



Morning Prayer and Holy Eucharist at the Church of St. Paul, Cambria

• 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT • ROSE SUNDAY • December 11, 2022

Three candles are lit on the Advent Wreath

V: Our King and Savior draws near.

R: **Oh come, let us adore Him.**

Oh Lord, we pray that you may hear our prayers, and help us to lighten the darkness of our minds by the grace of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Oh Lord, Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare the way for you, grant that we may prepare for you by obedient hearts, that we may be found acceptable in your sight. Amen.

Opening Hymn 81

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together. (Isaiah 40:5)

Send your spirit of forgiveness down upon us, as we confess our transgressions and failures to keep your commandments. Open our eyes to oppression, brokenness, and captivity of all kinds. That we may freely confess your goodness and proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, let us confess our sins before our neighbors and our God.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

Lord, open our lips

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The earth is the Lord's for he made it: **Come let us adore him.**

Psalm 67:1-5 Deus misereatur

O God, be merciful to us and bless us, show us the light of your countenance and come to us. Let your ways be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Psalm 146:4-9

4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! *
whose hope is in the Lord their God;
5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; *
who keeps his promise for ever;
6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
and food to those who hunger.
7 The Lord sets the prisoners free;
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; *
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
8 The Lord loves the righteous;
the Lord cares for the stranger; *
he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the wicked.
9 The Lord shall reign for ever, *
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Hallelujah!

Lessons Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

"Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.

And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah

Surely, it is God who saves me;* I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,* and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing* from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say,* Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples;* see that they remember that his Name is exalted, Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,* and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,* for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:* as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Second Lesson Epistle James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle A: A Song of Wisdom 10:15-19,20b-21

Wisdom freed from a nation of oppressors *

a holy people and a blameless race.

She entered the soul of a servant of the Lord,* withstood dread rulers with wonders and signs.

To the saints she gave the reward of their labors,* and led them by a marvelous way;

She was their shelter by day* and a blaze of stars by night.

She brought them across the Red Sea,* she led them through mighty waters;

But their enemies she swallowed in the waves* and spewed them out from the depths of the abyss.

And then, Lord, the righteous sang hymns to your Name,*

and praised with one voice your protecting hand;

For Wisdom opened the mouths of the mute,* and gave speech to the tongues of a new-born people.

A reading from the **Gospel** according to

Matthew 11:2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'

"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

Here ends the Gospel reading.

Here follows the Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers

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

Collect of the Day

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

We give you thanks, most gracious God, for the beauty of earth and sky and sea; for the richness of mountains, plains, and rivers; for the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers. We praise you for these good gifts, and pray that we may safeguard them for our posterity. Grant that we may continue to grow in our grateful enjoyment of your abundant creation, to the honor and glory of your Name, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Sermon

Canon Mark Hall

Sermon Music

The Prayers of the People

Jesus said that the signs of God's dominion were to be seen in the healing of the sick, the raising of the dead to new life, and the preaching of good news to the poor. Let us pray that our lives may be the instruments of God's work in the world, saying: O God, most worthy of praise, hear our prayer.

We thank you, God, for the gift of creation. Grant that we who bear your image may be faithful

stewards of your gifts and administer its bounty with wisdom for the good of all your creatures.

O God, most worthy of praise, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you that you have called us to be your people. Give us patience as we await your coming, and grant us wisdom to discern your will in our daily lives, that each of us may serve others for the building up of our common life. O God, most worthy of praise, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you for the community of faith throughout the world. Strengthen your church as it witnesses to your love. Guide us in the fulfillment of your mission, that all may be one.

O God, most worthy of praise, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you for the privilege of ministering to others. We remember before you all who are sick or in need. We pray for those who have died. Grant us the grace to accept suffering with patience and to be strengthened by our common life in the body of Christ.

O God, most worthy of praise, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you for your countless gifts. Above all, we thank you for the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ, and for our unity in him through baptism.

O God, most worthy of praise, **hear our prayer.**

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

We offer prayers for Susie, Julian, Mike, Coralee and Jennifer D. We offer prayers for incarcerated men, women, and children throughout the world. We offer prayers for widows and orphans

O God, most worthy of praise, **hear our prayer.**

We offer our thanksgiving and prayers to you, the one God and the source of light and life, now and forever. **Amen.**

Offertory: Walk in love as Christ loved us and offered himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *(Ephesians)*

Offertory Hymn 56 Verses 5 & 6

Prayer over the gifts God of hope, renew in us the joy of your salvation and make us a living sacrifice to you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving (EP A)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your 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 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:

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

(The People stand or kneel.)

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself...

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father,...

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.**

And now as our Savior taught us, we are bold to pray (sung):

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

They will come from east and west and from north and south to sit at table in the kingdom of God: Blessed are those who are called to the banquet of the Lord.

Communion of the People

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Merciful God, may this Eucharist free us from our sins, fill us with unending joy, and prepare us for the birthday of our Savior. Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Knowing that all of our community cannot share the Eucharist in person, we affirm that the true mystical communion of Christ and His Church is a bond of spirit and heart, grounded in faith. Therefore, we commit ourselves to this deep bond of the Spirit in union with Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing

May Christ the sun of righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path, and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you for ever. **Amen**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.** *Greet one another in the Lord's name.*

Announcements

Thanksgiving Prayer: We give you thanks, O God, for your many blessings: for our days of celebration, for the love that surrounds us, for your healing presence in our lives. Keep us in your care, we pray, and help us to live as truly thankful people. Amen.

Closing Hymn 72

Dismissal: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.