

Advent II December 3, 2023

Announcements

Prelude: *My Lord, What a Morning,* arr. Richard Billingham

Opening Hymn:Lo! He comes with clouds descending.Hy

Hymn 57

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Advent 2

Celebrant: Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. Colossians 3:15

People: Almighty God, you offer rest for our hearts, and peace for our souls. Give us grace to seek peace in our lives, peace in this community, and peace in the world. Through Jesus Christ, the prince of peace. Amen.

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

BCP 355

The Word of God

Celebrant: Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Collect for Purity

Let us pray together the Collect for Purity Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.** Kyrie Lord, have mercy Christ, have mercy Lord, have mercy

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.

The Lessons

A Reading from: Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

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.

A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every 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. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get 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!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him: his reward is with him. and his recompense before him. He 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 Word of the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God.

Psalm 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.
- Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Epistle

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Do 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. The 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. But 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.

Since 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, waiting 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? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

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

Sequence Hymn: On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

Hymn 76

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 1:1-8 People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'"

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And 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. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He 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. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily

Vikki Clayton

BCP 358

All stand as you are able 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.

Stand or kneel as you are able

The Prayers of the People Form II

BCP 385

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishops; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church. *Silence*. I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

For Peace: Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and forever. Amen. *Silence*

We pray for the people of Israel and Gaza, that God leads them to peace. Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day. *Silence*

We pray for those on the Anglican and Diocesan Cycles of Prayer and our Parish Family and Friends We pray for: Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury. Michael, Our Presiding Bishop, Mariann Our Bishop and Vikki, our Rector; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church of North India (United)

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

St. Nicholas' Parish, Germantown Episcopal Church Women United Thank Offering Our brothers, sisters and siblings of Jewish Faith as Chanukah begins International Human Rights Day (December 10)

For our Parish Family and Friends:

Steve O'Neil, Scott Peterson, Delbert Wemple, Stevie Grimes, Laura Hobbs, Nancy Harding, Frank McMurtray, Janet McMurtray

Carolann Guerette (V. Cross) Frank and Jerry Cross (V. Cross) Rebecca Koltun & family (J. Rutherford) Susan Oliver (J. Shea) Thomas Cooper and Mrs. Boyd (D. Burton) Roseann Royle (N. Row) Bill Rovle (N. Row) Darcy Alt (S. Henderson) Pam Jagusch (S. Grimes) Linda Abrahams (V. Clayton) Tachiea Roland-Morris (V. Clayton & V. Cross) Jeff Weinberger (S. Henderson) Nick Vlachos (C. Hendricks) Janice and Jeff Sands (M. Wemple) Meghan Bradley (N. Row) Patty Terry (V. Clayton) Nancy Willett (J. Rutherford) Scott Johnston (V. Cross)

The Dodge Family (M. Wemple) Seth Washington (S. Grimes) Amy Morris (D. Howard) Helen Hamlin (N. Row) Amanda Graham (A. Fitts) Pamela Koch (J. Peterson) Raymond Parker (M. Wemple) Michele Shirron (V. Clayton & N. Row) Marlowe Leafty (A. Factor) Alma Bray (L. Bray) Karen Scott (M. Wemple)

December Birthdays

Melissa Dalton	December 10
Judith Schneider	December 14
Joyce Hawkins	December 17
Owen Jagusch	December 17
Lonnie Pera	December 18
Vickie Fisher	December 19
Lauren Fisher	December 30

Celebrant:

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence may be kept*.

Celebrant and People: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you

BCP 360

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.

Celebrant:

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.**

All stand as you are able **The Peace**

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you. **People:** And also with you.

Celebrant: Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us as offering and sacrifice to God.

The Offertory

All are seated.

Choral Anthem: *People, Look East*, Eleanor Fajeon and John Hooker

All stand as you are able. Doxology Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below. Praise Him above the Heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer A The Great Thanksgiving

BCP 361

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, 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

Hymn S130

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith: *Celebrant and People* Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

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 forever. **Amen.**

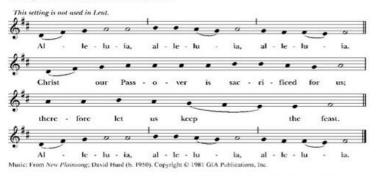
Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant 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, forever and ever. Amen.

Hymn S154

The Fraction The Celebrant breaks the bread. (*A moment of silence*)

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music, #154



The Holy Eucharist, Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover, #154 from The Hymnal 1982, Service Music — Music: From New Plainsong; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

Celebrant

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

BCP 365

Hymn 640

Post Communion Prayer Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn: *Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding*

Hymn 59

The DismissalLay Eucharistic MinisterGo in peace to love andserve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.PeopleThanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Postlude

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light, J.S. Bach

Serving Today Lay Reader Kim Bamburak Lay Eucharist Minister Deborah Howard Choir Director, Music Director, and Organist Lauren Fisher Usher John Strong Broadcast Technician Victoria Cross Altar Guild Ann and Bill Fitts Flower Guild Sharon Henderson Celebrant & Preacher The Rev. Vikki Clayton

St. Bartholomew's Choir

Jeff Bergsten, Bill Fitts, Charley Hendricks, Judy O'Neil, Maggie Ramey, Jennifer Rutherford, Judith Schneider, Mary Wemple

St. Bartholomew's Sunday School Teachers Maya Fitts, Lauren Murtiff

St. Bartholomew's Vestry

Senior Warden	Nancy Row
Junior Warden	Jeff Bergsten

Vestry

Victoria Cross, Lauren Fisher, William Fitts, Charles Frederick, Charley Hendricks, Deborah Howard, Lois Leigh, Lauren Murtiff, Robert Palmer

Coffee Hour

Coffee hour today is hosted by Charles Frederick, join us in the undercroft. Next week is a combined service with St. Luke's. Festive refreshments, along with coffee and tea afterward.

Altar Flowers:

The altar flowers are given in celebration of the 35th wedding anniversary of Michael and Janet Shea.

Christmas poinsettias

Christmas poinsettias are available again this year, the cost is \$16 each. Please put a check in the offering plate marked "Poinsettias", in an envelope with cash marked "Poinsettias", or use the QR code under "Altar Flowers" then email Victoria in the office

(parishadmin@saintbartholomews.org) by Tuesday to let her know who to dedicate them to.

Upcoming Services:

Lessons and Carols Service

Sunday, Dec. 10 at 11:00 a.m.

Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 17 at 11:00 a.m.

Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, December 24 at 7:30 p.m. There will not be an 11 a.m. service this day.

St. Anne's Concert Series:

St. Anne's Damascus has restarted its concert series. On Sunday December 10th at 5:00 p.m. they're having a special holiday concert by the Montgomery Low Brass Trombone ensemble. Montgomery Low Brass features trombone players from around the DMV who come together just for the joy of playing. Come get in the Christmas spirit with a fun evening of music! A reception with refreshments will follow. Free will offerings are accepted. St. Anne's Episcopal Church, 25100 Ridge Road, Damascus, MD.

Lions Club Coat Drive: The Lions Club Coat Drive is underway and will continue through December 15th. Please bring used coats (adults and children) and place them (always open) in the bin on the front porch of the Town Hall. Warm children's clothing will also be accepted. Please help provide warmth for families during this winter season.

Bible Study

Bible study is on winter break until January 11th, 2024.

Music Together with Sonia

Sonia offers music and dance for children from infants to five years old. There are classes at 9:30, 10:30, and 5:15. More information is available at musictogetherwithsonia.com.

Food Giving Basket

There is a food giving basket for Olney Help in the entry way of the church with a "wish list" of items. Once it is filled Olney Help will come and empty it and we begin the filling process anew. Please help our less fortunate neighbors by adding a few extra items to your grocery list. Please bring the items in a bag. Thank you for your generosity.

On-Line Giving

There is now the option to contribute to the ministries of St. Bartholomew's by using this QR code:



St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church

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