

*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 Fourth Sunday of Advent 2021

Entrance Hymn *O come, O come Emmanuel (vs. 1-4)*

H 56

Collect of the Day: Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from the Prophet Micah (5:2-5a)

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace. The Word of the Lord... **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 15 – The Song of Mary

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; * for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: * the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him * in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, * he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, * and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, * and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, * for he has remembered his promise of mercy, The promise he made to our fathers, * to Abraham and his children for ever.

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.

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A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews (10:5-10)

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. The Word of the Lord...**Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn *Savior of the nations, come* **H 54**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (1:39-45 (46-55))
...People: Glory to you Lord Christ.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,

according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever." The Gospel of the Lord... **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Procession Hymn *Come, thou long expected Jesus* **H 66**

Announcements: – Christmas Caroling today at 3:30 - Christmas Eve Services at 5PM (Nursery provided) and 11PM (Reception follows)

December 19th - LEM: Brandy Holland, Jim Brown Lector: Larry Purdom Intercessor: Rob Stewart Altar Guild: Rhonda Blount Usher: James Israel Refreshments: Team 3 (Brandy Holland)

December 24th (5 pm) - LEM: Rick Charlett, Ken Taft Lector: Chris Jeffords Intercessor: Lauri Santana Altar Guild: TBA Usher: Rob Stewart, James Israel

December 24th (11 pm) - LEM: Audrey Jernigan, James Israel Lector: Tom Strait Intercessor: Donna Robinson Altar Guild: TBA Usher: Debra Strickland, Benjamin Strait

December 26th - LEM: Jim Brown, Brandy Holland Lector: Tom Strait Intercessor: Donna Robinson Altar Guild: TBA Usher: Debra Strickland, Gail Walker Refreshments: Team 7 (Ann Combs)

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

Prayers of the People Proper – Fourth Sunday of Advent 2021

*May our hearts leap with joy as we again assemble in prayer to await the Lord's coming. With Mary may our souls proclaim God's greatness as we say: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer..***

Let us pray for the church: As the celebration of your incarnation draws near, we remember the many ways your revelation is lifted up throughout the world. We pray for our sisters and brothers in Christ, praying as we do today, in Black townships in South Africa, in indigenous churches in Africa, in Europe among the foreign workers, in our own communities among the infirm, the homeless, and the dying. Wherever your church is found on the frontiers of mission and service, may your ministry be strengthened and our vision of ministry be stretched. *Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer..***

For this assembly: May we be enriched by our diversity and dedicated to preparing leadership for the future, acknowledging our present gifts, and remembering those who in the past drew us into faith. *Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer..***

For the young Marys and Josephs in our society, and for newborn children, especially those undernourished and without parental love and care: May all be given a home and an atmosphere of joyful home-making. *Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer..***

For the end of violence, oppression, and injustice: As you lead us, Lord, from darkness to light, make us children of the light. May we join with Mary's song that we may be among those who exalt the lowly and fill the hungry with good things, routing out the proud of heart and drawing courage from the power of your love. *Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer..***

For our own spirit: With Mary may our hearts be magnified, made much bigger than we imagine them to be. May the new breath of Advent stir in us such ardor that we extend ourselves much more than we thought possible. May we like Mary set out across the barren country without fear, to visit the Elizabeths in our lives. *Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer..***

For those in need of our prayer, especially Teresa, Irene, the Greene family, 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. *Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer..***

Lord, we gather up the prayers of this parish family, confident that each day you transform darkness into light you know our deepest thoughts and will refresh our spirits. We pray in the name of the one who transforms principalities and powers and renews heaven and earth, Christ our Lord, hear our prayer.