



Third Sunday of Advent

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Diocese of West Missouri
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The Rt. Rev. Diane M. Jardine Bruce, Bishop Provisional
The Rev. William Jeff Hurst, Priest-in-Charge
Sherry Minzey, Administrative Assistant, Remote
Patti McGill, Music Director

Vision & Mission

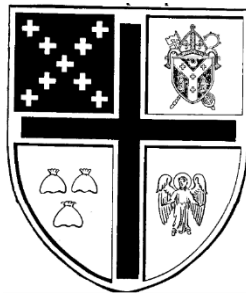
Vision

We are a community that seeks to serve Christ in all people through
God's forgiving love.

Mission

We are here:

To offer sanctuary, acceptance and forgiveness
To strengthen and encourage each other
To advocate for and empower those in need, and
To worship, pray and grow in Christ.



Third Sunday of Advent

The Holy Eucharist Rite Two

Sunday, December 17, 2023

PRELUDE

Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Music, Latin, 9th Century, Arr. Jason Tonioli

The Word of God

Entrance Rite

ENTRANCE HYMN *The King shall come when morning dawns* **H 73**

Words, John Brownlie; Music, William Jones

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains the first five lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the remaining five lines. Each line of the hymn is written in a four-part setting, with the Soprano part on the top staff and the Bass part on the bottom staff. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with line numbers 1 through 5 indicating the different parts of the choir.

1 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
2 Not, as of old, a lit - tle child, to
3 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
4 and let the end - less bliss be - gin, by
5 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and

1 light tri - um - phant breaks; when beau - ty gilds the
2 bear, and fight, and die, but crowned with glo - ry
3 earth's dark night is past; O haste the ris - ing
4 wear - y saints fore - told, when right shall tri - umph
5 light and beau - ty brings: Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy

1 east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
 2 like the sun that lights the morn - ing sky.
 3 of that morn, the day that e'er shall last;
 4 o - ver wrong, and truth shall be ex - tolled.
 5 peo - ple pray, come quick - ly, King of kings.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People You come to your people and set them free.

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.*

KYRIE

S 96

Setting from Deutsche Messe, Franz Peter Schubert; arr. Richard Proulx

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
 Lord, — Lord, have mer - cy.
 Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, Christ, — Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

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.*

Lighting of the candles.

Today we light 2 purple candles and now the 3rd pink candle. While purple or blue symbolizes penitence this 3rd candle is pink because pink or rose is the liturgical color for **joy**. This candle is described as the "Shepherd's Candle" as we reflect on the **joy** that the Shepherd's experienced after hearing the Angel's declaration about the birth of Jesus that they carried to others who would listen.

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- ¹The 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;
²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
³to 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.
⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;

they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.
⁸For 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.
⁹Their 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.
¹⁰I 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.
¹¹For 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: Psalm 126

The People respond by half verse

¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.
²Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
³Then they said among the nations, *
“The LORD has done great things for them.”

- ⁴The LORD has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.
- ⁵Restore our fortunes, O LORD, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.
- ⁶Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.
- ⁷Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Thessalonika.

- ¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²abstain from every form of evil.
- ²³May 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.
- ²⁴The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

116 ALLELUIA

Refrain Joe Wise, 1966, 1973

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

B \flat Eb B \flat Eb Cm 7 F 7

al - le - lu - ia, al-le - lu-ia, al-le - lu - ia.

B \flat E \flat B \flat Cm F 7 B \flat

Verse

We will hear your Word, one in love; we will live your Word,

B \flat E \flat B \flat Dm E \flat

To refrain

one in love; we will spread your Word, one in love.

B \flat E \flat Cm B \flat To refrain

GOSPEL: John 1:6-8, 19-28

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

¹⁹This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” ²¹And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” ²²Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” ²³He said,

“I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,

‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ ”

as the prophet Isaiah said.

²⁴Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, “Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?” ²⁶John answered them, “I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.” ²⁸This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

FR. JEFF HURST

THE 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

All sit.

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;
That we all may 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 our Presiding Bishop Michael, our Bishop Diane, and all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for our President Joseph, our Governor Michael, and all who 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;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

For those who are ill or for whom our prayers have been requested and those whose names are on our parish intercession list, and those whose names were added this week, and for those now mentioned by this congregation.

We remember our police force, first responders, medical personnel and educators.

That they would be effective in all their labors and service for our community

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.

We give thanks for those who celebrate birthdays this week, and for those celebrating anniversaries.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

PARISH PRAYER

In unison

Heavenly Father, pour down your Holy Spirit upon this Parish, and grant us a new vision of your glory, a new experience of your power, a new faithfulness to your Word, a new consecration to your service so that, through our renewed witness, your Holy Name may be glorified and your Kingdom advanced; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Creator God, giver of every good gift, look graciously on us in the Diocese of West Missouri and guide us as we discern our call of a new bishop. O Jesus, be present in our discernment, and lead us to a shepherd who will invite us to live out the Gospel every day. O Holy Spirit, inspire us with your wisdom, and kindle our hearts with the fire of your love, that we may be renewed as we prepare to welcome the ministry of our next bishop. This we ask trusting in You. Amen."

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

OFFERTORY HYMN *There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying* **H 75**
Words, James Lewis Milligan; Music, Henry Hugh Bancroft.

1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a ____
 2 O ____ Zi - on, that bring - est good tid - ings, get thee ____
 3 but the word of our God ____ en - du - reth, the ____

call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a
 up to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late
 arm of the Lord is strong; he stands in the midst ____ of

high - way, a high - way for our God! The ____
 peo - ple the com - ing of their King. Like the
 na - tions, and he will right the wrong. He shall

val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the
 flowers of the field they ____ per - ish, like
 feed his ____ flock like a shep - herd, the

lof - ty hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed
 grass our works de - cay, the power and pomp of
 lambs he'll gent - ly hold; to pas - tures of peace he'll

pla - ces where the Lord our ____ God ____ may go!
 na - tions shall ____ pass like a dream ____ a - way;
 lead them, and ____ bring them ____ safe to his fold.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow H 380

Vs. 3

Words, Issac Watts; music, Old 100th

Choir will sing the Amen

1 From all that dwell be - low the skies let
 2 E - ter - nal are thy mer - cies, Lord, and
 *3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise

the Cre - a - tor's praise a - rise! Let the Re - deem - er's
 truth e - ter - nal is thy word: thy praise shall sound from
 him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye

Name be sung through ev - ery land, by ev - ery tongue!
 shore to shore till suns shall rise and set no more.
 heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Priest : All things come of thee O Lord

People : And of thine own we have given thee.

The Great Thanksgiving

SURSUM CORDA

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 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:

SANCTUS

S 130

Setting from Deutsche Messe, Franz Peter Schubert; arr. Richard Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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. *AMEN*.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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,
 forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM

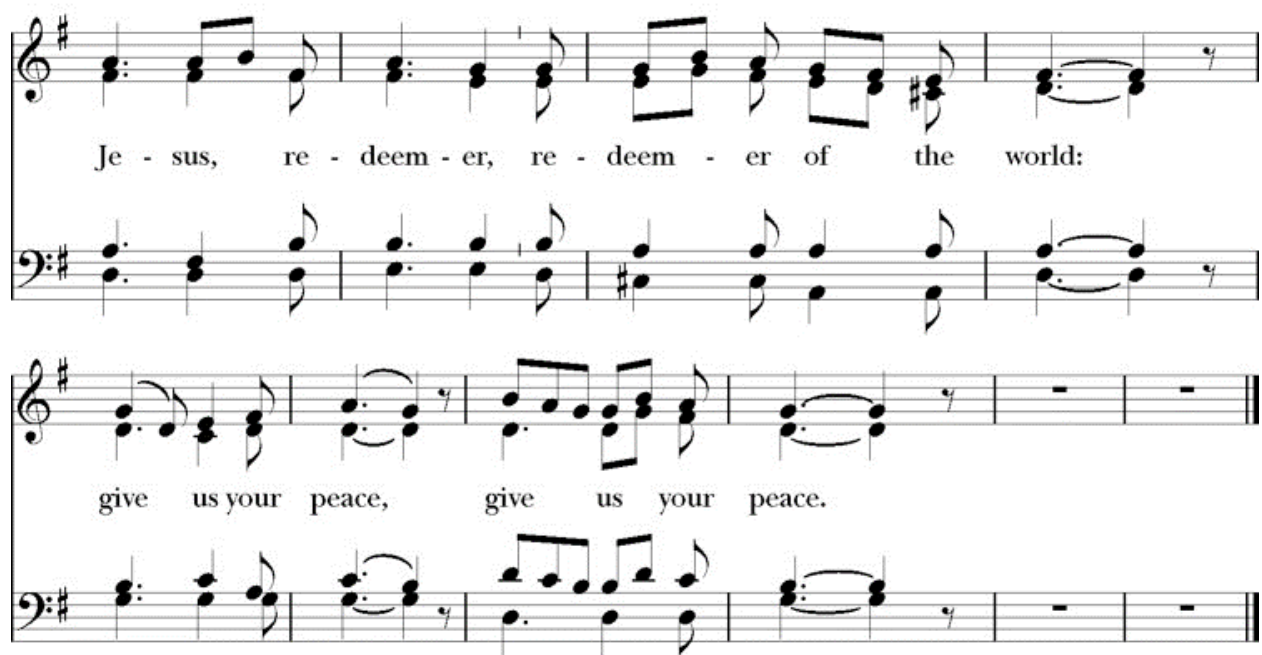
Jesus, Lamb of God

S-164

Setting from Deutsche Messe, Franz Peter Schubert; arr. Richard Proulx

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.



HUMBLE ACCESS

In unison

Celebrant and People

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your abundant and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up
the crumbs under your table;
but you are the same Lord
whose character is always to have mercy.
Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Celebrant says

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.

DISTRIBUTION

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

Communion for those streaming.

The bread of heaven. The cup of salvation.

COMMUNION HYMN:

Taize Chant - Wait for the Lord

From the Taize Community

(Psalm 27:14)
♩ = 48

The musical score is written for two staves, treble and bass clef, in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps) and 2/2 time. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 48. The first system of music is marked with a piano (p) dynamic and includes the lyrics 'Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.' The second system is marked with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic and includes the lyrics 'Wait for the Lord: keep watch,— take heart!'. Chord symbols are written above the notes: Em, C, Am, B in the first system, and Em, D, G, Am, B, Em in the second system.

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: keep watch,— take heart!

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

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

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon
you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

POST-COMMUNION HYMN

Soon, Very Soon

LEVAS 14

Words and Music, Andrae Crouch

See the insert for words and music

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

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Announcements

Third Sunday of Advent This Week

Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Rite II
	11:00 a.m.	Coffee Hour – Hanging of the Greens
Wednesday		Evening Prayer
Friday	11:00 a.m.	Altar Guild-Christmas Set Up
Sunday	2:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service
Dec. 24th	3:00 p.m.	Christmas Reception

Everyone Welcome! If you are a newcomer, please take a moment to sign the register sheet in the pad at the end of each pew, and be so kind as to give us your address and email. Please know you are most welcome to fully participate. Join us for Coffee Hour, and we hope you come again soon.

A change in the Altar Flowers or the Sanctuary Candle offering sign-up. If you wish to offer either the Altar Flowers or Sanctuary Candle, please email Sherry, sminzey.stmatt@gmail.com The candle contribution is \$5.00 and the flower contribution is \$35.00 per vase (please note change in price). Flowers at the altar are made possible only by your special contributions, as no Parish operating funds are used for this purpose.

The individual intercessions for persons on the **Parish Prayer List** can be found on the Narthex table. You are invited to take a copy of this list for your own prayers during the week. If you wish to submit a name to be included on the prayer list, please email Sherry at: sminzey.stmatt@gmail.com