

Grace Episcopal Church

The Celebration of Holy Eucharist



Sundays of Advent 2020

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

The Rev. Kit Brinson, Rector

Mr. Mike Taylor, Organist and Choir Master

The Procession Hymn (# *found on insert*)

Lighting of the Advent Candles

First Week

All-powerful God, increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming and call us to his side in the kingdom of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, forever and ever. **AMEN.**

Second Week

God of power and mercy open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **AMEN.**

Third Week

Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the birth of Christ experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

Fourth Week

Father, all-powerful God, your eternal Word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful hope to hear the voice which announces his glory and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares us for his coming. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

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 Trisagion **Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.** (Not sung by congregation)

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 *(On insert)*

Reader: A reading from _____:

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The 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) (Not sung by congregation)*

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)* The Rev. Kit Brinson

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 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.

Prayers of the People Proper - Advent

God calls us to love one another. As a sign of that love, let us lift up our prayers to God for the needs of all people throughout the world, saying O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the peace of the world, that all instruments of war may be transformed into instruments of peace. *O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

We pray for the church, that we may become more and more a means of grace and peace to the world. *O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

We pray for all who are in need, especially Irene, Tony, Tina, Susan, Greg, Tanya, Madelyn, Nancy, Alyssa, Amanda and family, Mae's family, Rob, Chris, Tim, Dan, Johnny, Keith, Chandler, Larry, Jim, Denny, Vicky, Tristan, Rachel, Freddy, James and family, Tifani and Leland, Faye, Jerry, Jackie, Teresa, Shaun, Norene, Sandra, C.J., Andrea, Lonnie, Allen, Michelle, Sam, Frances, Bill, David, Jean, Zachary, Diane, Lauren, Barb, and Shary, *O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Tasha, Mae, Mike, Owen, Joe, Bobbie, and Pat, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. *O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

We pray for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially _____.

We pray for those who are not able to worship with us, that they may feel connected to the Body of Christ, especially Jo, Madelyn, Gloria, Edgar, Dot, Frances, and Shary. *O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

We commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be. *O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

We pray for all people of good will who seek to cast off the works of darkness, that we may be enlightened through our service to others in the name of Christ. *O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

We pray for all assembled here today that we may be clothed with the Lord Jesus Christ and go forth from this place into the world carrying Jesus in our hearts. *O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

*Celebrant: Almighty God, giver of life and health: Send your blessing on all who are sick, and upon those who minister to them, that all weakness may be vanquished by the triumph of the risen Christ; who lives and reigns forever and ever. **Amen***

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

Minister and People

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

The Announcements

The Eucharistic Prayer B

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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

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

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.

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, 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."

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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."

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.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

The Breaking of the Bread (*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. Then may be sung*)

The Fraction (*Not sung by congregation*)

Rick--My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.

Mike--My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.

Rick--Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood dwell in me, and I in them.

Mike: My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.
(S169)

The Communion

The Holy Eucharist is offered to all baptized Christians. Baptized children are allowed to receive the Body and Blood of Christ, regardless of age. We believe that in the Eucharist, Jesus Christ becomes truly present to us in the bread and wine— the Body and Blood of our Lord— which feeds our souls. If you are a baptized Christian, we invite you to join with us in receiving the bread and wine. If you prefer not to receive communion, or if you prefer your child not take communion but to receive a blessing from the priest, simply cross your/ their arms over the chest. Please remain in your seats, the Celebrant will come to you.

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 delivers it to the people. The Body and Blood of Christ, our Savior. [Amen.]

During the ministration of Communion, a medley will be sung by Mike – Sanctuary and Peace before us... Please meditate on the meaningful words!

**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)

**Peace before us, peace behind us, peace under our feet. Peace within us,
peace over us, let all around us be peace.**

**Love before us, love behind us, love under our feet. Love within us, love
over us, let all around us be love.**

**Light before us, light behind us, light under our feet. Light within us, light
over us, let all around us be light.**

**Christ before us, Christ behind us, Christ under our feet. Christ within us,
Christ over us, let all around us be Christ.**

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

The Procession *(on insert)*

The Celebrant, dismisses them with these words..

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Wednesday Evening Prayer begins 6:00 PM, December 2nd by ZOOM.
We are reading and discussing *Together in Advent*.

Christmas Eve services (in-person) are being offered at 5PM and 11:00PM on Thursday, December 24th. Livestreaming will be offered for the 11:00 PM service.

The First Sunday of Advent 2020

Entrance Hymn *Lo! He comes, with clouds descending*

Collect of the Day: Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah (64:1-9)

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence-- as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil-- to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people. The Word of the Lord...**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80:17, 16-18 (said in unison)

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; * shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, * stir up your strength and come to help us.

Restore us, O God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

O LORD God of hosts, * how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?

You have fed them with the bread of tears; * you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

You have made us the derision of our neighbors, * and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

Restore us, O God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, * the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

And so will we never turn away from you; * give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Corinthians (1:3-9)

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. The Word of the Lord....**Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

Watchman, tell us of the night

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark (13:24-37)

...People: Glory to you Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.” The Gospel of the Lord... **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Procession Hymn *Rejoice! Rejoice, believers*

Announcements: – Sacks for Saturday food donations – Donations for Ruskin Students’ Christmas dinner and stockings

Wednesday Evening Prayer begins 6:00 PM, December 2nd by ZOOM.
We are reading and discussing *Together in Advent*.

The Annual Meeting will be held after church on December 6th. Voting is open from Sunday, November 29th to December 6th.

Christmas Eve services (in-person) are being offered at 5PM and 11:00PM on Thursday, December 24th. Livestreaming will be offered for the 11:00 PM service.