



Saint Bartholomew
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
a house of prayer for all people

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
17 December 2017 at 10:30 a.m.
THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

The People Gather

This service is based on the Order for Holy Eucharist: Rite Two found in the red Book of Common Prayer. It is customary for the people to prepare for worship in quiet and prayer.

The Word of God

The people stand to sing

Hymn H-59 Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding *Merton*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Hymn H-56 O come, O come, Emmanuel (verses 5 & 6)

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: *His mercy endures for ever.*

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.

Lord Have Mercy Kyrie *S96*

The Collect Of The Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

THE LESSONS

The people sit for

The First Reading: 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.

Reader : The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 126 *In convertendo*

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.

*Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy.*

Then they said among the nations,
"The Lord has done great things for them."

*The Lord has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.*

Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like
the watercourses of the Negev.

*Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.*

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

The Epistle: 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

The people stand for the singing of the Sequence Hymn and the reading of the Gospel. Verses 1, 2 & 3 are sung before the readings and verses 4 & 5 are sung after.

Hymn H-76 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry *Winchester*

The Gospel: John 1:6-8,19-28

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to John.

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

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.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Sermon The Rev. Stephen Secaur

The people stand to say

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM III

Father, we pray for your holy catholic, Church;
That we all be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you.

That your Name may be glorified by all people.
We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; (prayer list)...
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others...(Armed Forces, B-days, Anniversaries)...
Silence
The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The people kneel for
Confession of Sin

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

Celebrant 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.*

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.*

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: And also with you.
All greet one another in the name of Christ.

PRAYERS OF SPECIAL INTENTION

The people may come forward to receive a special prayer or blessing.
The people are seated for the

Announcements
Children's Sermon
Altar Preparation
Choir Anthem

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY

At the Presentation: *The Doxology (Hymn 380, v- 3)* *Old 100th*

The people remain standing to sing

TTHE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer B

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.

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 in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Sanctus *S125*

The people stand or kneel

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,
Celebrant and people

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you,O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, bring sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring firstborn of all creation,

the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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. **AMEN.**

And as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Celebrant and People:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, you will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever,
Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Fraction Anthem Agnus Dei *S164*

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.

The people may join in saying this prayer

The Communion of the People

All baptized people – whether Episcopalian or not – are welcome to join in the sacrament of Holy Communion. Children of all ages are included in this invitation. If you wish to receive a healing blessing from the Celebrant, when you come to the rail for Communion, fold your hands in prayer.

Communion Choir Anthem

The 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

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ, came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light on his blessing and set you free from all sin.

Hymn H-437 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! *Birmingham*

The Dismissal

The Celebrant dismisses the people, and the people respond
People: *Thanks be to God.*