

Morning Prayer – Rite II

Third Sunday of Advent – Year B

December 13, 2020

Prelude: “Savior of the Nations, Come BWV599 *J. S. Bach*

Opening Hymn: “On Jordan’s Bank” **Hymn #76**

1. On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry announces that the Lord is nigh; awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings.
2. Then cleansed be every breast from sin; make straight the way for God within, and let each heart prepare a home where such a mighty guest may come.

Welcome and Announcements:

The Glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together. *(Isaiah 40:5)*

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour. *(Matthew 24:42-44)*

Advent Wreath Lighting “O Come O Come Emmanuel”
Eleanor Campbell, Soprano

(V.s. 5) O come, thou key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

(V.s. 6) O come, thou Dayspring from on high,
and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death’s dark shadow put to flight. **Refrain**

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

Officiant 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

Officiant: 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 Lessons

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

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.

Here ends the Lesson.

Psalm 126

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.

Interlude:

“ O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

- Keesecker

Rachel Schmitt, piano

Second Lesson

John 1:6-8, 19-28

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.

Here ends the Lesson.

The Sermon

The Reverend Douglas Rogers, Deacon

Meditation Hymn:

“Rejoice! rejoice, believers”

Hymn #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 in expectation! at midnight comes
the cry.
2. 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 Apostles' Creed

**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 Collect of the Day: *(Officiant)*

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.

Dear God, we pray with faith in the power of your presence

Today in the hope which Advent brings for the creation of new visions, expectations, and possibilities for us and our world.

In our wildest, most daring dreams of peace in the world, we pray for the welfare and safety of all your people, nations, and religions, living with tolerance, respect, and equality of freedom for all.

For Emmanuel Parish, those whose efforts sustain this church, our clergy, Bishop, and all churches of God throughout the world, we pray for your guidance and blessings.

We pray for healing as you know is needed, for those in unbearable circumstances, the homeless, the prisoners, the fearful, those who are threatened or captive. We pray for those in sickness and those on our parish prayer list; especially Children & Families of Emmanuel, Dorothy, Ellen, Kristen, Maryanne, Nick, Owen, Patrick, Rich, Sam, Sean, Tammy, baby granddaughter to Alan & Barrie and for our families, friends, and neighbors.

We pray for those celebrating birthdays, especially **Parker Holton** (12/16); **Mendy Thomas** (12/16); **Steven Wanninger** (12/18) and those celebrating anniversaries.

We pray for those who have died, especially Richard, those we hold in our hearts, and those who have gone before us to your heavenly joy.

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

Advent Blessing

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

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn:

“Prepare the way”

Hymn #65

1. Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near! Let every hill and valley a level way appear. Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story. Oh, blest is Christ that came in God’s most holy name.
2. He brings God’s rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above. His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love. Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding. Oh, blest is Christ that came in God’s most holy name.

Postlude:

“Oh, Come Divine Messiah”

- *Charpentier*

Announcements

The church remains closed for worship during mitigation. There are no in-person meetings per Bishop Lee.

Wednesdays during Advent: We examine what the gospels tell us of the birth of Jesus in “Light of the World” a presentation by Amy-Jill Levine. We will meet on zoom. There is a study guide available through Amazon, but it is not necessary to participate. If you have any questions, contact Diane.

Virtual Labyrinth Walk: Advent brings about a renewed sense of anticipating what is to come. The Latin adventus means “arrival” and the anticipation of that emergence of Holy Light into our lives. Like the iconic Advent wreath circle of wholeness, we gather to honor our journey by walking the labyrinth, this year in the form of online finger walks.

Each **Wednesday at 6:30 CST**, Barrie Gibby will lead a 30-minute finger walking meditation offered throughout Advent as the days grow darker and the lighted path grows brighter. Our online circle will celebrate the progression of lighted candles of Hope, Peace, Love, and Joy. Labyrinth printout link [labyrinth meditation](#)

Stewardship: Please prayerfully consider your 2021 pledge to Emmanuel. God has richly blessed us. We give back to Him in thanks for His goodness. If you haven't turned in your pledge for 2021, please do so today.

Jubilee Scarf: Thank you to everyone who knitted scarves for our Annual Jubilee Scarf Drive. This year 679 scarves were knitted and donated.

Retirement: December 20th at Noon We toast Gale and wish her well. Gale will be sorely missed in the office she has been a good friend to us all. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2990474775> - If you would like to send good wishes to Gale, please send them to either Mary E. Johnson or Betsy Parker

Calendar of Upcoming Events!:

Lessons and Carols Sunday, **December 20 at 4 pm**

Since we are unable to gather after Lessons and Carols, we thought of gathering virtually for an afterglow with each of us purchasing food from one of these local restaurants in support of the community. **Prairie Street Brewery; Capri Pizzeria; La Cocina Mexican Restaurant and Octane.**

Blue Christmas Monday, **December 21 at 7 pm**

Christmas Eve Friday, **December 24, 6 pm**

Christmas Day 10 am

Christmas I & II 10:30

Services are broadcast on Facebook, and you do not need an account to view them.

Aspire Presents: Join us after the New Year on **Wednesday, January 6, at 7 pm**, for the fifth program in the series of “Not Your Ordinary Saints.” The program will be available via *Zoom (no masks or social distancing required)*. This is the fifth of the series that will highlight – Francis Perkins and will be presented by Millie Zimmerman and Ruth Cox. Go to www.emmanuelrockford.org or follow our Facebook page for future dates and details.

Book Club: Diane is starting a Book Club which will **meet at 7 pm Wednesday, January 13th** via Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2990474775> - We will discuss Bishop Curry's book "Love is the Way" Hope you can join us!

Virtual Trivia: **Tuesday, January 12**, get your team together to play Trivia on Zoom \$10 per person. Sign up with Diane, don't worry if you don't have team, we will find you one.

Kacie Hackett's Trivia game raised \$10,000 for Restaurant Association of Washington Relief Fund, One Fair Wage Relief Fund, World Central Kitchen, and other relief funds for individuals in the restaurant and hospitality industry who have lost their jobs. As we enter “Season 2” of the trivia game, we’re raising money for housing security for those facing uncertainty from COVID-19. A full list of organizations that we’ve donated to are listed here.

Winter closing in upon us: This can be a time of isolation, but it doesn't have to be so. Small groups are forming for socializing via Zoom. If you are interested, let Diane know.

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

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The Reverend Diane Tomlinson.....Rector
The Rev. Douglas Rogers.....Deacon
Gale M. Degner.....Parish Administrator
Dale Thomas.....Treasurer
Wayne Hatwich.....Director of Music
Trish Rooney.....Assistant Director of Music
Courtney Oakes.....Director of Children & Family Ministries
Maria Mendia.....Nursery Care Coordinator
Timothy Borden.....Sexton
Vestry Members.....Jean Frana, Sr. Warden; Alan Gibby, Jr. Warden;
Jennifer Smith, Kathryn Torrence, Jacob Hardesty, Stacey
LaRosa, Susan Schmitz, Peter Gottlick, Mathew Oakes.

Assisting in the Liturgy

10:30 a.m. **Vocalist:** Eleanor Campbell, (*Soprano*)

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