

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH   
 OF *St. John the Baptist*

*"Where All Are Welcome . . . No Exceptions!"*

## The Second Sunday of Advent

*December 5, 2021*

### The Holy Eucharist

The Word of God



**Prelude** Variations on *"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"*  
Hymn Tune: STUTTGART  
Robert Lind

**Processional Hymn** (*Please stand as able*) *Please see page 8*

#65 | *"Prepare the Way, O Zion"*

**Children's Chat** - Robert Freeman

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. 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.**

**Hymn of Praise: Wait for the Lord** (*Sung 3 times*)

*Taize Community*

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

## The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The Celebrant prays the Collect*

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 forever.

*People* ***Amen.***

## The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

### Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

*Vocalist & Guitar: Rob Freeman*

1. Light one candle to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.  
He shall bring salvation to Israel,  
God fulfills the promise.

2. Light two candles to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.  
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd,  
gently lead them homeward.

## First Reading *(Please be seated)*

*Reader* A Reading from Baruch:

### *Introduction to the First Reading*

*Here is a poem of hope from the school of the prophet Jeremiah. This reading speaks of the return of scattered Israel from exile in Babylon, but also looks beyond to the time when God's kingdom will be established.*

### *Baruch 5:1-9*

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem,  
and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God.

Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God;  
put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting;

for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven.

For God will give you evermore the name,  
"Righteous Peace, Godly Glory."

Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height;  
look toward the east,

and see your children gathered from west and east  
at the word of the Holy One,  
rejoicing that God has remembered them.

For they went out from you on foot,  
led away by their enemies;  
but God will bring them back to you,  
carried in glory, as on a royal throne.

For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low  
and the valleys filled up, to make level ground,  
so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.

The woods and every fragrant tree  
have shaded Israel at God's command.

For God will lead Israel with joy,  
in the light of his glory,  
with the mercy and righteousness that come from him."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* ***Thanks be to God.***

## Psalm of the Day

## Canticle 16



Pre - pare the way of the Lord.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;  
he has come to his people and set them free.  
He has raised up for us a mighty savior,  
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,  
that he would save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers  
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham,  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

[ANT.]

Free to worship him without fear,  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.

[ANT.]

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,  
To give his people knowledge of salvation  
by the forgiveness of their sins.

[ANT.]

In the tender compassion of our God  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the  
shadow of death

and to guide our feet into the way of peace. [ANT.]

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## Second Reading

*Reader* A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians:

### *Introduction to the Second Reading*

*St. Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with one of them, the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love.*

### *Philippians 1:3-11*

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence Hymn** (*Please stand as able*) – *Please see page 9* Vs. 3 & 4

#56 | “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke:

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Holy Gospel

### *Luke 3:1-6*

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

“The voice of one crying out 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 be made straight,  
and the rough ways made smooth;  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## THE SERMON

### **The Nicene Creed** *(Please stand as able)*

*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.*

### **The Prayers of the People** *The Leader and People pray responsively.*

In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

Merciful God, increase our love to overflowing. Make your Church pure and blameless that we may greet with joy the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Fill the valleys, make low the hills;

***Come, great Redeemer, come.***

Merciful God, we long for the light of hope to break into our world, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide us into the way of peace.

Fill the valleys, make low the hills;

***Come, great Redeemer, come.***

Merciful God, give us grace to heed the warnings of those calling us to be better stewards of your creation. We thank you for all you have made, especially those things that sustain and better our lives.

Fill the valleys, make low the hills;

***Come, great Redeemer, come.***

Merciful God, you lead us with joy; you delight in our joy. You clothe us in beauty. We give you thanks for your tender care.

Fill the valleys, make low the hills;

***Come, great Redeemer, come.***

Merciful God, you remember your children. You do not leave us in sorrow or affliction. Crown your children with glory; clothe them with righteousness.

Fill the valleys, make low the hills;

***Come, great Redeemer, come.***

Merciful God, you have raised up for us salvation through your Son. Keep us, with all your saints, in the eternal life of Christ.

Fill the valleys, make low the hills;

***Come, great Redeemer, come.***

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, especially remembering those on our parish prayer list and those we name in our hearts.

*(The congregation may add their own petitions either silently or aloud after the prayer list is read.)*

God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

***Amen.***

*(The Celebrant may add a concluding Collect.)*

**The Confession of Sin** *(Please kneel as able or be seated)*

*Reader* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *(Silence may be kept)*

*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.***

**The Absolution**

*Celebrant* 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 stand as able)*

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

*People* ***And also with you.***

**The Holy Communion**

*Being seated, we begin with a time of offering, giving money as a sign that our life serves God's purposes and showing our gratitude for God's many blessings.*

*Your faithful tithes and offerings are much needed and can be sent to:  
The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, PO Box 441, Milton, DE 19968 OR  
Securely online through our website - <https://www.stjohnthebaptistmilton.org/give.html>*

**Offertory Sentence**

**Presentation of Pledges, Tithes, and Offerings**

*Please see page 10*

**#397 | "Now Thank We All Our God"**

**Doxology** *(Please stand as able)*

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow;  
Praise him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye  
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

WORDS: Isaac Watts (1674-1748). Music: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-1561.

**Offertory Hymn**

*Please see page 11*

**#66 | "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"**

# The Great Thanksgiving

“Enriching Our Worship,” Prayer 2

*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 God thanks and praise.*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. 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 triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Sanctus:** *Holy, holy, holy Lord*

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Ho- ly, ho- ly, ho- ly Lord. God of power and might,  
hea- ven and earth are full, full of your glo- ry. Ho-  
san- na in the high est. 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. Ho- san- na in the high- est.

*The people may kneel as able, or be seated. The Celebrant continues.*

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with [\_\_\_\_\_ and] all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.  
*Amen.*

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,  
*People* **Our Father, who art in heaven,** *And forgive us our trespasses,*  
*hallowed be thy Name,* *as we forgive those*  
*thy kingdom come,* *who trespass against us.*  
*thy will be done,* *And lead us not into temptation,*  
*on earth as it is in heaven.* *but deliver us from evil.*  
**Give us this day our daily bread.** *For thine is the kingdom,*  
*and the power, and the glory,*  
*for ever and ever. Amen.*

### The Breaking of the Bread

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**  
*Celebrant* 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.

**Distribution Anthem – “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”** *Words: Charles Coffin & Music: Michael Praetorius*  
**Vocalist: Robert Freeman Accompanist: Scott Kresge**

### Post Communion Prayer (Please kneel or be seated)

*Celebrant* Let us pray.  
*People* **Eternal God, heavenly Father,**  
*you have graciously accepted us as living members*  
*of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,*  
*and you have fed us with spiritual food*  
*in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.*  
*Send us now into the world in peace,*  
*and grant us strength and courage*  
*to love and serve you*  
*with gladness and singleness of heart;*  
*through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

### Benediction (Please stand as able)

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. **Amen.**  
 May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**  
 May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**  
 And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

**Recessional Hymn (Please stand as able)** *Please see page 12* #73 | “The King shall come when morning dawns”

### The Dismissal

*Celebrant* Go in peace and with hope. Christ is near.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude “Fugue in D Major”** William Goodwin

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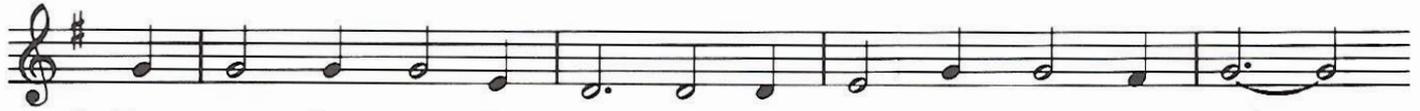
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*The Rev. Thomas M. White, Rector*  
*Mike McNamara, Acolyte*  
*Robert Freeman, Youth Minister / Soloist*  
*Sandy Criscimagna, Lay Reader*  
*Scott Kresge, Organist/Videography/Streaming*  
*Elizabeth Scheer, Cantor*  
*Elizabeth Scheer & Susan Mattia, Videography/Streaming*  
*Sandy Criscimagna, Usher*

65

Advent



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!  
 2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.  
 3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.  
 His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.  
 His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.  
 Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.  
 All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.

*Refrain*



Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847); tr. composite; adapt. Charles P. Price (b. 1920)

Music: *Bereden väg för Herran*, melody from *Then Svenska Psalmboken*, 1697

76. 76. 77 with Refrain

## Advent

56



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest  
 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy  
 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from  
 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen  
 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us  
 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the  
 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
 2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge  
 3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the  
 4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to  
 5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on  
 6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of  
 7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions  
 8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.  
 3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.  
 4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!  
 5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.  
 6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.  
 7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.  
 8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

*The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.*

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal* 1940, alt.

Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, *Processionale*, 15th cent.;  
adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890)

LM with Refrain

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Praise to God

1 Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voic - es,  
 2 O may this boun - teous God through all our life be near us!  
 3 All praise and thanks to God the Fa - ther now be giv - en,

who won-drous things hath done, in whom his world re - joic - es;  
 with ev - er - joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us;  
 the Son, and him who reigns with them in high - est hea - ven,

who from our mo - ther's arms hath blessed us on our way  
 and keep us in his grace, and guide us when per - plexed,  
 e - ter - nal, Tri - une God, whom earth and heaven a - dore;

with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.  
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.  
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be, ev - er - more.

Words: Martin Rinckart (1586-1649); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt.

Music: *Nun danket alle Gott*, melody Johann Cruger (1598-1662);

harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), after Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

67. 67. 66. 66

Advent

66

1 Come, thou long - ex - spect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
 2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:  
 3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,  
 4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.  
 dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
 born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.  
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: *Stuttgart*, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715;  
 adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

87. 87

# Recessional Hymn

"The King Shall Come"

73

## Advent

1 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and  
2 Not, as of old, a lit - tle child, to  
3 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and  
4 and let the end - less bliss be - gin, by  
5 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and

1 light tri - um - phant breaks; when beau - ty gilds the  
2 bear, and fight, and die, but crowned with glo - ry  
3 earth's dark night is past; O haste the ris - ing  
4 wear - y saints fore - told, when right shall tri - umph  
5 light and beau - ty brings: Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy

1 east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.  
2 like the sun that lights the morn - ing sky.  
3 of that morn, the day that e'er shall last;  
4 o - ver wrong, and truth shall be ex - tolled.  
5 peo - ple pray, come quick - ly, King of kings.

Words: Greek; tr. John Brownlie (1859-1925), alt.  
Music: *St. Stephen*, William Jones (1726-1800), alt.

CM