

*Grace Episcopal Church
Sundays of Advent 2021*



*The
Celebration
of the
Holy Eucharist*

*The Right Rev. Frank Logue,
11th Bishop of the Diocese of Georgia*

The Rev. Kit Brinson, Rector

Mike Taylor, Choir Master and Musician

The Procession Hymn (# *found on insert*)

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Reader: The first candle we light today, reminds us of the hope of those who waited for the day when the Messiah would come to be the light of the world and lead us out of darkness...toward our God.

**All: Dear God make us strong as we wait for the day
when Your Son will be born and take darkness away.**

Reader: The second candle we light today, reminds us of the peace through God's forgiveness. We must try to live good and just lives and repent for our mistakes. We must also forgive ourselves and each other, so that we may all know peace.

**All: Dear God help us show love and kindness for each other
Let forgiveness come to all, from our God and our brother**

Reader: The third candle we light today, reminds us of the joy of Christmas day. We remember the angels who brought good news to the shepherds, and we give thanks that the greatest gift of all, will soon be here!

**All: Dear God help us feel the joy His coming will bring
When the earth will be blessed and we'll welcome the King**

Reader: The fourth candle we light today, reminds us of God's love for us. We also remember Mary who loved God so much, that she became the Mother of Jesus, God's Son. Mary is our loving Mother in Heaven, and we all share in the Love of the family of God.

**All: Dear God we give thanks for Your deep endless love
For sending us the Savior as a gift from above
May we trust as Mary did, and choose life in your light
...giving you praise and always doing what is right**

The Collect for Purity (*said in unison*)

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.

The Kyrie eleison (*sung*) Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day (*standing*)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

(The people are seated as readings from the Old Testament, Psalms, and New Testament are read)

The First Lesson

Reader: A reading from _____ :

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual Psalm (*on insert*)

The Second Lesson

Reader: A reading from _____

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Sequence Hymn (*standing*) (*found on insert*)

The Holy Gospel

(The people remain standing. It is customary to make the sign of the cross on the forehead, lips, and heart during the Gospel announcement)

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to _____

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

(following the reading of the Gospel)

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

The Sermon *(seated)* *(silence follows the sermon)*

After the sermon, all stand and say

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 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 *(on insert)*

The Confession

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

Jesus, forgive my sins. Forgive the sins that I can remember, and also the sins I have forgotten. Forgive the wrong actions I have committed, and the right actions I have omitted. Forgive

the times I have been weak in the face of temptation. And those when I have been stubborn in the face of correction. Forgive the times I have been proud of my own achievements, and those when I have failed to boast of your works. Forgive the harsh judgments I have made of others, and the leniency I have shown to myself. Forgive the lies I have told to others, and the truths I have avoided. Forgive me the pain I have caused others, and the indulgence I have shown to myself. Jesus have pity on me, and make me whole. Amen.

The Priest, stands and says

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

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: **And also with you.**

The Announcements

The Offertory

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer B

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 him 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 ever-

lasting 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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus (*S 130*)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

(The people stand, sit or kneel)

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: 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 for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 forever. **AMEN.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray, (*the contemporary form*)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread. And 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**

The Breaking of the Bread

My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord. My Lord. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood dwell in me, and I in them. My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord. (S169)

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God....

The Communion

We are opening up Communion to include coming to the altar rail for the bread and the common cup or coming to the rail and receiving through intinction. Rev. Kit will also come out into the nave to bring the wafer with wine on it to those remaining in their pews. We want everyone to be comfortable about receiving communion.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says 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.

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people. The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [Amen.]
The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [Amen.]*

During the ministration of Communion, hymns, psalms, or anthems may be sung.— Sanctuary

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true; with thanksgiving I'll be a living sanctuary for you. *(Words and music by John W. Thompson and Randy L. Scruggs)*

After Communion, the Celebrant says

The Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, you put your life into our hands; now we put our lives into yours. Take us, renew us and remake us. What we have been is past; what we shall be, through you, still awaits us. Lead us on. Take us with you. Amen.

The Blessing

May He whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope and constant in love, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Procession *(#found on insert)*

The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

November 28th - LEM: Ken Taft, Rick Charlett **Lector:**
Chris Jeffords **Intercessor:** Lauri Santana **Altar Guild:** TBA
Usher: Rob Stewart

November Vestry Team – Debra Strickland, James Israel,
Brandy Holland

December 5th—LEM: **Lector:** **Intercessor:** **Altar**
Guild: Audrey Jernigan **Ushers:** Luncheon:

December 12th: LEM: **Lector:** **Intercessor:** **Altar**
Guild: James Pinckney **Ushers:**

December 19th—LEM: **Lector:** **Intercessor:** **Altar**
Guild: Rhonda Blount **Ushers:**

Christmas Eve at 5PM—LEM: **Lector:** **Intercessor:** **Al-**
tar Guild: Audrey Jernigan **Ushers:**

Christmas Eve at 11PM—LEM: **Lector:**
Intercessor: **Altar Guild:** TBA **Ushers:**

December 26th—LEM: **Lector:** **Intercessor:** **Altar**
Guild: TBA **Ushers:**

December Vestry Team – Cynthia Herrin, Rick Charlett,
Mike Taylor



The Third Sunday of Advent 2021

Entrance Hymn

Rejoice! Rejoice, believers

H 68

Collect of the Day: 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.**

A Reading from the Prophet Zephaniah (3:14-20)

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time,+

I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD. The Word of the Lord... **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 9 – The First Song of Isaiah

Surely, it is God who saves me; *

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, *

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *

**and this is known in all the world.
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.**

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 Paul's letter to the Philippians (4:4-7)

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. The Word of the Lord....**Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn *Surely it is God who saves me* *(On insert)*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (3:7-18)
...People: Glory to you Lord Christ.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat

into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. The Gospel of the Lord...**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Procession Hymn *O Lion, haste* **H 539**

Announcements: – **Announcements:** – 5:30 Wednesday evening Eucharists and light supper continues – Poinsettia order forms available – Annual Meeting after church today- Rector's Discretionary Fund collection - Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 19th at 3:30 – Clean-up day on December 18th at 9AM – Noon – Greening of the church on Monday, Dec. 20th at 6PM – December 21st Blue Christmas Service at 7PM –Christmas Eve services at 5 and 11:00 PM - Stained Glass window Raffle tickets available for \$20 (Drawing on Christmas Eve) – Cake Raffle tickets available for \$5 -

Wednesday of Advent – *An the Word was God devotionals (found on back table in church) - Light supper offered on December 15th and 22nd at 5:30*

Prayers of the People Proper – Third Sunday of Advent 2021

*Let our hearts and minds be stirred as we pray to God for that peace so much greater than we can imagine, saying: Quicken your Spirit within us; **O Lord, hear our prayer.***

For peace in the world: May the wars on every continent cease, may nations be at rest, may refugees and survivors find a new home and the spirit begin again. May wounds be healed, losses grieved, and honorable deeds remembered. May grace abound in all lands, and the lion and the lamb lie content together. *Quicken your Spirit within us; **O Lord, hear our prayer.***

For peace in the church: May we intensify our efforts of peace-making with the separated churches, that peace may prevail over conflict and the reconciled in one family, exercising one baptism, one eucharist, and one common ministry in its many forms. *Quicken your Spirit within us; **O Lord, hear our prayer.***

For this assembly: May we let go of our vested interests and inspired by your Spirit seek peace with one another. Help us give up the grievances we harbor within our families and communities and among co-workers and friends. Help us build trust, the cornerstone of all reconciled relationships. *Quicken your Spirit within us; **O Lord, hear our prayer.***

For peace where we live, work and recreate, and for peace within ourselves: May the noises in and around us diminish so that we can hear the sounds of the trees, the birds, the winds, and the rain. Give us space and time to hear ourselves, to feel our own feelings and express our own longings, knowing that the only one true longing is your longing for us. *Quicken your Spirit within us; **O Lord, hear our prayer.***

For our young people: Let us provide space for them in our midst, and time to reassure them in their insecurities, encourage them in their hopes, and ever strengthen them in their gifts. *Quicken your Spirit within us; **O Lord, hear our prayer.***

For the elderly and the infirm: We give thanks for the health and long life that many enjoy, and we pray for those who are overcome with suffering in body and spirit. Help us comfort one another and share with one another, knowing that whatever we ask for in prayer, those needs will be satisfied. *Quicken your Spirit within us; **O Lord, hear our prayer.***

For those in need of our prayer, especially Teresa, Irene, Rick, Sandy, Dayton, Rob, Lucie, Karen, Alyssa, Ed, Carolyn, Donna, Debra, Sally, Chris, Carly, Billie, Doti, Thomas, Susan, Barb, Teal, Lonnie, Allen, Tom, Sara, Edgar, Johnny, Denny, Rachel, C.J., Zachary, Lauren and Shary, give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. *Quicken your Spirit within us; **O Lord, hear our prayer.***