

St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church

Ocean City, Maryland



THIRD SUNDAY OF
ADVENT

Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021

Holy Eucharist—Rite II

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place. I can feel His mighty power and His grace. I can hear the brush of angel's wings, I see glory on each face. Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

Advent Tradition

Advent is the first season of the church year, beginning with the fourth Sunday before Christmas and continuing through the day before Christmas. The name is derived from a Latin word for "coming." The season is a time of preparation and expectation for the coming celebration of our Lord's nativity, and for the final coming of Christ "in power and glory." There are several ways that Advent is counted down but the most common are candles or calendar.

THE GATHERING OF THE FAITHFUL

The Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

Advent Wreath Liturgy, Hope, Peace, Joy, Love, Christ, compiled and written by the Rev. Matthew Kozlowski.

Officiant: "Today we light the first, second, and third candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE, and the third candle is JOY."

The candles are lit; the lighter says. Andy Diaz

"You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands" *Isaiah 55:12*

Prayer (*in unison*): "Gracious God, you came to us in human flesh and you abide with us in the Holy Spirit. Fill us with your joy and help us shine as a light to the world. Through Jesus Christ, who makes our joy complete. Amen."

Processional Hymn:

Hymnal 1982, #68

1 Rejoice! rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear!
The evening is advancing, and darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising, and soon he will draw nigh;
up, watch with expectation! at the midnight comes the cry.

2 See that your lamps are burning, replenish them with oil;
look now for your salvation, the end of sin and toil.
The marriage-feast is waiting, the gates wide open stand;
Rise up, ye heirs of glory, the Bridegroom is at hand!

3 Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;
Arise, thou Sun so longed for, above this darkened sphere!
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption, and ever be with thee!

The Word of God

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Celebrant says

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.

The following hymn is sung, all standing

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
 have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
 receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
 Jesus Christ,
 with the Holy Spirit,
 in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

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.*

Prayer for the Lady of Guadalupe, said by Andy Diaz

God of all peoples, we thank and bless you for the protection and love of Our Lady of Guadalupe. In her we see your affection for all peoples and feel your desire to be near to your people. Mother of the Americas, guide and comfort us with your loving presence as we, like you, seek to say yes to God's call in our lives. Intercede on behalf of those who are ill. Inspire in us the faithfulness of Juan Diego as we seek to do the will of your son in the world. *Amen.*

Dios de todos los pueblos, te agradecemos y bendecimos por la protección y el amor de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe. En ella vemos tu cariño por todos los pueblos y sentimos tu deseo de estar cerca de tu pueblo. Madre de las Américas, guíanos y

consuélanos con tu amorosa presencia mientras nosotros, como tú, buscamos decir sí al llamado de Dios en nuestras vidas. Intercede por los enfermos. Inspíranos la fidelidad de Juan Diego mientras buscamos hacer la voluntad de tu hijo en el mundo. Amén.

The Lessons

The people sit. Two Lessons are read, the Reader first saying

A Reading (Lesson) from Zephaniah, the 3rd chapter beginning at the fourteenth verse

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

The LORD has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.

The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing
as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.

And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the LORD.

After each Reading, the Reader says

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Canticle 9

The First Song of Isaiah *Isaiah 12:2-6*

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.

Epistle

A Reading (Lesson) from Philippians, the 4th chapter beginning at the fourth verse.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

After each Reading, the Reader says

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn:

Hymnal 1982, #679

1 Surely it is God who saves me;
Trusting him, I shall not fear;
For the Lord defends and shields me,
And his saving help is near.
So rejoice as you draw water
From salvation's living spring;
In the day of your deliv'rance
Thank the Lord, his mercies sing.

2 Make his deeds known to the peoples:
Tell out his exalted Name.
Praise the Lord, who has done great things;
All his works his might proclaim.
Zion, lift your voice in singing;
For with you has come to dwell,
In your very midst, the great and
Holy One of Israel.

Gospel

Then, all standing, the Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

After the Gospel, the Priest says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Pastor Karen Wamester

Celebrant and people, all standing

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 of the People

Form IV

Deacon or other leader

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.

On the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer this week, we give thanks for the witness of God's people at St. Andrew's Mission, Hurlock, and for the ministry of their Deacon, the Rev. Barbara Coleman, and her spouse John. We pray for their Food Ministry and those who receive its offerings. On the Local Faith Communities Prayer Cycle we pray for Son Spot Ministries, Ocean City.

Silence

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.

Silence

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.

Silence

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. Bless those celebrating birthdays this week, especially JB Bunting; and those celebrating anniversaries, especially JB & Melissa Bunting

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially those on our prayer list; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

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.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Diocesan Collect, said in unison

Gracious God, through the movement of your Holy Spirit, strengthen us here at St. Paul's by-the-Sea and in the Diocese of Easton as an inviting and welcoming people; receive our worship, nurture our life in Christ that we may evermore faithfully serve all your people, both near and far; this we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Clergy Search Prayer, said in unison

Gracious God, we are reminded of your gifts in and for all the children of the Church. Call on us now; use us, in service of your whole Church. As we work to call a new pastor to our congregation, may your Holy Spirit lead us to discern the gifts we seek and see those gifts clearly in candidates you are sending us. In our communications, interviews and meetings with them, may we find ourselves once again who we surely are in Christ Jesus, stewards of your many gifts. Amen.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Confession of Sin

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

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.*

The Priest, stands and says

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.*

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

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

Announcements & Offertory

Holy Communion

Offertory

The Celebrant says to the people

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

Eucharistic Prayer C

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says

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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

Here a Proper Preface is sung.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Celebrant and People

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.

The Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
*We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.*

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. *AMEN.*

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

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.

The people receive the Sacrament in one kind. Proceed to the altar rail and exit by the side aisles.

The Bread is given to the communicants with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [Amen.]

Communion Hymn:

Hymnal 1982, #314

1. Humbly I adore thee,
Verity unseen,
who thy glory hidest
'neath these shadows mean;
lo, to thee surrendered,
my whole heart is bowed,
tranced as it beholds thee,
shrined within the cloud.

2. Taste and touch and vision
to discern thee fail;
faith, that comes by hearing,
pierces through the veil.
I believe whate'er
the Son of God hath told;
what the Truth hath spoken,
that for truth I hold.

3. O memorial wondrous
of the Lord's own death;
living Bread that givest all
they creatures breath,
grant my spirit ever by
thy life may live,
to my taste thy sweetness
never failing give.

4. Jesus, whom now hidden,
I by faith behold,
what my soul doth long for,
that thy word foretold;
face to face thy splendor,
I at last shall see,
in the glorious vision,
blessed Lord, of thee.

After Communion, the Celebrant says
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.

Blessing

Recessional Hymn:

Hymnal 1982, #539

1 O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling,
to tell to all the world that God is Light;
that he who made all nations is not willing
one soul should fail to know his love and might.

[Refrain]

Publish glad tidings: tidings of peace,
tidings of Jesus, redemption and release.

2 Proclaim to every people, tongue, and nation
that God, in whom they live and move, is Love;
tell how he stooped to save his lost creation,
and died on earth that all might live above. (Refrain)

3 Send heralds forth to bear the message glorious;
give of thy wealth to speed them on their way;
pour out thy soul for them in prayer victorious
till God shall bring his kingdom's joyful day. (Refrain)

4 He comes again! O Zion, ere thou meet him,
make known to every heart his saving grace;
let none whom he hath ransomed fail to greet him,
through thy neglect, unfit to see his face. (Refrain)

Dismissal

The Celebrant dismisses the people with these words

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Welcome to St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church

All baptized Christians, of any age & denomination, are welcome to receive communion.

***Gluten Free Wafers are available.*

Prayer List

Robbie Whittington Joyce, Cindy Dreslin, Kyle Harmon, Shirley Connor, Jose Cabrera, Ryan Fischer, Katlyn, David Warren, Letty Trimper Hurst, Rev. Penny Morrow, Fr. Joe Rushton, Connie Mayers, Doug Dryden, Brian Friedman, Grace, Fr. Ron Knapp, Delores Rothermel, Ronnie Skinner, Randy Hastings, Gary Ballard, Hugh, Frank Candeloro, Jr., John Rogers, John Seward, Stephanie Hill, Douglas Allan, Yvetta Henry Tull, Melvin, Jimmy Farley, Alex Hoffman, Jonathan Jones, Nancy Wimbish, Francisco Hector Diaz Diaz, Fred Smith

This Week We Pray For ...

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We give thanks for the witness of God's people at St. Andrew's Mission, Hurlock, and for the ministry of their Deacon, the Rev. Barbara Coleman, and her spouse John. We pray for their Food Ministry and those who receive its offerings.

Local Faith Communities Prayer Cycle: Son Spot Ministries, Ocean City.

Birthdays: JB Bunting

Anniversaries: JB & Melissa Bunting

December 12th, 2021 – January 8th, 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
December 12 III Advent 10 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II w/ Pastor Karen Wamester In-Person & Facebook	13 Vestry Mtg SPBTS 5:30pm	14	15	16	17	18
December 19 Last Advent 10 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II w/ Rev. Dr. Frieda Malcolm Featuring Soloist, Joanna Cross In-Person & Facebook	20	21	22	23 NOEL Food Bag Distribution	24 Christmas Eve Church Office Closed 5pm Lessons & Carols Service	25 Christmas Day
December 26 I Christmas 10 am Morning Prayer, Rite II w/ Lay Worship Leaders In-Person & Facebook	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve Church Office Closed	January 1 New Year's Day
January 2 II Christmas 10 am Morning Prayer, Rite II w/ Lay Worship Leaders In-Person & Facebook	3	4	5 Grace Parker Breakfast 1st Pres. Ch. 7-Noon	6	7	8

Shepherds Crook is open on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays in DeWees Hall from 10am to Noon, serving free dry food goods. On Saturdays the NOEL Community will provide free carry out lunches.



“Love God, Serve the World”

The Rt. Rev. Santosh Marray, *Bishop*

-- The Parish Vestry --

2022
Jerilyn Andrews
John Knotts

2023
Karen Gordon
Paul Rogers
Bob Rothermel

2024
Kay Ayres
Tom Shuster

-- 2022 Diocesan Convention --

Paul Rogers & Amy Rothermel — Delegates
Karen Cramer & Nancy Knotts — Alternates

Tom Shuster, *Sr. Warden*
Bob Rothermel, *Jr. Warden & Chair, Buildings & Grounds*
Cheryl Nottingham, *Registrar*
Paul Rogers, *Treasurer*
Cheryl Nottingham, *Finance Chair*
Amy Rothermel, *Chair, Memorial Fund*
Nancy Knotts, *Shepherd's Crook*
Karen Cramer, *Chair, Parish Life, Historian*
Mary Wright, *Chair, Altar Guild*
Tom Shuster, *Chair, Worship Committee*
Shirley Hailey, *Choir & Organist*
Don O'Grince, *Administrative Assistant*
Jody Farley, *Bookkeeper, Communications, Office Assistant*
Karen Gordon, *Pastoral Liaison 302-236-0592*

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