

The Second Sunday of Advent
Holy Eucharist Rite II



St. Michael's Episcopal Church
Sunday, December 6, 2020

8:00 am (said)

10:00 am (music)

St. Michael's is a joyful community, grounded in the love of Christ that welcomes and includes ALL with meaningful worship, service to the community, and commitment to growing as faithful Christians.

The Word of God

Entrance Rite

PRELUDE

Wachet Auf

Bach

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People You come to your people and set them free.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Celebrant may say

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.*

OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE

The following is said, all standing

Gloria. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gloria. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

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 for ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:1-11

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

¹“Comfort, O comfort my people,”
says your God.

²“Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her

that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins."

³A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry out!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
"Here is your God!"

¹⁰See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

PSALM: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Remain seated.

- ¹You have been gracious to your land, O LORD; *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- ²You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.
- ⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- ⁹Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.
- ¹⁰Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- ¹¹Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- ¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
- ¹³Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

SECOND READING: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

The people sit.

A Reading from the Second letter of Peter.

⁸Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

¹¹Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ^{15a}and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8

All stand.

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Canon Michael J. Horvath

THE CREED

All stand.

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

All remain standing.

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and 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 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

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The Celebrant says

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.
Psalm 50:14

OFFERTORY HYMN

An Advent Meditation

The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

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.

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 sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

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 or kneel.

The Celebrant continues

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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

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 St. Michael and 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 for ever. *AMEN.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

People and Celebrant

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,
 forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

INVITATION

The Celebrant says

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.

COMMUNION HYMN

Improvisation

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and 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.

BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people, saying

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

DISMISSAL

Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Variations on Hark a Thrilling Voice

From riteplanning.com.

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CHRISTMAS FLOWER ORDERS DUE THIS WEDNESDAY!

You were recently mailed a Christmas Flower Offering envelope. If you would like to place an order and donate in memory of your loved ones, the deadline is Wednesday, December 9. The suggested donation is \$50.00, however any amount is appreciated. The check should be made payable to “St. Michael’s Altar Guild” with a notation in the memo line “Christmas Flowers”. Everyone who requests a memorial or thanksgiving is invited to take a plant after the service on Sunday, December 27 if you would like to enjoy it at home. If you have any questions, please contact Jan Coates at 253-2534 or send an email to her at jancinri@gmail.com



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| *December 13 | The Third Sunday of Advent |
| *December 20 | The Fourth Sunday of Advent |
| *December 24 | Christmas Eve Service 7:00 pm |
| *December 25 | Christmas Day Service 9:00 am |
| December 25 | Christmas Agape Meal Service at 6:00 pm via Zoom |

*All services will be available via livestreaming through our website unless otherwise noted above.

This schedule is subject to change pursuant to Diocesan and State of Rhode Island guidelines.

STAY CONNECTED WITH OUR VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR after SUNDAY SERVICE

We continue to gather virtually for Coffee Hour at 11:00 am via the Zoom app! Grab a cup of tea or beverage of choice and sign into our virtual get-together. Simply join in for some fellowship and fun! The Zoom link can be found in SMC weekly Eblast.



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December 6, 2020

The candle and the flowers are given by Tarleton Harvin Watkins II & Janet Atkins Watkins in loving memory of his parents, the late Brigadier General Tarleton Harvin Watkins (born December 5, 1914) and his late wife Sarah Daniels Watkins (born December 8, 1920).

Prayer List

Alice, Leta & William, Louise, Marie, Rev. Cecilia Perry, Shirley, Jonnie & Sandra, Colleen, Emerson, George, Jack, Marcia R., Melissa, Linda & Bob A., Charlotte, Manny, Betty, Chuck, Mary, Cara, Deb R., Matt, Ron, Jim, Charles and Phyllis.

You may contact the Church Office with your prayer intention or send an email to parishadmin@stmichaelsbristolri.org.

Thank you for your prayers and support during this time of social distancing.

The Rev. Canon Michael J. Horvath, *Rector*
Mrs. Betty Vargas, *Accounting*
Mr. Jeffrey Allard, *Organist and Choir Director*
Ms. Loretta E. Francis, *Parish Administrator*
Ms. Cathi Esselen, *Sr. Warden*
Mr. Dick Harbach, *Jr. Warden*
Mr. Robert Schneider, *Treasurer*
Ms. Candance Turner, *Lay Ministry Coordinator*
Mrs. Jane Mesagno, *Outreach Coordinator*
Mrs. Marcia Bosworth, *Welcome & Newcomers*

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