Baptist

Trinity Church
Jacksonville, Illinois

PRELUDE

Pifa (Pastoral Symphony) from Messiah G. F. Handel

The Word of God

The Bell is rung; all stand for the Entrance Hymn.

ENTRANCE HYMN

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry (Winchester New) (H 76)

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.

Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY AND GREAT COMMANDMENTS

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

OPENING ANTHEM S 91 *Lord, have mercy upon us (Willan) (S 91)*

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

¹The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;

²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;

³to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

⁸For I the LORD love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

⁹Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots,

and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 126

¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.

²*Then was our mouth filled with laughter, **
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

³Then they said among the nations, *
“The LORD has done great things for them.”

⁴*The LORD has done great things for us, **
and we are glad indeed.

⁵Restore our fortunes, O LORD, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.

⁶*Those who sowed with tears **
will reap with songs of joy.

⁷Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Thessalonika.

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²abstain from every form of evil.

²³May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

All stand for the Hymn and the Gospel.

O come, O come, Emmanuel (Veni, veni, Emmanuel) (H 56), vss. 5 & 6

GOSPEL: John 1:6-8, 19-28

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

¹⁹This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” ²¹And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” ²²Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” ²³He said,

“I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,
‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ ”
as the prophet Isaiah said.

²⁴Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, “Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?” ²⁶John answered them, “I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.” ²⁸This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE SERMON (BCP p. 326) – Fr. Kip Ashmore

All stand for the Nicene Creed.

THE NICENE CREED

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 Ghost 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 sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped
and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one holy catholic 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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE IV

Celebrant: Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Lector: Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray for Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Brian our Bishop, for Justin, Carlos, David, Zachary, and for all bishops and ministers. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, especially Joseph our President, and J B our Governor, and of those in the military and law enforcement, especially Cail, Courtland, Levi, Rankin, and Thomas, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, especially Jim, Betty, Pat, Rob & Maureen, and David & Pat, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially Linda and Yvonne; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Helen, Daysie, Marilyn, Lucy, and Bertha, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Lord, hear the prayers of thy people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN (BCP p. 330)

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

Almighty God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker of all things, judge of all men:
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins
and wickedness,
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.
We do earnestly repent,
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,
the burden of them is intolerable.
Have mercy upon us,
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may ever hereafter
serve and please thee in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of thy Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.
I John 2:1-2

All stand.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And with thy spirit.

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

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The Celebrant says

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.
Ephesians 5:2

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Stir Up Your Power, O Lord, and Come C. Schalk

OFFERTORY HYMN

Rejoice! rejoice, believers (Llangloffan) (H 68)

The Great Thanksgiving

SURSUM CORDA S 112 *Lift up your hearts*

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And with thy spi - rit.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up un - to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks un - to our Lord God.

People
It is meet and right so to do.

PROPER PREFACE

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because thou didst send thy beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS WLP 858 *Holy, holy, holy (Folk/Pruner) (American folk melody)* (

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. * Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

CANON OF THE MASS

The people kneel or stand.

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *AMEN.*

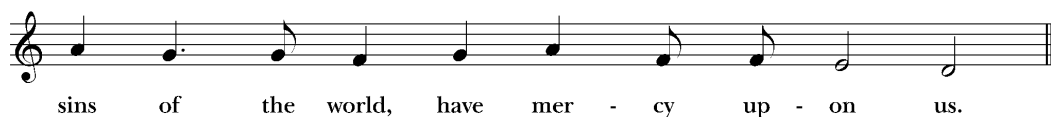
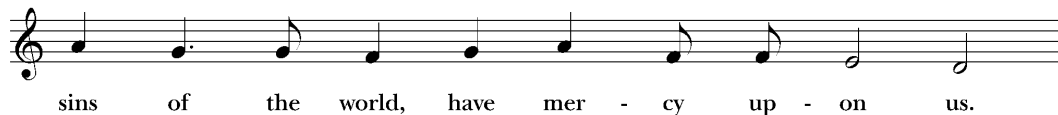
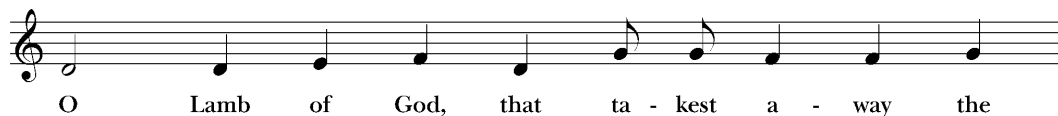
And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

THE LORD'S PRAYER S 119 *The Lord's Prayer (Traditional) (Plainsong/Douglas)*

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION HYMN S 157 O Lamb of God (Merbecke) (S 157)



PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is

always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen.*

INVITATION

The Celebrant says

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

COMMUNION HYMN

Watchman, tell us of the night (Aberystwyth) (H 640)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The People may join in saying this prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

BLESSING

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

All stand.

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Prepare the way, O Zion (Bereden väg för Herran) (H 65)

POSTLUDE

The King Shall Come arr. T. Beck

INTENTIONS AT THE PRAYERS

The Church

The Diocese of Springfield	Brian, Bishop
The Episcopal Church	Michael, Presiding Bishop
The Church of England	Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury
The Region of Arequipa (Peru)	Carlos, Vicar
The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea	
St. John's (Decatur)	David, Interim Rector
Muongano Parish (Tanzania)	
The Cathedral of the Good Shepherd (Peru)	

Birthday

Jim Miller (12/19)
Betty Aldridge (12/23)

Baptism

Pat Snodgrass (12/21)

Wedding

Rob & Maureen Vidakovich (12/18)
David & Pat Bone (12/21)

For those who suffer from any sickness or distress

Linda Yvonne

Those on active military duty and in law enforcement

Levi Haley Thomas Ramsay Courtland Woodruff
Cail Lang Samuel Rankin Weller

For the Departed

Helen Marilyn Bertha
Daysie Lucy

MINISTRY AND CALENDAR

The Very Reverend Zachary D. Brooks, Celebrant	
Organist:	Mary Wilson
Lector:	Forrest Keaton
Chalice Bearer:	The Rev. Christopher L. Ashmore
Acolyte:	Clayton Robb
Altar Guild:	Janet Mitchell, Alice Tracey, Paula Woods
Ushers:	John Clancy, Volunteer
Coffee Hour:	Johnson / Ramsay Family

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**The flowers on the Altar are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of**

*Helen Preston Butler, Daysie Spencer DeSpain, Marilyn Butler DeSpain,
Lucy West Keaton, Bertha Scheibe Gilbert Rippelmeyer*

***“May the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace, and rise in glory.”***

Wednesday, December 20: 10:00 am Holy Eucharist

Thursday, December 21: **St. Thomas** (Major Feast)
10:00 am The Holy Eucharist

Sunday, December 24:

THE 4th SUNDAY of Advent (Feast of our Lord)

8:00 am The Holy Eucharist

8:45 am Choir Rehearsal

10:00 am The Holy Eucharist

NO Church School

THE EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

10:00 pm The Holy Eucharist

***Morning Prayer is said at 10 o'clock
on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.***

www.trinitychurchjax.org