**The Second Sunday of Advent**

December 4, 2022

11:00 a.m.



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The Episcopal Church of the Ascension

205 W. Cherokee Avenue

Cartersville, Georgia 30120

770-382-2626

www.ascensioncartersville.org

*Welcome to The Episcopal Church of the Ascension.*

*Here “we challenge ourselves and the world to love*

*like Jesus as we worship joyfully,*

*serve compassionately and grow spiritually.”*

**Our shared purpose in the Diocese of Atlanta,**

**as agreed upon at Annual Council 2015**

*Please remember to silence your cell phones.*

*The people may make the sign of the cross (optional) when this sign* † *appears throughout the order of the service.*

**The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two**

**The Word of God**

**The Prelude St. Cecilia Choir**

 *There’s a Voice in the Wilderness Crying* Craig Phillips (b. 1960)

*Please stand, as you are able, at the ringing of the bell.*

**The Hymn in Procession**

Hymn 59 *Merton*





*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* †Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People***And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."    Mark 12:29-31

**The Confession of Sin**

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Celebrant 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 Bishop, when present, or 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 Trisagion**

*During Advent the following is used and repeated three times:*

Setting: Barry McLeod, from *Eucharistic Settings for Advent* © Barry McLeod

**The Collect of the Day**

*The Celebrant says to the people*

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 First Lesson Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;

but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,

the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;

for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

*Lector*  The Word of the Lord.

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

**The Response**

**Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19**

***Deus, judicium*** *Chanted by the congregation and choir*

 1 Give thë King your / justice, / O God, \*
 and your righteousness / to thë / King's Son;

2 That he may rule your / people / righteously \*
 and the / poor wïth / justice;

3 That the mountains may bring prosperity / to the / people, \*
 and the little / hills brïng / righteousness.

4 He shall defend the needy a- / mong the / people; \*
 he shall rescue the poor and crush / the öp- / pressor.

5 He shall live as long as the / sun and / moon endure, \*
 from one generation / to ä- / nother.

6 He shall come down like rain up- / on the / mown field, \*
 like showers / that wä- / ter the earth.

7 In his time shall the / righteous / flourish; \*
 there shall be abundance of peace till the / moon shäll / be no more.

 18 Blessed be the Lord God, the / God of / Israel, \*
 who alone / does wön- / drous deeds!

 19 And blessed be his glorious / Name for / ever! \*
 and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
 / A- mën. / Amen.

### The Second Lesson Romans 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name";

and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";

and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him";

and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

*Lector*  The Word of the Lord.

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

**The Sequence**

Hymn 67 *Psalm 42*

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### The Gospel Matthew 3:1-12

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume 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 ax 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.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Homily The Rev. Richard H. Winters**

**The Nicene Creed**

*Celebrant and People*

**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 Form II, BCP**

*In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.*

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Presiding Bishop, Michael, and our Bishop, Robert; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.
Pray for those in any need or trouble.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.
Pray that they may find and be found by him.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed.
Pray for those who have died.

*Silence*

*Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present*

I ask your prayers for                             .
I ask your thanksgiving for                             .

*Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*Silence*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

**The Peace**

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

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

**Parish Notices**

**The Offertory**

*A Tender Shoot* Otto Goldschmidt (1829-1907)

**The Presentation**

Hymn 56  *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*

(Verses 1 & 4)





**The Holy Communion**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

*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.**

*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*

Setting: Barry McLeod, from *Eucharistic Settings for Advent* © Barry McLeod

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Then 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 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.

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| 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**

*Celebrant* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

*Celebrant and People*

**The Breaking of the Bread**







Setting: Barry McLeod, from *Eucharistic Settings for Advent* © Barry McLeod

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

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

*Celebrant and People*

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Words: *Enriching Our Worship 1,* ©1998.

Setting: Barry McLeod, from *Eucharistic Settings for Advent* © 2011 Barry McLeod

*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.

**Hymns during Communion**

Hymn 55 *Veni Redemptor gentium*





Hymn 336 *Werde munter*









*If you are worshiping with us virtually, please pray the Prayer for Spiritual Communion.*

In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, and remembering particularly my own parish and those worshiping at home, †I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory. And particularly for the blessings given me... I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. †I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

**The Blessing**

*The Celebrant blesses the people.*

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.**

**The Hymn in Procession**

Hymn 534 *Purpose*



**The Dismissal**

**The Closing Voluntary**

*Fanfare* Kenneth Leighton (1929-1988)

The order of service is from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979

according to the use of the Episcopal Church.

The Advent Blessings are adapted from

“The Book of Occasional Services 2018”

(The Episcopal Church).

**You are called to ministry!**

There is a place for you in one of the following ministries. Please contact the ministry leaders listed for more information about where your gifts may fit to strengthen our efforts to bring God’s mission for the Church of the Ascension to full measure. If not sure where to start call the church office, 770-382-2626.

