

#### Saint Matthew Episcopal Church

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## The Third Sunday of Advent December 13, 2020



## **Morning Prayer**

Officiant

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

Officiant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

#### 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 our 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 Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

**Venite** *Psalm* 95:1-7

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, \* and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \* and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, \* and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \* and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

#### **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.

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

### A Reading from 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 The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

#### Canticle 13 - Benedictus es, Domine

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; \* you are worthy of praise; glory to you.

Glory to you for the radiance of your holy

## Name; \* we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; \* on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.

Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; \* we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you, beholding the depths; \* in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.

Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; \* we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

#### A Reading from 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 The Word of the Lord People Thanks be to God

#### **Canticle 17 - Nunc Dimittis**

Lord, you now have set your servant free \* to go in peace as you have promised;

For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \* whom you have prepared for all the world to see:

A Light to enlighten the nations, \* and the glory of your people Israel.

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

# The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to John (1:6-8, 19-28)

#### Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.** 

#### The Sermon

Fr. Haynes

Silence for reflection

## The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together
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

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 Prayers

dead.

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

Our father in heaven hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us this day 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.

- V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;
- R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.
- V. Day by day we bless you;
- R. We praise your name for ever.
- V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;
- R. Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.
- V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;
- R. For we put our trust in you.
- V. In you, Lord, is our hope;
- R. And we shall never hope in vain.

#### 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*.

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* 

#### Leader

As a people in darkness waiting for the coming of the light of Christ, Let us pray to the Lord, **Lord, hear our prayer.** 

For the Unity of Christ's One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church,

Let us pray to the Lord,

Lord, hear our prayer.

For Bartholomew, Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople; Francis, Bishop of Rome; Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael our presiding bishop; Greg our bishop; for priests, deacons and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God,

Let us pray to the Lord,

#### Lord, hear our prayer

For the Anglican Communion, especially the Dioceses of Shyira - (Rwanda), Edmonton - (Canada), Shyogwe - (Rwanda), Egba - (Nigeria), Lafia - (Nigeria), Sialkot - (Pakistan), Egba West - (Nigeria), Singapore - (South East Asia), Egbu - (Nigeria), Egypt - (Jerusalem & Middle East), Sittwe - (Myanmar), Eha - Amufu - (Nigeria), Ekiti - (Nigeria), Ekiti Kwara - (Nigeria), Ekiti Oke - (Nigeria), Ekiti West - (Nigeria), and the Falkland Islands; our diocese, especially St. Paul, Bellingham; Christ Church, Blaine; St. James, Sedro Woolley; and our parish, especially for our Raspberry Pie Buddy Group: Claire Scharmach; Marian Oberg; Mary Blacker; Ton Taylor; Mary Jo & Dave Hopkins; Dave Noll & Cathy Evans, Let us pray to the Lord,

### Lord, hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. We pray for our armed forces, their families, and those who are deployed, especially for those we now name; Let us pray to the Lord,

#### Lord, hear our prayer.

For the poor, the hungry, the oppressed, the unemployed, those in prison, and for the sick and suffering; praying for all those on our prayer list and those in our hearts, especially Lyn, Areewa, Brenda, Marisa, Sandy, Paulette, Erica, Rico, Steven, David, Hollie, Christine, Theresa, Beth, Saray, Julianne, Jessica, Antonette, Ryan, Jackie, Bill & Paula, Janis, Leif, Kari, Kathryn, Deb, Mike, Judy, Elizabeth, Milana McLead, Alisande, Jenny, Peggy, Gordon, Jerry, Debbie, Arne, Kay & Bruce, for all who suffer from COVID 19, their families, and friends, and for those we now name; Let us pray to the Lord,

#### Lord, hear our prayer.

For those anticipating the birth of a child, a move, a change in employment or any new beginning, Let us pray to the Lord,

#### Lord, hear our prayer.

We give thanks for all the blessings of this life, especially for the blessings we now name; Let us pray to the Lord,

#### Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who have died and now abide in Christ's presence, especially Kathleen Schindler, and those we now name:

Let us pray to the Lord,

#### Lord, hear our prayer.

#### **Officiant**

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.* 

#### Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

After the Offering is collected and placed upon the altar, the following is sung

**Song of Praise Hymn #380 vs. 3** *Doxology* Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and lovingkindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

## The 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.* 

St. Matthew Mission Statement

To be a church that passionately embraces and values all people, growing in the love of Christ through word and action.

Officiant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.



# Advent @ Home - 3rd Sunday of Advent (December 13, 2020)

Reader: "And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies

the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things

for me, and holy is his name'"

(Luke 1:46-49).

Reader: Today we remember Mary, innocent

and powerful, sacred and scared, worried and waiting as the Savior of all grows in her womb. She sings boldly when she might be meek; she bears her role in history with the confidence of a warrior; she is the beginning of a mighty revolution as the proud are brought down and the

lowly lifted up.

People: Today we give thanks for the

Marys among us, who step out of the roles society has planned; unintended pioneers determined to do as God asks; fearless and fearfully stepping out in faith, and beckoning us to do the same.

Reader: On this third Sunday of Advent, we

light this candle as a symbol of Mary, mother of God, bearer of the Way. (Light 2 purple or blue candles and a

rose candle.)

Hymn: "O come, O come, Emmanuel" Hymn

56, vss. 5-6

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:* Re-joice! Re-joice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Day spring 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:* Re-joice! Re-joice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

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