



**THE THIRD SUNDAY
OF ADVENT
(YEAR B)**

December 13th, 2020
Morning Prayer Service
10:30 am

Saint Patrick Episcopal Church

The Rt. Rev. Mark Van Koevering, Bishop

The Rev. Chris Brannock, Priest in Charge

Janie Cain, Senior Warden

Dave Clayton, Verger

John McQueary & Elizabeth Loiacono, Music Ministers

Welcome to Morning Prayer!

Morning and Evening Prayer are made up of a few distinct parts: The Gathering (The Confession, "Lord, open our lips"), the Psalter (where we say the psalm or psalms of the day), the lessons and responses (we hear readings from the Bible and respond with canticles, which are holy poetry of the Church), The Apostles' Creed (our statement of faith and similar to the Nicene Creed), and the Prayers.

A few helpful hints as you pray at home and/or join us:

- Using a sacred space or home altar can add a positive and spiritually centered connection to the service. For more information on creating altars and sacred spaces, please visit our "Worship at Home" webpage and scroll to the resources at the bottom.
- As you begin, light a candle, gather with those in your household (pets included) and take a few minutes of silence
- We will be uploading this service to our "Worship at Home" page at 10:30 am on Sunday. It will also be available on our YouTube channel and Facebook Page.

MORNING PRAYER SERVICE

December 13th, 2020

OPENING HYMN

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

1982 Hymnal #5

5. O come, thou key of David, come, and open wide our
6. O come, thou day spring, from on high, and cheer us by thy
heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and
draw - ing nigh: dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, and
close the path to mis - er - y, flight. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em
man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

OPENING SENTENCE

BCP 75

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

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 79

Officiant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: **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.**

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

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

BCP 80

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

All: **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. Alleluia**

ANTIPHON

BCP 80

Our King and Savior now draws near: Come let us adore him.

VENITE

Psalm 95:1-7

BCP 82

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, *

and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,

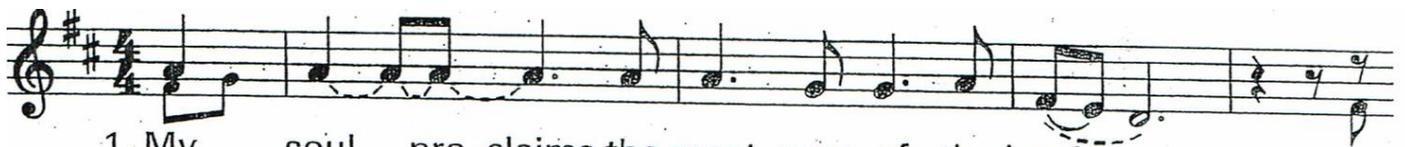
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Canticle of Mary

"Holy is His Name"

Breaking Bread #700



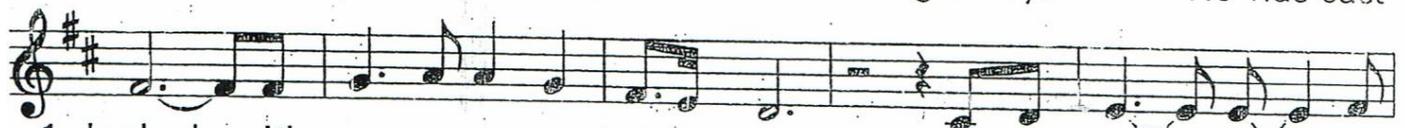
1. My soul _ pro-claims the great-ness of the Lord, _

2. He has mer-cy _ in ev - 'ry gen-er - a - tion. He



1. and my spir-it _ ex-ults in God my Sav-ior. For he has

2. has _ re-vealed _ his pow-er and his glo - ry. He has cast



1. looked with mer-cy on my low-li - ness, and my name _ will be for-

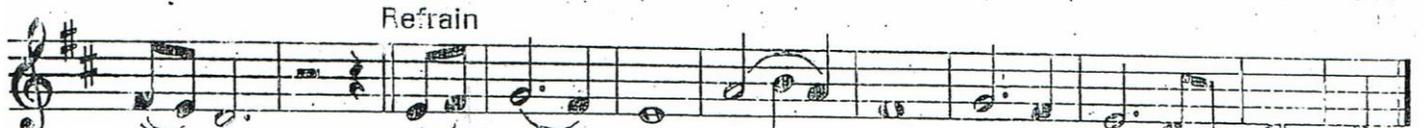
2. down the might-y in their ar-ro-gance, and has lift-ed up _ the



1. ev - er ex - alt - ed. For the might - y God has done great
 2. meek and the low - ly. He has come to help his ser - vant



1. things for me, and his mer - cy _____ will reach from age to
 2. Is - ra - el; he _____ re - mem - bers _____ his prom - ise to our



1. age. _____ And ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is his name.
 2. fa - thers.

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 61:1-4, 8-11

The 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;
 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor,
 and the day of vengeance of our God;
 to comfort all who mourn;
 to 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.
 They shall build up the ancient ruins,
 they shall raise up the former devastations;
 they shall repair the ruined cities,
 the devastations of many generations.
 For 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.
 Their 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.
 I 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.
For 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.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

CANTICLE 15

The Song of Mary - Magnificat
Luke 1:46-55

BCP 91

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *

the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him *

in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, *

he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *

and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, *

and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *

for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, *

to Abraham and his children for ever.

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.

SECOND LESSON

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-24

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

May 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. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

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 GOSPEL

John 1:6-8, 19-28

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

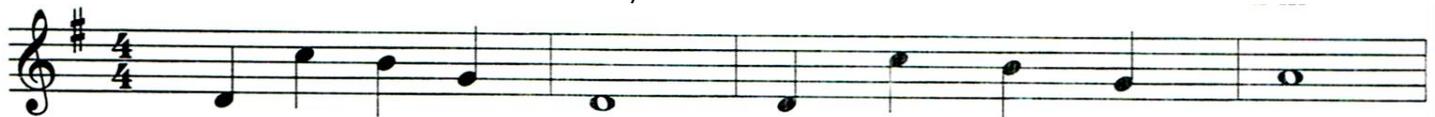
This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Chris Brannock



1. Joy-ful is the dark, ho - ly, hid - den God,
 2. Joy-ful is the dark, Spir - it of the deep,
 3. Joy-ful is the dark, shad - owed sta - ble floor;
 4. Joy-ful is the dark, cool - ness of the tomb,
 5. Joy-ful is the dark, depth of love di - vine,



Roll - ing cloud of night be - yond all nam - ing:
 Wing - ing wild - ly o'er the world's cre - a - tion,
 An - gels flick - er, God on earth con - fess - ing,
 Wait - ing for the won - der of the morn - ing;
 Roar - ing, loom - ing thun - der - cloud of glo - ry;



Maj - es - ty in dark - ness, En - er - gy of love,
 Silk - en sheen of mid - night, plum - age black and bright,
 As with ex - ul - ta - tion, Mar - y giv - ing birth,
 Nev - er was that mid - night touched by dread and gloom:
 Ho - ly, haunt - ing beau - ty, liv - ing, lov - ing God.



Word - in - Flesh, the mys - ter - y pro - claim - ing.
 Swoop - ing with the beau - ty of a ra - ven.
 Hails the in - fant cry of need and bless - ing.
 Dark - ness was the cra - dle of the dawn - ing.
 Hal - le - lu - jah! Sing and tell the sto - ry!

THE APOSTLES'S CREED

BCP 96

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

BCP 97

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

**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.**

SUFFRAGE B

BCP 98

Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

Govern and uphold them, now and always.

Day by day we bless you;

We praise your name for ever.

Lord, keep us from all sin today;

Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.

Lord, show us your love and mercy;

For we put our trust in you.

In you, Lord, is our hope;

And we shall never hope in vain.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 98

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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.**

A Collect for Sundays

BCP 98

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect Grace

BCP 100

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

BCP 100

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, FORM IV

BCP 388

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

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.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, 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, 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; 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, 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.

For Church Musicians and Artists

BCP 819

O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Be ever present with your servants who seek through art and music to perfect the praises offered by your people on earth; and grant to them even now glimpses of your beauty, and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For the Unemployed

BCP 824

Heavenly Father, we remember before you those who suffer want and anxiety from lack of work. Guide the people of this land so to use our public and private wealth that all may find suitable and fulfilling employment, and receive just payment for their labor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
 we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
 for all your goodness and loving-kindness
 to us and to all whom you have made.
 We bless you for our creation, preservation,
 and all the blessings of this life;
 but above all for your immeasurable love
 in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
 for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
 And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
 that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
 not only with our lips, but in our lives,
 by giving up our selves to your service,
 and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord,
 to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
 be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

BCP 102

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Officiant concludes with the following:

Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

CLOSING HYMN

"Watch, O Watch"

Frank McKendree

Watch, o - watch, the light w - ill come be still, my
 soul, and pray.