



**Morning Prayer on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent  
December 6, 2020  
9:00am**

**Welcome**

**Candle Lighting**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Hymn 56, vs. 7

O come, desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind;  
bid thou our sad divisions cease,  
and be thyself our King of Peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

**Opening Sentences**

**BCP p. 75**

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

*Isaiah 40: 3*

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

*Isaiah 40: 5*

**Confession of Sin**

*Officiant*

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*All*

God of grace, for our failure to listen to others, forgive us.

For our blindness to the hurt and suffering of others, forgive us.

For offering judgment rather than compassion, to those in need, forgive us.

For our fear of those who are different from ourselves, forgive us.

For the harm we have done, forgive us.

For the good we have failed to do, forgive us.

Guide us in your truth, and teach us the way to go, that we may love and serve you well, in the Name of the One who saves us, Jesus Christ. 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 p. 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.

*Officiant*

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

**Jubilate** *Psalm 100*

**BCP p. 82**

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; he himself has made us, and we are his;

we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; give thanks to him and call upon his Name. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

**Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13**

**BCP p. 708**

<sup>1</sup> You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

<sup>2</sup> You have forgiven the iniquity of your people and blotted out all their sins.

<sup>8</sup> 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.

<sup>9</sup> Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

<sup>10</sup> Mercy and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

<sup>11</sup> Truth shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

<sup>12</sup> The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.

<sup>13</sup> 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:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Lessons**

**First Reading**

*2 Peter 3: 8-15a*

**Common English Bible**

<sup>8</sup> Don't let it escape your notice, dear friends, that with the Lord a single day is like a thousand years and a thousand years are like a single day. <sup>9</sup>The Lord isn't slow to keep his promise, as some think of slowness, but he is patient toward you, not wanting anyone to perish but all to change their hearts and lives. <sup>10</sup> But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. On that day the heavens will pass away with a dreadful noise, the elements will be consumed by fire, and the earth and all the works done on it will be exposed.

<sup>11</sup> Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be? You must live holy and godly lives, <sup>12</sup> waiting for and hastening the coming day of God. Because of that day, the heavens will be destroyed by fire and the elements will melt away in the flames. <sup>13</sup> But according to his promise we are waiting for a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

<sup>14</sup> Therefore, dear friends, while you are waiting for these things to happen, make every effort to be found by him in peace—pure and faultless.<sup>15</sup> Consider the patience of our Lord to be salvation....

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      Thanks be to God.

**Canticle 11 The Third Song of Isaiah** *Surge, Illuminare*

**BCP p. 87**

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.

For behold, darkness covers the land; deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.

But over you the Lord will rise, and his glory will appear upon you.

Nations will stream to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawning.

Your gates will always be open; by day or night they will never be shut.

They will call you, The City of the Lord, The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.  
Violence will no more be heard in your land, ruin or destruction within your borders.  
You will call your walls, Salvation, and all your portals, Praise.  
The sun will no more be your light by day; by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.  
The Lord will be our everlasting light, and your God will be your glory.

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 reading**      *Mark 1: 1-8*

Common English Bible

The beginning of the good news about Jesus Christ, God's Son,<sup>2</sup> happened just as it was written about in the prophecy of Isaiah:

*Look, I am sending my messenger before you. He will prepare your way,<sup>3</sup> a voice shouting in the wilderness:  
"Prepare the way for the Lord; make his paths straight."*

<sup>4</sup>John the Baptist was in the wilderness calling for people to be baptized to show that they were changing their hearts and lives and wanted God to forgive their sins. <sup>5</sup>Everyone in Judea and all the people of Jerusalem went out to the Jordan River and were being baptized by John as they confessed their sins. <sup>6</sup>John wore clothes made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He announced, "One stronger than I am is coming after me. I'm not even worthy to bend over and loosen the strap of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

*Reader*    The Word of the Lord.

*People*    Thanks be to God.

**Canticle 16 The Song of Zechariah**    *Benedictus Dominus Deus*

**BCP p. 92**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to his people and set them free.  
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, born of the house of his servant David.  
Through his holy prophets he promised of old, that he would save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
He promised to show mercy to our father and to remember his holy covenant.  
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
Free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.  
You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way.  
To give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.  
In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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.

**Reflection**

The Rev. Dr. Becky Coerper

**The Apostles' Creed**    *Officiant and people together.*

**BCP p.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 p. 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.

## Intercessory Prayers A

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. **And grant us your salvation.**

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. **Let your people sing with joy.**

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. **Your saving health among all nations.**

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

### *The Prayer of the Day*

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.**

### *Diocesan Cycle of Prayer*

In this diocese we pray for the people of Trinity Episcopal Church, Seneca Falls, and their priest, the Rev. Brad Benson; and the people of Church of the Epiphany, Sherburne, and their priest, the Rev. Elizabeth Gillett. In our Companion Diocese, we remember Jean, Ita, Maura, and Dorothy, martyred Sisters of the Maryknoll Community. In the Episcopal Church, we pray for the Diocese of Cuba, The Rt. Rev. Griselda Delgado del Carpio. In the Anglican Communion, we pray for the people of the Reformed Episcopal Church and their bishop, the Rt. Rev. Carlos López-Lozano. **Amen.**

### *A Prayer for Sundays*

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 prayer for our nation*

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace. You O God, have bound us together in a common life.

Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*A prayer for those in need*

We pray for those in need of healing, and those who work to heal, especially those we now name \_\_\_\_\_;  
May they know the healing touch of Jesus to be a source of rest, comfort, and restoration.

*A prayer for those who have died*

For those we love but see no longer, especially those we name silently or aloud \_\_\_\_\_.  
May they live forever with God in Christ.

*A Prayer for the mission of the Church*

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Announcements**

### **Birthday and Anniversary Blessing**

May the strength of God pilot you. May the power of God preserve you. May the wisdom of God instruct you. May the hand of God protect you. May the way of God direct you. May the shield of God guard you against the snares of evil and the temptations of the world. May the Spirit of God bless you in the coming year.  
*Adapted from Patrick, c.389 - c.46*

### **The General Thanksgiving**

**BCP p. 101**

*Officiant and People*

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.

*The Officiant concludes with the following*

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** *Ephesians 3: 20,21*