



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER



Second Sunday of Advent
Holy Eucharist in the Celtic Tradition
November 28, 2021 • 5:00 pm

A note that while Hamilton County is an area of HIGH COVID-19 case transmission, we thank you for wearing a mask, maintaining a safe distance, refraining from singing, and sharing the peace at a distance without touch.

PRELUDE

ECCE DEUS
ALY'S WALTZ

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

This liturgy is adapted from "A Celtic Liturgy for Every Season" by Elizabeth Grover.

Please stand.

OPENING WORDS

Officiant The God of love is with us.

People **The Spirit of love is in us.**

Officiant Blessed be the one God, whose prophets foretold the coming of the Light,

People **And blessed be the Son, whose coming we await.**

THE LIGHTING OF THE THREE LIGHTS

Officiant We will light a light in the name of the Maker

People **God who spoke in the silence and gave the gift of sound.**

Officiant We will light a light in the name of the Christ

People **Jesus, whose human ears heard the sounds of his Father's creation.**

Officiant We will light a light in the name of the Spirit

People **The Holy One who speaks to us with a still, small voice.**

OPENING PRAYER

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you**

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, to you our hearts are open and our inmost desires known. We cannot hide our most intimate secrets from you. We ask you to be present at all times in our thoughts and our hearts and to purify them, so that we may love you with the love of the Spirit and praise your name with humility and joy; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A HYMN OF PRAISE

Officiant Let us praise the Holy One in the words of Mary.

All My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

A PRAYER OF THE DAY

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you**

Officiant Let us pray. Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE

A SONG OF HOPE

BY CHARLES BERTRAM JOHNSON

Day is at the gate,
I am risen late;
Clouds laze in the air,
Clouds sleep on the grass;
I have song to spare
Till the shadows pass.

Day is at the noon,
No thread of bow or moon;
Rain is in the air,
Drenched and limp the grass;
I have song to spare
Till the shadows pass.

Day is at the close,
Faith no logic knows;
Rain-clouds blur the air,
All the world is dun;
I have song to spare
Till to-morrow's sun.

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL SONG

KYRIE

THE GOSPEL

LUKE 3:1-6

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE HOMILY

There will be a pause for silent reflection immediately following the homily.

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Celebrant Let us join in affirming our faith in God.

People We believe in God above us,
Maker and sustainer of all life,
Of sun and moon, of water and earth,
Of male and female

We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ,
The Word made flesh,
Born of a woman, servant of the poor,
Tortured and nailed to a tree

A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.

He descended into the earth to the place of death.

On the third day he rose from the tomb.

He ascended into heaven, to be everywhere present,

And his kingdom will come on earth .

We believe in God within us,

The Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,

Life-giving breath of the Church,

Spirit of healing and forgiveness,

Source of resurrection and of eternal life. Amen

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One As we eagerly await the coming of our Lord and Savior who brings light into our weary world, we turn to you, O God, with our concerns and thanksgivings, responding, "Let your light shine in our hearts."

We pray for the church throughout the world, and for all who serve the world in Christ's name. Comfort your Church, O God.

All **Let your light shine in our hearts.**

One We pray for people everywhere, that division and hatred, poverty and ignorance may be cast out, and that where there is conflict, leaders may be strengthened and inspired to unite for peace. Comfort your Nations, O God.

All **Let your light shine in our hearts.**

One We pray that this Advent time of hopeful expectation may be for us a time of grace, reflection, and generosity. Open our hearts wide as we prepare for your coming. Comfort your World, O God.

All **Let your light shine in our hearts.**

One We pray for people and places that long for relief from suffering, for all affected by the coronavirus; for all struggling with mental health concerns and those we name now, silently or aloud. (pause). God remind us that we are not alone. Comfort your Children, O God.

All **Let your light shine in our hearts.**

One We pray for those who have died, remembering especially those we name now, silently or aloud. (pause). Comfort those who grieve, O God.

All **Let your light shine in our hearts.**

Celebrant Comfort, comfort your people, O God. Cause a new light to shine in our hearts, and keep us in hopeful expectation that you will make yourself known to us in small and generous ways as we await the coming of Jesus Christ, your son, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Celebrant As we await the coming of Jesus,
So we often wait for others to forgive us.
Our sin separates us from God and from one another.
Let us forgive our brothers and sisters
And confess our own sin together

All **God of all people, as we await once again
The birth of your love in our hearts,
We confess that we have lost sight of that love.
In this busy season we turn away from pain and poverty,
We avoid the sick and the lonely,
And we ignore the outcast and the oppressed.
Have mercy on us and give us the strength
To truly welcome Christ into our hearts
And live our lives according to your will.
We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Celebrant The Lord enrich us with grace,
And further us with heavenly blessing.
The Lord defend us in adversity and keep us from all evil.
The Lord receive our prayers
And graciously absolve us from our offenses.
In God's name we pray. **Amen**

SHARING THE PEACE

Celebrant God makes peace within us.

People **Let us claim it.**

Celebrant God makes peace between us.

People **Let us share it.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY

THE SKIFF TO STAFFA

We encourage you to give your offering electronically today. You may text “RedeemerCincy GIVE” to 73256. There are also two collection spots in the narthex (look for the Give Here signs) where you may deposit your offering safely.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant All things are yours, O God of creation,

People **And so we return our gifts of treasure to you.**

Celebrant Blessed are you, O God of creation, through whose goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made

People **May it become for us the bread of life.**

Celebrant Blessed are you, O God of creation, through whose goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands;

People **May it become for us the cup of blessing.**

Celebrant Receive these gifts, dear God, and accept in them the sacrifice of ourselves.

People **In life and in death may we be an offering to you for ever.**

Celebrant We offer you praise and hearts lifted high, O God, who is Father of all life and of all sound. Though our days vanish like mist, and the sound of the earth fade away in the distance, still your Spirit is within all life, and every human soul is born in your likeness. And so with the whole created order, with the stars that silently glisten with life's glory, with the wind that howls and the gentle breeze that whispers, with the trumpets of heaven's messengers and the echo of each of the saints, we join in the song of your unending greatness:

Celebrant and People

SANCTUS

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are filled with your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant Blessed are you, O God, whose wisdom from above has inspired men and women through the ages to fulfill on earth your purposes - to hear the cry of the poor, to act with mercy, and to live together in gentleness and peace. We bless you for the coming of Christ, who in life and in death embodied the law of love. By his rising again, he has saved our souls from despair, and by the gift of the Holy Spirit, he has given us courage and hope to face the forces of evil and death that rage around and within us.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus, took bread, and having blessed it, he broke the bread, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take, eat; this is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took wine, and having given thanks for it, he gave the cup to his disciples, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

People **Remembering his eternal self-giving, we proclaim the mystery of Christ among us. Made one with him and one with each other, we offer these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy living sacrifice.**

Celebrant O God, whose generosity is unbounded and who wills that we should lack no good thing, bless this bread and this wine with your Holy Spirit, that in receiving them into ourselves we may be made whole again, strengthened not merely to hear the truth, but to do it, and be blessed in our doing; through Christ, by whom, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty God, world without end.

All **AMEN**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now say,

People and Officiant

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your 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 forever. Amen

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant The Spirit we await is with us in the bread.

People **The voice of the Holy One speaks to us in the cup.**

THE SHARING OF A HOLY MEAL

COMMUNION MUSIC

THE FALLS OF ROGIE

CLOSING PRAYER

Celebrant Let us stand and join in thanking God for this holy meal

All **O God, we have heard your call to us,
And we have responded by gathering in your name
To await your voice.**

Help us to listen to your presence

In silence and in sound - the voices of your people,

The noises of your animals, the music of creation -

That, reconnected with you and one another

Through this holy meal

We may hear the voice which calls us home to you

Our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier. Amen

Celebrant Lord of all light, as we go forth into the world, we extinguish the lights that here represent the presence of the Holy in our midst.

People **But we will carry the light in our hearts and we pray that as we go about our work in the world, we will shine with the love of God. Amen**

THE CELTIC BENEDICTION

THE BLESSING

Celebrant May the Wonderful Counselor guide you,

The Mighty God protect you

The Everlasting Father be with you,

And the Prince of Peace comfort you.

And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

Be upon you now and ever more. **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG

‘MARY HEARD THE ANGEL’S MESSAGE...’

ECCE DEUS

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth with joy to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

IN THANKSGIVING & MEMORY

WE GIVE THANKS FOR THOSE CELEBRATING:

Birthdays in the next week: Nancy Mackenzie Powell, Heather Krombholz, Charles Baker, John Avril, Martha Stimson, Livie Vatter, Lee Cowan, Sharon Holbrook, Lynne Wagoner, Carter Gaither, Thomas Robinson, Linda Busken Jergens, Paul Shortt, Jim Miller, Kurt Palmquist, Lela Robinson, Whitten Massey, Gretchen Webb, Bonnie Helvie, Arlo Slane

Anniversaries in the coming week: David & Angela Lyman, Bryan & Jacqueline Tye, Amy & Jim Kattman

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

Celebrant & Preacher

Lector

Lay Reader

Intercessor

Celtic Guild

Celtic Musicians

Bread Guild

Altar Guild

Flower Guild

The Rev. Melanie Slane

Missy Darling

Dave Howard

John Grover, Elizabeth Grover, John Crouch

Guy Byars

Liz Schildknecht, Julia Joyce, Andrea Rogers

Kathe Kissel, Courtney Vice, Laurie Maguire, Sue Wilkening



The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer

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