

## Saint Matthew Episcopal Church

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# The Second Sunday of Advent December 6, 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

OfficiantLord, open our lips.PeopleAnd our mouth shall proclaim your<br/>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 85:1-2, 8-13

1 You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, \* you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

# 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people \* and blotted out all their sins.

8 I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, \* for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.

9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, \* that his glory may dwell in our land.

- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; \* righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, \* and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, \* and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him, \* and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

## 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

(40:1-11)

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks 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 2 Peter (3:8-15a) Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved. and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

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 Mark (1:1-8)

#### Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: `Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight," John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

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

#### The Sermon

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 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.

#### The Prayers

OfficiantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.OfficiantLet 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

Fr. Haynes

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.** 

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 Sekondi - (West Africa), Eastern Michigan - (The Episcopal Church), Seoul - (Korea), Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador - (Canada), Seychelles - (Indian Ocean), Eastern Oregon - (The Episcopal Church), Sheffield - (England), Eastern Zambia - (Central Africa), Easton - (The Episcopal Church), Shinyanga -(Tanzania), Eau Claire - (The Episcopal Church), Gasabo - (Rwanda), Edinburgh - (Scotland), and The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain; our diocese, especially St. Paul, Mount Vernon; La Iglesia Episcopal de la Resurrección, Mount Vernon; and our parish, especially for our Marion Berry Pie Buddy Group: Adina Reynolds; Elsie & Jim Dennis-Dofelmier; Mandy Maeland, Alyssa and Jeremiah Lorennij; Pamela Reed; Justin Abby, Andy and Jesse Smith; Diane Beelendorf, 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 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 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 - 2nd Sunday of Advent (December 6, 2020)

Reader: "In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see--I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people'" (Luke 2:8-10).

Reader: Today we remember the shepherds, workers for the common good, steadfast watchmen isolated and alone, far from the warmth of home, doing the job no one wants. And yet God saw them, God valued them, and God declared the greatest news of all to them alone.

People: Today we give thanks for the shepherds among us, backbreaking laborers on whom our economy stands, those we overlook or rarely see, yet rely on for our very survival, the ones who have much to teach us about watching for God in the darkness.

Reader: On this second Sunday of Advent, we light the second candle as a symbol of the shepherds, agents of the gospel and redeemers of the world. *(Light 2 purple or blue candles.)* 

Hymn: "O come, O come, Emmanuel" Hymn 56, vss. 3-4

> O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy Tribes on Sinai's height... in ancient times didst give the law, in cloud, and majesty, and awe. <u>Refrain</u>: Re-joice! Re-joice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Branch of Jesse's tree, free them from Satan's tyranny t hat trust thy mighty power to save, and give them victory o'er the grave. <u>Refrain</u>: Re-joice! Re-joice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

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