

First Sunday before Advent
November 22, 2020, 10:00 am
The Service of the Word

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: 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.**

Trisagion

MARTY WHELLER BURNETT

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

A Reading from the Book of Ezekiel.

EZEKIEL 34:11-16, 20-24

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak

animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 95:1-7a

Sung by Kimberly Celeste and Alison Siener Brown

- 1 Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
- 2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
- 3 For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
- 4 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
- 5 The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.
- 6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
- 7 For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians.

EPHESIANS 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn 391, *Before the Lord's eternal throne*

WINCHESTER NEW

1 Be - fore the Lord's e - ter - nal throne, ye
 2 His sov - ereign Power with - out our aid formed
 3 We are his peo - ple, we his care, our
 4 We'll crowd thy gates with thank - ful songs, high
 5 Wide as the world is thy com - mand, vast

1 na - tions, bow with sa - cred joy; know that the Lord is
 2 us of clay and gave us breath; and when like wan - dering
 3 souls, and all our mor - tal frame: what last - ing hon - ors
 4 as the heavens our voic - es raise; and earth, with her ten
 5 as e - ter - ni - ty thy love; firm as a rock thy

1 God a - lone; he can cre - ate, and he des - troy.
 2 sheep we strayed, he saved us from the power of death.
 3 shall we rear, al - might - y Ma - ker, to thy Name?
 4 thou - sand tongues, shall fill thy courts with sound - ing praise.
 5 truth must stand, when roll - ing years shall cease to move.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.; para. of Psalm 100

Music: *Winchester New*, melody from *Musicalishes Hand-Buch*, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

A Mission Story: Bible Study

Sermon

The Rev. Victoria Geer McGrath

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only 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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from 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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.**

Offertory Anthem

Siciliana from Organ Sonata No. 1

Elisabetta de Gambarini

The Prayers of the People *from The Church of England: Common Worship*

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

Come to your Church as Lord and judge.

We pray for these members of our parish: Mary Beth Finn; Laurie, Randy Gaulke & Graham; Janet Gibbs; Leigh, Jake Gillespie, Jessica, & Bailey; Heather Gillis, Tom Graves, Harry & Lucas; Parker Godwin and Audrey.

And for the faithfulness and renewal of All Saints' Church and our diocese.

Help us to live in the light of your coming
and give us a longing for your kingdom.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to your world as King of the nations.

We pray for our country and our leaders in this time of transition.

Before you rulers will stand in silence.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to the suffering as Saviour and comforter.

We pray for all on our parish prayer list, especially Phyllis Demanski; Natalie Grossman; Pat Howard; Steve Kowalik; Joyce Kulzer; Charlotte J; Pru Peterson; Bonnie Stocker; Suzanne Traub; all those suffering with COVID-19 and those caring for them; are there others....?

Break into our lives,
where we struggle with sickness and distress,
and set us free to serve you for ever.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls.

We remember all who have died, including those we name...

Give us with all the faithful departed
a share in your victory over evil and death.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come from heaven, Lord Jesus, with power and great glory.

Lift us up to meet you,
that with all your saints and angels
we may live and reign with you in your new creation.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Silence is kept.

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.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us 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.**

Confession of Sin and Absolution

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbors.

**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.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your 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 Peace *Please unmute on Zoom for the exchange of the Peace.*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The Advent Blessing

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin.

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love.

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn 74, *Blest be the King whose coming*

VALET WILL ISCH DIR GEBEN

Descant

3 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of

1 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 2 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 3 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 4 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of

God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of

God! For him let doors be o - pened, no hearts a - gainst him
 God! By those who tru - ly lis - ten his voice is tru - ly
 God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of
 God! He of - fers to the bur - dened the rest and grace they

God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All

barred! Not robed in roy - al splen - dor, in
 heard; pi - ty the proud and haugh - ty, who
 God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All
 need. Gen - tle is he and hum - ble! And

things are in his hand, all a - ges and all

power and pomp, comes he; but clad as are the
 have not learned to heed the Christ who is the
 things are in his hand, all a - ges and all
 light his yoke shall be, for he would have us

peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!

poor - est, such his hu - mil - i - ty!
 Prom - ise, who has a - tone - ment made.
 peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!
 bear it so he can make us free!

Words: Frederico J. Pagura (b. 1923); tr. F. Pratt Green (b. 1903), alt. Copyright ©1974 by Hope Publishing Company.
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