

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

Ocean City, Maryland



First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023

# 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.*

## Processional Hymn

Hymnal 1982, #460

1 Lo! he comes with clouds descending,  
once for our salvation slain;  
thousand, thousand saints attending  
swell the triumph of his train:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Christ the Lord returns to reign.

2 Every eye shall now behold him,  
robed in dreadful majesty;  
those who set at nought and sold him,  
pierced, and nailed him to the tree,  
deeply wailing, deeply wailing,  
shall the true Messiah see.

3 Those dear tokens of his passion  
still his dazzling body bears,  
cause of endless exultation  
to his ransomed worshipers;  
with what rapture, with what rapture,  
gaze we on those glorious scars!

4 Yea, amen! let all adore thee,  
high on thine eternal throne;  
Savior, take the power and glory;  
claim the kingdom for thine own:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

## Lighting of the First Advent Candle

# The Word of God

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

Blessed are you, holy and living One.

*People* You come to your people and set them free.

*The Celebrant may say*

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 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

Celebrant    The Lord be with you.

People        And also with you.

Celebrant    Let us pray.

*The Celebrant says the Collect.*

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## 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.*

## The First Lesson: Isaiah 64:1-9

<sup>1</sup>O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— <sup>2</sup>as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! <sup>3</sup>When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. <sup>4</sup>From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. <sup>5</sup>You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.

<sup>6</sup>We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. <sup>7</sup>There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand

of our iniquity. <sup>8</sup>Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. <sup>9</sup>Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

*After each Reading, the Reader may say*

The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

### **Psalm:** 80:1-7, 16-18

- <sup>1</sup> Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*  
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- <sup>2</sup> In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, \*  
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- <sup>3</sup> Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- <sup>4</sup> O Lord God of hosts, \*  
how long will you be angered  
despite the prayers of your people?
- <sup>5</sup> You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- <sup>6</sup> You have made us the derision of our neighbors, \*  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- <sup>7</sup> Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- <sup>16</sup> Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, \*  
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- <sup>17</sup> And so will we never turn away from you; \*  
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- <sup>18</sup> Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

### **The Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

<sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given

you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— <sup>6</sup>just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— <sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*After each Reading, the Reader may say*

The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

## Sequence Hymn

Hymnal 1982, #640

1 Watchman, tell us of the night,  
what its signs of promise are.  
Traveler, o'er yon mountain's height,  
see that glory-beaming star.  
Watchman, does its beauteous ray  
aught of joy or hope foretell?  
Traveler, yes; it brings the day,  
promised day of Israel.

2 Watchman, tell us of the night;  
higher yet that star ascends.  
Traveler, blessedness and light,  
peace and truth its course portends.  
Watchman, will its beams alone  
gild the spot that gave them birth?  
Traveler, ages are its own;  
see, it bursts o'er all the earth.

## Gospel

*Then, all standing, the Celebrant reads the Gospel, first saying*

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

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

<sup>24</sup>“But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, <sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

<sup>26</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

<sup>28</sup>“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>32</sup>“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## **Gradual Hymn**

Hymnal 1982, #640

3 Watchman, tell us of the night,  
for the morning seems to dawn.  
Traveler, darkness takes its flight,  
doubt and terror are withdrawn.  
Watchman, let thy wanderings cease;  
hie thee to thy quiet home.  
Traveler, lo! the Prince of Peace,  
lo! the Son of God is come!

## The Sermon

*Pastor Jill Williams*

*On Sundays and other Major Feasts there follows, 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**

People of God, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord. Let us pray to God, saying,  
“Teach us your ways, O God, *that we may walk in your paths.*”

Wake from sleep, O God, your Church. Let us lay aside the works of darkness and  
put on the armor of light. Let us live honorably as salvation draws ever nearer.

*Silence*

Teach us your ways, O God,  
*that we may walk in your paths.*

Wake from sleep, O God, this nation. May we beat our swords into plowshare, and  
our spears into pruning hooks. May we learn war no more.

*Silence*

Teach us your ways, O God,  
*that we may walk in your paths.*

Wake from sleep, O God, your creation. May the mountains rise to meet you and  
the crops of the fields burst forth in praise.

*Silence*

Teach us your ways, O God,  
*that we may walk in your paths.*

Wake from sleep, O God, this city. May there be peace and prosperity within our  
walls. Make clear our paths that we may walk in your light.

*Silence*

Teach us your ways, O God,  
*that we may walk in your paths.*

Wake from sleep, O God, those in pain and sadness. Deliver them from their  
darkness that they may rejoice in your light. May all those awaiting healing find your  
salvation is near.

*Silence*

We give you thanks, O Lord;  
*and call upon your Name.*

Wake all your people from sleep, O God. Prepare your saints for that day when the Son of Man will return, with the saints at rest, to reign with us forever and ever.

*Silence*

We give you thanks, O Lord;  
*and call upon your Name.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect*

Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

## **Confession of Sin**

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*The people stand or kneel.*

*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 Bishop, when present, or 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.

## **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*

*Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread  
and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant.*

Everyone is welcome at the table of the Lord and is invited to communion! At the altar rail, you will be offered the host first, which will be placed in your hand. Please respond "Amen." Then the wine will be offered to you to drink from the common cup. [We no longer intinct.](#) If you are not yet comfortable returning to drinking from the common cup, you may either return to your seat after receiving the host, or you may choose to cross your arms over your chest when the chalice is offered and simply respond "Amen," therefore reverencing the sacrament. We believe that we are fully communed after receiving the sacrament in one form, so any of these choices would be fully acceptable. If you do not wish to receive communion, or you have not yet been baptized, you are still invited to come up to the altar rail for a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest when offered the host and Pastor Jill will say a blessing over you. You may then return to your seat. If you interested in learning more about baptism and full entrance into our worshipping community, please contact Pastor Jill at [Pastorjill@stpaulsbythesea.org](mailto:Pastorjill@stpaulsbythesea.org).

*The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.*

## **Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Alleluia, Alleluia

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia, Alleluia

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

## **Eucharistic Prayer A**

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and sings or 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*

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:

*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 people stand or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

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 for ever.

*The people say:*

AMEN.

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, let us say together the Lord's Prayer, in whatever language you are most comfortable.

*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.*

*Then may be sung or said*

[Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]

*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 ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*Using the center aisle, proceed to the Altar rail. Once you have received communion, return to your seat using the side aisles.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

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

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [Amen.]

## Communion Hymn Hymnal 1982, #615

1 "Thy kingdom come!" on bended knee  
the passing ages pray;  
and faithful souls have yearned to see  
on earth that kingdom's day.

2 But the slow watches of the night  
not less to God belong;  
and for the everlasting right  
the silent stars are strong.

3 And lo, already on the hills  
the flags of dawn appear;  
gird up your loins, ye prophet souls,

proclaim the day is near:

4 the day to whose clear shining light  
all wrong shall stand revealed,  
when justice shall be throned in might,  
and every hurt be healed;

5 when knowledge, hand in hand with peace,  
shall walk the earth abroad;  
the day of perfect righteousness,  
the promised day of God.

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*  
Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*  
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.

**Benediction**



**Recessional Hymn:** Hymnal 1982, #616

1 Hail to the Lord's Anointed,  
great David's greater Son!  
Hail, in the time appointed,  
his reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression,  
to set the captive free;  
to take away transgression,  
and rule in equity.

2 He comes with succor speedy  
to those who suffer wrong,  
to help the poor and needy,  
and bid the weak be strong;  
to give them songs for sighing,  
their darkness turn to light,  
whose souls, condemned and dying,  
were precious in his sight.

3 He shall come down like showers  
upon the fruitful earth,  
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,  
spring in his path to birth;  
before him on the mountains  
shall peace, the herald, go;  
and righteousness in fountains  
from hill to valley flow.

4 Kings shall bow down before him,  
and gold and incense bring;  
all nations shall adore him,  
his praise all people sing;  
to him shall prayer unceasing  
and daily vows ascend;  
his kingdom still increasing,  
a kingdom without end.

5 O'er every foe victorious,  
he on his throne shall rest;  
from age to age more glorious,  
all blessing and all blest;  
the tide of time shall never  
his covenant remove;  
his Name shall stand for ever,  
his changeless Name of Love.

### **Dismissal**

*Celebrant* Alleluia, Alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*People* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

All baptized Christians, of any age & denomination, are welcome to receive communion. **\*\*Gluten Free Wafer** are available.

## Prayer List

Robbie Whittington Joyce, Cindy Dreslin, Kyle Harmon, Shirley Connor, Jose Cabrera, Ryan Fischer, Katlyn, Letty Trimper Hurst, Fr. Joe Rushton, Connie Mayers, Doug Dryden, Brian Friedman, Grace, Randy Hastings, Frank Candeloro, Jr., John Seward, Stephanie Hill, Douglas Allan, Yvetta Henry Tull, Jean Charles, Jimmy Farley, Alex Hoffman, Jonathan Jones, Larry Lorton, The Lecates Family, The People of Ukraine, Michael Hallett, Hannah Johnson, Hugh Smith, Ralph Hastings, Frank Avallone, Mary Wright, Andy Diaz, Alan Farley, Liana Wallman, Susan Lewis, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, Christine Zellner, Brian, Nicoyia, Tom Belle, Aaron Call, Christine Bauerdorf, Victims of the Hawaiian Wildfires, Lynn Anstatt, Jim Burton, Peggy Hartman, Kathy Jersin, Mary Mitchell, Wendy O'Donoghue, Christina Hartman, Patrick O'Malley, Chris Ellis, David Twining, Corey Bowman, Roger Ballard, Beverly Cooper, Aniyah Adams

## This Week We Pray For ...

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We give thanks for the witness of God's people at Christ Church, Cambridge, and for their Rector, the Rev. Susan Leight, and her spouse, A.K.

Birthdays: Lisa Mitchell, Don O'Grince, Debbie Harris, Kay Ayres