

The Second Sunday of Advent



St. John the Baptist Preaching (detail)
—Bacchiacca (1494–1557)

Holy Eucharist
December 5, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

This service of Holy Eucharist is taken from *The Book of Common Prayer* (2019) of the Anglican Church in North America, from *Times and Seasons* of the Church of England, and from *The Hymnal 1982*. The congregation stands as able at the introduction to a hymn, except during Communion. Physical acts of worship are optional: crossing †, bowing ↓, kneeling, standing.

We enter this consecrated place with reverence, quietly preparing ourselves to meet Almighty God.

Wearing a mask is optional.

THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE Comfort, comfort ye my people (Hymn 67)
Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562–1621)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 436 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates *Truro*

THE ACCLAMATION *The Book of Common Prayer*, p. 145

Celebrant: † Surely the Lord is coming soon.

People: **Amen. Come Lord Jesus!** (*Revelation 22:20*)

THE EXHORTATION BCP, p. 147

Dearly beloved in the Lord: if you intend to come to the Holy Communion of the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ, you must consider how Saint Paul, in his First Letter to the Corinthians, exhorts us all diligently to examine ourselves before we presume to eat of that Bread, and drink of that Cup. For as the benefit is great, if we receive that holy Sacrament with a truly penitent heart and lively faith, spiritually eating the flesh of Christ and drinking his blood, so that we might be made one with Christ and he with us; so also is the danger great, if we receive these gifts unworthily. For then we become guilty of profaning the Body and Blood of Christ our Savior, and we eat and drink to our own condemnation.

Therefore, judge yourselves lest you be judged by the Lord. First, examine your life by the rule of God's commandments. Wherever you have offended, either by thought, word, or deed, confess your sins to Almighty God, with the full intention to amend your life. Be ready to make restitution for all injuries and wrongs you have done to others; and also be ready to forgive others who have offended you: for otherwise, if you unworthily receive Holy Communion, you will increase your own condemnation. Therefore, repent of your sins, or else do not come to God's Holy Table.

If you have come here today with a troubled conscience, and you need help and counsel, come to me, or to some other priest, and confess your sins; that you may receive godly counsel, direction, and absolution. To do so will both satisfy your conscience and remove any scruples or doubt.

Above all, each of us should give humble and hearty thanks to God for the redemption of the world by the death and passion of our Savior Jesus Christ. He humbled himself, even to death on a cross, for us sinners who lay in darkness and in the shadow of death, that he might make us children of God, and exalt us to everlasting life.

Because of his exceedingly great love for us, our Savior Jesus Christ has instituted and ordained these holy mysteries as pledges of his love, and for a continual remembrance of his death and passion, to our great and endless comfort.

To him, therefore, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, let us give continual thanks, as is our duty and our joy; submitting ourselves entirely to his holy will and striving to serve him in holiness and righteousness all the days of our life. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION (*kneeling or sitting*) BCP, p. 12

Deacon: Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires
of our own hearts.
We have offended against your holy laws.
We have left undone those things which we ought to have done,
and we have done those things which we ought not
to have done;
and apart from your grace, there is no health in us.
O Lord, have mercy upon us.
Spare all those who confess their faults.
Restore all those who are penitent, according to your promises
declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

BCP, p. 12

Celebrant: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, desires not the death of sinners, but that they may turn from their wickedness and live. He has empowered and commanded his ministers to pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. † He pardons and absolves all who truly repent and genuinely believe his holy Gospel. For this reason, we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that our present deeds may please him, the rest of our lives may be pure and holy, and that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

BCP, p. 113

(The Celebrant may then say one or more of the following sentences, first saying:)

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest *(Matthew 11:28)*.

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life *(John 3:16)*.

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners *(1 Timothy 1:15)*.

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world *(1 John 2:1-2)*.

THE KYRIE *(standing)*

BCP, p. 106

1 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Ky - ri - e e - lei - son,
 2 Chri - ste e - lei - son, Chri - ste e - lei - son,
 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Ky - ri - e e - lei - son,

Ky - ri - e e - lei - - - son.
 Chri - ste e - lei - - - son.
 Ky - ri - e e - lei - - - son.

Words: Ancient Greek prayer. Music: Russian Orthodox liturgy.
 “Kyrie eleison” = Lord have mercy. “Christe eleison” = Christ have mercy.

(Children ages 3-8 depart for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: Process behind the cross to the Parish Hall, through the right front exit. All return during the Offertory Hymn. If your children are attending for the first time, please accompany them and introduce yourself to the adult volunteers.)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY The Second Sunday of Advent

BCP, p. 598

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and the comfort of your Holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE ADVENT COLLECT OF LIGHT

BCP, p. 598

(The lighting of two Advent Wreath candles.)

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LESSON *(sitting)*

(ESV pew Bible, p. 802)

Malachi 3:1-5

“Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

“Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.”

After the reading: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM 126 (*sitting*) Anglican Chant, Stanley Vann (1910–2010)
(BCP, p. 444) (The Choir of Christ the Redeemer)

- 1 When the LORD overturned the captivity 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 Indeed, the LORD has done great things for us already, *
whereof we rejoice.
 - 5 Overturn our captivity, O LORD, *
as when streams refresh the deserts of the south.
 - 6 Those who sow in tears *
shall reap with songs of joy.
 - 7 He who goes on his way weeping and bears good seed *
shall doubtless come again with joy,
and bring his sheaves with him.
- ↓ Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Spirit; ↑
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, *
world without end. Amen.

THE EPISTLE (*sitting*) (ESV pew Bible, p. 953) 1 Corinthians 4:1–21

This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful. But with me [Paul] it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. For I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

I have applied all these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, brothers, that you may learn by us not to go beyond what is written, that none of you may be puffed up in favor of one against another. For who sees anything different in you? What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?

Already you have all you want! Already you have become rich! Without us you have become kings! And would that you did reign, so that we might share the rule with you! For I think that God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death, because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels, and to men. We are fools for Christ’s sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are poorly dressed and buffeted and homeless, and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we entreat. We have become, and are still, like the scum of the world, the refuse of all things.

I do not write these things to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me. That is why I sent you Timothy, my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, to remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach them everywhere in every church. Some are arrogant, as though I were not coming to you. But I will come to you soon, if the Lord wills, and I will find out not the talk of these arrogant people but their power. For the kingdom of God does not consist in talk but in power. What do you wish? Shall I come to you with a rod, or with love in a spirit of gentleness?

After the reading: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(standing)*

(1st time: congregation. Verse: cantor. 2nd time: congregation.)

Ma - ra - na - tha, ma - ra - na - tha, ma - ra - na - tha. Ma - ra -
na - tha, ma - ra - na - tha, ma - ra - na - tha.

Words: 1 Corinthians 16:22; Revelation 22:20. "Maranatha" (Aramaic) = "Come, O Lord"
Music: Jacques Berthier (1923–1994) Copyright © 1978 Les Presses de Taizé (France),
GIA Publications, Inc., agent. One License A-717533

Cantor: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight;
and all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.

—Luke 3:4, 6 (Isaiah 40:3, 5)

THE GOSPEL

(ESV pew Bible, p. 858)

Luke 3:1–6

*(The sign of the cross may be made with the thumb on forehead, lips, and chest,
to remind us to honor Christ with our thoughts, words, and heart.)*

Before the reading: ††† The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: ↓ **Glory to you, Lord Christ.** ↑

*(It is customary to face the Gospel Book and Reader,
which represent Christ coming among us as truth and light.)*

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. And 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 Isaiah the prophet,

“The voice of one crying 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 become straight,
and the rough places shall become level ways,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God’” *(Isaiah 40:3–5).*

After the reading: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: ↓ **Praise to you, Lord Christ.** ↑

HYMN 75 There’s a voice in the wilderness crying

Ascension

THE NICENE CREED *(standing)*

BCP, p. 108

Celebrant: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.**

**We believe in one Lord, ↓ Jesus Christ, ↑
the only-begotten 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 from the Holy Spirit and 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,
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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(kneeling or sitting)**Times and Seasons*

Deacon: In joyful expectation of his coming to our aid we pray to Jesus.

Intercessor: Come to your Church as Lord and Judge. We pray for this parish and for your whole Church. Help us to live in the light of your coming, and give us a longing for your kingdom. *(Silent prayer)*

Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.** *(Revelation 22:20)*

Come to your world as King of the nations. We pray for President Joe Biden, Governor Charlie Baker, and all in positions of public authority. Before you rulers will stand in silence. *(Silent prayer)*

Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come to the suffering as Savior and Comforter. Break into our lives, where we struggle with sickness and distress, and set us free to serve you for ever. *(Silent prayer)*

Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come to us as Shepherd and Guardian of our souls. Give us with all the faithful departed a share in your victory over evil and death. *(Silent prayer)*

Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come from heaven, Lord Jesus, with power and great glory. Lift us up to meet you, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph, St. John the Baptist, and all your saints and angels we may live and reign with you in your new creation. *(Silent prayer)*

Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Guide the minds and hearts of our Vestry who will choose a new rector for Christ the Redeemer, that we may receive a faithful pastor who will preach the Gospel, care for your people, equip us for ministry, and lead us in the fulfillment of the Great Commission, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** (BCP, p. 648)

Celebrant: Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay; give new courage to your people, who trust in your love. By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom on earth as in heaven, where you live and reign with the Father and the Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

INTRODUCTION TO THE PEACE (standing)

Times and Seasons

Celebrant: God will speak peace to his people, to those who turn to him in their hearts (Based on Psalm 85:8; Joel 2:12).

THE PEACE (standing)

BCP, p. 114

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

BCP, p. 114

(We bring gifts of bread, wine, and money — our offering back to God the fruit of our labor and the means by which we live. The opportunity to worship through giving online is available at <https://ctrnorthshore.org/give/>.)

OFFERTORY ANTHEM People, look east
(The Choir of Christ the Redeemer)

Besançon carol tune, circa 17th century
1980 setting, Barry Ferguson (b. 1942)

People, look east; the time is near
of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east, and sing today:
Love the Guest is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch; when night is dim
one more light the bowl shall brim,
shining beyond the frosty weather,
bright as the sun and moon together.
People, look east, and sing today:
Love the Star is on the way.

Furrows, be glad; though earth is bare,
one more seed is planted there.
Give up your strength the seed to nourish
that in due course the flower may flourish.
People, look east, and sing today:
Love the Rose is on the way.

Angels, announce to man and beast
him who cometh from the east.
Set every peak and valley humming
with the word: the Lord is coming.
People, look east, and sing today:
Love the Lord is on the way.

—1928, Eleanor Farjeon (1881–1965)
Copyright © David Higham Associates, London. Used by permission.

OFFERTORY HYMN 67 Comfort, comfort ye my people

Psalm 42

1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple; speak ye peace, thus saith our God.
2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert far and near.
3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er pla - ces plain!

Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load.
call - ing us to new re - pen - tance since the king - dom now is here.
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits his ho - ly reign;

Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
 Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way!
 for the glo - ry of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad,

tell her that her sins I cov - er, and her war - fare now is o - ver.
 Let the val - leys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him.
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

Words: 1671, Johann G. Olearius (1611–1684), versification of Isaiah 40:1–5 (quoted in Luke 3:4–6)
 Stanza 1, phrases 3 & 4: based on Isaiah 9:2. Translation from German: 1863, Catherine Winkworth (1827–1878)
 Music: 1551, attributed to Louis Bourgeois (circa 1510–circa 1561)

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

BCP, p. 114

Celebrant: All things come from you, O LORD,
People: **And of your own have we given you.**
 (1 Chronicles 29:14)

THE SURSUM CORDA

BCP, p. 115

Celebrant The Lord be with you. *People* **And with your spir - it.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts. *People* **We lift them up 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, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth,

The Preface of Advent BCP, p. 152

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 glory to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to be-hold 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:

THE SANCTUS

BCP, p. 115

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly,
 ly, Lord God of pow - er and might, heaven and
 earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

Setting: William Bradley Roberts (b. 1947) from *Mass for St. Philip's*
 Copyright © 1995 Church Publishing, Inc. One License A-717533

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION (*kneeling or sitting*)

BCP, p. 115

All praise and glory is yours, O God our heavenly Father, for in your tender mercy, you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and he instituted, and in his Holy Gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

So now, O merciful Father, in your great goodness, we ask you to bless and sanctify, with your Word and Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine, that we, receiving them according to your Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

For on the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me." †

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me." †

Therefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of your dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we your humble servants celebrate and make here before your divine Majesty, with these holy gifts, the memorial your Son commanded us to make; remembering his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and his promise to come again.

And we earnestly desire your fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; asking you to grant that, by the merits and death of your Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his Blood, we and your whole Church may obtain forgiveness of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present to you, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice. We humbly pray that all those who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, † be filled with your grace and heavenly benediction, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, because of our many sins, to offer you any sacrifice, yet we ask you to accept this duty and service we owe, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

People

 A - men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP, p. 118

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

**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.
 (Matthew 6:9-13)

THE FRACTION

BCP, p. 118

Celebrant

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Passover is sac - ri - ficed for us.

People

There - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

BCP, p. 119

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.

(Based on Mark 7:28 & John 6:56)

THE AGNUS DEI

BCP, p. 119

1 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on us.
 2 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on us.
 3 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world, grant us your peace.

Setting: Graham Maule (b. 1958) & John L. Bell (b. 1949)
 Copyright © 1988 Wild Goose Resource Group, Iona Community, Scotland
 One License A-717533

THE MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

BCP, p. 119

(Facing the People, the Celebrant may say the following invitation:)

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.]

(or this:)

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.

(John 1:29, Revelation 19:9)

All baptized Christians, including children, are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion at the altar rail. We kneel, if possible, as a sign of humility and gratitude for Christ's gift of himself to us.

Receive at the altar rail, but please return to the pews to consume the Sacrament. Please deposit used communion cups in bins at the back of the church after the service.

Anyone not receiving the Sacrament is welcome to come forward and receive a blessing from a priest; please indicate this intention by crossing your arms over your chest.

Those not able to come forward may notify an usher of their need to be served in the pew.

Gluten-free wafers are available on request.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

Hymn 65 Prepare the way, O Zion *Bereden väg för Herran*

Hymn 53 Once he came in blessing *Gottes Sohn ist kommen*

Hymn 640 Watchman, tell us of the night *Aberystwyth*
(Higher voices sing the phrases that begin with "Watchman."
Lower voices sing the phrases that begin with "Traveler.")

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER *(kneeling or sitting)* *Times and Seasons*

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING 1 Thessalonians 5:23

Celebrant: Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

And the blessing of God Almighty, † the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL BCP, p. 138

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 59 Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding *Merton*

POSTLUDE People, look east (Offertory Anthem)
2015, Richard Shephard (1949–2021)

The closing acts of worship are the extinguishing of candles and the Postlude, for which the people may kneel or sit (or leave quietly). Thank you for not applauding.

*Please deposit used communion cups in bins at the back of the church.
Thank you for helping to keep the church clean and safe.*

Hospitality: *Please join us in the Parish Hall for fellowship, coffee, and tea — through the doors at the right front exit.*

Announcements and prayer concerns appear on the following pages.

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Flower Guild: There are flower envelopes at the side entrance, in the narthex and in the pews for anyone wishing to contribute to flowers honoring someone on their birthday, anniversary, graduation, in memory of a loved one or simply to fulfill a desire to help the flower fund. The envelope may be placed in the plate at the offertory. Thank you.

Blessing of Pregnant Women will take place during the 10:00 a.m. service on the Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 19.

December 12, after the 10:00 a.m. Service: Hospitality Meal. Join us in the Parish Hall for food and fellowship. We will not collect contributions during the meal. If you appreciate the Hospitality Ministry, we encourage you to make a donation in appreciation of this ministry to the General Fund either in the plate offering or online. If you would like to volunteer to help in the future, please contact Allegra Smick (allegrasmick@gmail.com).

December 19, 5:00 p.m. Festival of Lessons and Carols. Reception to follow, if you'd like to bring refreshments for the reception, we'd welcome them. Please email Rebekah Yellis (rebekah.yellis@gmail.com) to help us plan.

FOLLOWING THE CROSS — CHILDREN AT CHRIST THE REDEEMER

by Andrea Kelly

"In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary." Luke 1:26,27

With the youngest children in the atrium we read the text- the proclamation- and in between we move two figures; Mary and Gabriel. They have heard about the town of Nazareth in the land of Israel and now they hear the "announcement" to Mary. Then we wonder who is this child to be born? Why Mary? What does Gabriel say about this child? What does Mary say to Gabriel?

The catechists don't answer the questions but often add their own. All of us hear the stories surrounding Jesus' birth each year, in the atrium, we cultivate "listening" to the text so that we can explore new aspects of the mystery of the Incarnation.

The older children now hear the "Kingdom of God will have no end" having come to know about the History of this Kingdom and Parousia.

They continue reading and hear the account of Mary visiting Elizabeth and the joy they share together through the work of the Holy Spirit.

What do you wonder about these narratives? What do they say about who God is? Is there anything you noticed that you haven't before?

FINANCIAL REPORT

	October	YTD
Giving to Operations	52,510.13	189,704.18
Giving to Restricted Funds	11,536.25	52,316.39
Total Giving	64,046.38	242,020.57
Operational Giving Needed	48,000.00	192,000.00
Result	4,510.13	-2,295.82

Giving often fluctuates from month to month. The result between giving and expenses in the Year to Date column is a fuller picture of financial health. The prior month's update is generally available the second half of the following month.



Sunday, December 5 – Saturday, December 11

- † With our Archbishop and the rest of the ACNA, we pray for immigrant parents and children, refugees, and government leaders.
- † With the North Shore Gospel Partnership, we pray for all orphaned, abandoned, and at-risk youth on the North Shore, and ask that God would raise up faithful people to provide safe and loving homes and well-being for them in tangible ways.
- † We pray for those who are sick or in the hospital and those searching for employment, looking for housing, struggling to pay their bills, or experiencing grief.
- † We pray for strength and protection for first responders: police, military, firemen, nurses, physicians, senior care helpers, medical technicians, and those in the service industry.
- † We pray for our volunteers and that God would rise more people to assist in the work and ministry of the church.
- † We pray for the work and ministry of Hagar's Sisters and the work they are doing to end domestic abuse and to support the survivors of domestic abuse.
- † We pray for persecuted Christians in North Africa, Turkey, Syria, Malaysia, China, North Korea, Afghanistan, and Haiti.
- † In the ACNA Cycle of Prayer, today we pray for the Anglican Province of South America and The Most Rev. Nicholson Drayson, Primate, and his wife, Catherine.
- † In the ADNE Cycle of Prayer, today we pray for Dorcas Albrecht (Archdeacon of Kenyan Churches & Priest at Faith Anglican - Bridgewater, MA), Leah Turner (Priest, Grace Anglican - Bridgewater, MA), David Beaulac (Holy Trinity Anglican Church - Queensbury, NY), Arthur Peters (Church of the Holy Spirit - Granville, NY), Kelly Madden (Priest, Boston Fellows), Lance Giufridda (Priest (retired))
- † We also pray for those in our parish family in current physical or spiritual need: Zoe, Dolly Reid, Betty Shaw, Terri Shaffer, Lori Masi, Barbara Sears, Bette Weiscopf, James R., David Ketcham, and Patsy Ames.

Worship Leaders

The Rev. Dr. Ray Pendleton, Assisting Priest, Celebrant
The Rev. Dr. Malcolm Reid, Assisting Priest, Preacher
The Rev. Samuel Alberty, Deacon
The Rev. Scott Donis, Deacon
Dan McKinley, Minister of Music/Organist & Choirmaster
The Choir of Christ the Redeemer

The Vestry

Cara Hanson, Senior Warden
Mark Hanchett, Junior Warden
Chaz Woodstock, Treasurer
Sarah Skinner, Clerk
Frank Candido, Member-at-Large
Dan Hemmerly-Brown, Member-at-Large
Andrew Neill, Member-at-Large
Rachel Nimon, Member-at-Large
Sarah Wellwood, Member-at-Large
Dr. Don Williamson, Member-at-Large
vestry@ctrnorthshore.org



**188 Elliott Street
Danvers, MA 01923
978.774.3163 www.ctrnorthshore.org**