

Holy Eucharist, November 13, 2020

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted. *Isaiah 61.1*

The Gathering of the Community *BAS p. 185*

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People **And also with you.**

"Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. 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."

Advent Wreath Celebration

Opening Responsory

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;

Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Will you not give us life again,

That your people may rejoice in you?

Show us your mercy, O Lord

And grant us your salvation.

Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace on earth and glory in the highest.

Lighting the Advent Wreath Candle: Advent 3

(Presiding Celebrant)

On this Third Sunday of Advent the theme of light becomes "Lighten up" The name of the Sunday, "Gaudete", (rejoice) is reflected in the hymn O Come, O Come Emmanuel, and the colour of the candle is pink instead of purple. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Those who follow me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

(A representative of the Congregation):

We light three candles on our wreath, reminding us of our calling to be light for the world, and to bring joy as we prepare for the birth of Jesus.

Unison Prayer:

Dear God, many people in our world live with darkness and gloom. Help us to say and do those things which will spread light and joy and hope in Jesus name. Amen.

Our Saviour and Sovereign draws near

O come let us worship

Glory to God

**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

God of power and mercy,
you call us once again
to celebrate the coming of your Son.
Remove those things which hinder love of you,
that when he comes,
he may find us waiting in awe and wonder
for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Reader: 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.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church
People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 126

1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.
2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
3 Then they said among the nations, *
"The Lord has done great things for them."
4 The Lord has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.
5 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.
6 Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.
7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

**Praise to you, God of our salvation. Your generous gifts surpass
all that we can ask or imagine. You have delivered us from
the exile of sin and restored us to new life in Jesus Christ our
Saviour. Glory and honour and praise to you forever and ever.**

Reader: A reading from the first letter to the Thessalonians

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: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church
People: Thanks be to God

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

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.

Celebrant The Gospel of Christ.
People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

Celebrant Let us confess the faith of our baptism, using the words of the Apostles' Creed

**All 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.

Prayers –December 13th, 2020

Intercessor Let us pray.
Pleading for God's gift of a renewing Spirit, let us offer our prayers to God, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

That our lives may be songs of praise and thanksgiving rising from joyful hearts and proclaiming in every word we speak and gesture we make that God fills us with holy presence, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor That all those in our world held in captivity or any form of slavery may find liberation from the chains that bind them and new freedom for their hearts, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor That we may accept with courage God's anointing of our lives to share in the divine mission of rescue for the world, bringing justice and joy to all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor That we may reverently offer in service to the world the ministry of light which we hold in fragile human hands, this sharing in the saving work of Christ the Light, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor That the mercy of God which lasts from age to age may wash over us and bless us and stir up in us the bold courage to be its faithful prophets in our world, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor That parishioners weakened through illness of mind or body especially, *[Names in Parish]*, and for those known only to you, feel your protective hand and our tangible care, we stand in need, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Today in our Anglican Cycle of prayer we pray for the Church of the Ascension, Don Mills, its Café 65 program for seniors and support of the Community Share food bank; for the Church of the Ascension, Port Perry, its support of local outreach initiatives, education for reconciliation, and stream regeneration project with Kawartha Conservation; and for the Parish of Belmont, its involvement with Habitat for Humanity and the Pikangikum Water Project, and its advocacy for affordable housing, food security, and poverty reduction, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Send the Spirit of Jesus upon us, O God, that we may be your songs of peace and joy in this world. We pray in the name of the one who is our peace and joy, Christ our Lord. Amen.

COVID Prayer

Confession and Absolution

Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;

he welcomes sinners
and invites them to his table.
Let us confess our sins,
confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Intercessor: Most merciful God,
**All 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 neighbours 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 upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

The peace

Hymn 106 There's a Voice in the Wilderness.

Supplementary Eucharistic Prayer 2 (S2)

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 our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant Eternal God, Source of all being,
we give you thanks and praise
for your faithful love.

You call us into friendship
with you and one another
to be your holy people,
a sign of your presence in the world.

When those we trust betray us,
unfailingly you remain with us.

When we injure others,
you confront us in your love
and call us to the paths of righteousness.
You stand with the weak,

and those, broken and alone,
whom you have always welcomed home,
making the first last, and the last first.
Therefore we raise our voices
with angels and archangels,
forever praising you and saying (singing):
**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of 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 Holy One:
when Hagar was driven into the wilderness
you followed her and gave her hope.
When Joseph was sold into bondage,
you turned malice to your people's good.
When you called Israel out of slavery,
you brought them through the wilderness
into the promised land.
When your people were taken into exile
you wept with them by the river of Babylon
and carried them home.

People **Restore us, O God, let your face shine!**

Celebrant At the right time you sent your Anointed One
to stand with the poor,
the outcast, and the oppressed.
Jesus touched lepers, and the sick, and healed them.
He accepted water from a woman of Samaria
and offered her the water of new life.
Christ knew the desolation of the cross
and opened the way for all humanity
into the redemption of your reconciling love.
On the night he was betrayed,
Jesus, at supper with his friends,
took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread,
gave it to them, and said, "Take and 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."
Loving and Holy One,

recalling Christ's death and resurrection,
we offer you these gifts,
longing for the bread of tomorrow
and the wine of the age to come.
Therefore we proclaim our hope.

**People Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life.**

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Celebrant Pour out your Spirit on these gifts
that through them you may sustain us
in our hunger for your peace.

We hold before you
all whose lives are marked by suffering,
our sisters and brothers.

When we are broken and cast aside,
embrace us in your love.

People Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

Celebrant Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours,
O Source of all life,
now and for ever.

People Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,
we are bold to pray,

All 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,

the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread #5

Celebrant God of promise,
you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

All Happy are those who are called

to the supper of the Lamb.

The gifts of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God.

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Advent Blessing

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing: The Lord bless you and keep you:

The Lord make His face to shine upon you,
To shine upon you and be gracious, and be gracious unto you
The Lord bless you and keep you:
The Lord make His face to shine upon you,
To shine upon you and be gracious, and be gracious unto you

The Lord lift up the light
Of His countenance upon you,
The Lord...

Dismissal

Receiving communion on the way out.