

December 5th, 2021

10:30 am

## The Second Sunday in Advent

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### Welcome

### Opening Hymn “Prepare The Way, O Zion”

*Frans Mikael Franzen, Charles B. Price*

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near  
Let every hill and valley a level way appear  
Greet One who comes in glory foretold in sacred story

*Chorus:* O blest is Christ that came in God’s most holy Name  
He brings God’s rule, O Zion, He comes from Heaven above  
His rule is peace and freedom and justice, truth and love  
Lift high your praise resounding for grace and joy abounding (to chorus)

Fling wide your gates, O Zion, your Savior’s rule embrace  
His tidings of salvation proclaim in every place  
All lands will bow before Him, their voices will adore Him (to chorus)  
Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it; seal it for Thy courts above

### The candles of Hope and Peace are lit

***All Lord of all peace, without You there is no hope for peace for the world. We pray that You will bring true peace to our world and our community. Amen.***

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

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

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it:

*People* ***Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad.***

*Celebrant* Our help is in the name of the Lord:

*People*      ***Who made heaven and earth.***

*Celebrant*    I was glad when they said to me

*People*      ***Let us go to the house of the Lord.***

*Celebrant*    Praise the Lord.

*People*      ***The name of the Lord be praised.***

*All*      ***Almighty God, You bring to light things hidden in darkness, and know the shadows of our hearts; cleanse and renew us by Your Spirit, that we may walk in the light and glorify Your name, through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. Amen.***

*Celebrant*    Our Lord Jesus Christ said: The first and great commandment is this: Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall 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 other commandment greater than these.

*People*      ***Amen. Lord have mercy and write these laws in our hearts, we pray.***

*Celebrant*    Glory to the Father.

*People*      ***Glory to the Son.***

*Celebrant*    Glory to the Spirit.

*People*      ***Forever Three in One.***

*Celebrant*    Be glorified at home.

*People*      ***Be glorified in church.***

*Celebrant*    Be glorified in Texas.

*People*      ***Be glorified in the United States.***

*Celebrant*    Be glorified on earth.

*People*      ***Be glorified in heaven.***

*Celebrant*    Glory to the Father.

*People*      ***Glory to the Son.***

*Celebrant*    Glory to the Spirit.

*People*      ***Forever Three in One.***

*Celebrant Alleluia!*

*People Amen.*

### **The Collect**

Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and the comfort of your holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. . **Amen**

### **A Reading from the Book of The Prophet Malachi, Chapter 3 Beginning to read at verse 1**

**3** “Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. <sup>3</sup>He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years. <sup>5</sup>“Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts. (ESV)

*Reader* This is the Word of the Lord.

*People Alleluia! Praise be to God*

### **Psalm 126**

*Let us read this Psalm responsively by half verse.*

- 1 When the LORD overturned the captivity of Zion, \*  
*then were we like those who dream.*
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter \*  
*and our tongue with shouts of joy.*
- 3 Then they said among the nations, \*  
*“The LORD has done great things for them.”*

- 4 Indeed, the LORD has done great things for us already, \*  
*whereof we rejoice.*
- 5 Overturn our captivity, O LORD, \*  
*as when streams refresh the deserts of the south.*
- 6 Those who sow in tears \*  
*shall reap with songs of joy.*
- 7 He who goes on his way weeping and bears good seed \*  
*shall doubtless come again with joy, and bring his sheaves with him.*

*Psalmist* This is the Word of the Lord.

*People* ***Alleluia! Praise be to God.***

**A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians, Chapter 4**  
**Beginning to read at verse 8**

<sup>8</sup> Already you have all you want! Already you have become rich! Without us you have become kings! And would that you did reign, so that we might share the rule with you! <sup>9</sup> For I think that God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death, because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels, and to men. <sup>10</sup> We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. <sup>11</sup> To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are poorly dressed and buffeted and homeless, <sup>12</sup> and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; <sup>13</sup> when slandered, we entreat. We have become, and are still, like the scum of the world, the refuse of all things. <sup>14</sup> I do not write these things to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. <sup>15</sup> For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. <sup>16</sup> I urge you, then, be imitators of me. <sup>17</sup> That is why I sent you Timothy, my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, to remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach them everywhere in every church. <sup>18</sup> Some are arrogant, as though I were not coming to you. <sup>19</sup> But I will come to you soon, if the Lord wills, and I will find out not the talk of these arrogant people but their power. <sup>20</sup> For the kingdom of God does not consist in talk but in power. <sup>21</sup> What do you wish? Shall I come to you with a rod, or with love in a spirit of gentleness? (ESV)

*Reader* This is the Word of the Lord.

*People* ***Alleluia! Praise be to God.***

## Sequence Song, “Ancient Words”

Lynn De Shazo

***Ancient words, ever true, changing me, changing you; we have come with open hearts,  
O let the ancient words impart. (2x)***

*Celebrant* We stand to hear the good news of our salvation, as it is written in the Gospel according to St. Luke Chapter 3 beginning to read at verse 1

**3** In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, <sup>2</sup> during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup> And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>4</sup> As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. <sup>5</sup> Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall become straight, and the rough places shall become level ways, <sup>6</sup> and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’” (ESV)

*Celebrant* This is the Gospel of Christ.

*People* ***Alleluia! Praise be to Christ our Savior.***

## Sequence Song, “Ancient Words”

Lynn DeShazo

***Ancient words, ever true, changing me, changing you; we have come with open hearts,  
O let the ancient words impart. Ancient words, ever true, changing me, changing you;  
we have come with open hearts, O let the ancient words impart. We have come with  
open hearts, O let the ancient words impart. O let the ancient words impart.***

## Sermon

*The Rev. Dr. Chuck Thebeau*

## The Nicene Creed

*Celebrant* We stand together with Christians throughout the centuries, and throughout the world today, to affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

*All* ***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 of the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered, died, 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who 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**

*Celebrant* Come, long-expected Jesus. Receive our prayer as part of our service to the Lord who enlists us in His own work for Love. Come, long-expected Jesus.

*Psalmist* Heavenly Father, we come with thanksgiving for the lives You have given us, redeemed, and sustained through Jesus Christ. Send now Your Spirit to guide us as we pray in this Advent season.

*Psalmist* With love we pray.

*People* ***Come, Emmanuel, come.***

*Psalmist* Father, we pray for Your holy Church; that we all may be one in Christ. Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve You; that Your Name may be glorified by everyone. We pray for all bishops, priests and deacons; especially Foley, our Archbishop; Clark, our Bishop; Chuck, our rector; and Owen, our assistant Priest, that they may be faithful ministers of Your word and sacraments. Give them strength to do Your will in all that they undertake and that they may be blessed in all their works.

*Psalmist* With love we pray.

*People* ***Come, Emmanuel, come.***

*Psalmist* Strengthen your Church for her witness and work in the world. Today we lift up Grace Anglican Fellowship, Katy, Texas. We ask your anointing upon Archbishop Lamido, Kaduna, Nigeria; and the Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans around the world.

We especially pray that you would empower our sister parish, Christ Church Jerusalem, as an instrument for your peace in Jerusalem, Israel, and the Middle East.

*Psalmist* With love we pray.

*People* ***Come, Emmanuel, come.***

*Psalmist* Come into our hearts, repair the brokenness of sin, heal the wounds of mind and spirit, comfort the sick and grieving, warm the cold-hearted, fill the lonely and empty.

*Psalmist* With love we pray.

*People* ***Come, Emmanuel, come.***

*Psalmist* Come into our homes, make them places of grace, places of forgiveness, places of safety, places of joy, and places of peace.

*Psalmist* With love we pray.

*People* ***Come, Emmanuel, come.***

*Psalmist* Come to all those who protect us; our Armed Forces and first responders and fill them with a sense of Your ever abiding presence.

*Psalmist* With love we pray.

*People* ***Come, Emmanuel, come.***

*Psalmist* Come to those at the center of our government and fill them with wisdom, justice and truth as they lead our great nation.

*Psalmist* With love we pray.

*People* ***Come, Emmanuel, come.***

*Psalmist* We pray for the little children and babies: born and unborn, that their tender lives may be protected and their rights guarded.

*Psalmist* With love we pray.

*People* ***Come, Emmanuel, come.***

*Psalmist* We praise You and thank You for Your bountiful blessings You so freely give. We beseech You to move Your people to support and complete Your glorious City on the Hill. May we be a beacon that shines from the top of this hill not only throughout New Braunfels but Texas and the world.

*Psalmist* With love we pray.

*People* ***Come, Emmanuel, come.***

*Celebrant* Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in us a faith responsive to the Father's Gift. Excite in us the hope of Your coming. Excite in us Your love for the world. In the name of our Coming King, Jesus. *Amen.*

### **Prayers of Penitence**

*Celebrant* Hear the words of challenge and comfort our Savior Christ says to all who follow him. If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for My sake will save it. (Luke 9:23-24)

Come to me all of you who are tired of carrying your heavy loads, and I will give you rest. (Matthew 11:28)

So, all of you who repent of your sins, who love your neighbors and intend to lead a new life, following the way of Jesus, come with faith and take this holy sacrament to strengthen you. Let us reverently confess our sins to Almighty God.

*All* ***Almighty God, creator of all, You marvelously made us in Your image; but we have corrupted ourselves and damaged Your likeness by rejecting Your love and hurting our neighbors. We have done wrong and neglected to do right. We are sincerely sorry and heartily repent of our sins. Cleanse us and forgive us by the sacrifice of Your Son; remake us and lead us by Your Spirit, the Comforter. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

*Celebrant* Almighty God, whose steadfast love is as great as the heavens are high above the earth, remove your sins from you as far as the east is from the west, strengthen your life in His kingdom and keep you upright to the last day; through Jesus Christ our merciful High Priest. Amen.

*All* ***Thank you Father, for forgiveness; we come to Your table as Your children, not presuming but assured, not trusting ourselves but Your Word; we hunger and thirst for righteousness, and ask for our hearts to be satisfied with the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ the righteous. Amen.***

### **The Peace**

## Offertory Song “Prepare Ye The Way”

*John Michael Talbot*

The Word of the Lord came one evening - Concerning His bride’s great sin  
He’d send down His Word to renew her - To prepare for the bridegroom again

The Word said repent from seeking vain glories  
While the gifts in the Lord’s Name you give  
Repent of all the first stones cast to kill - While your own self-righteousness lives

*Chorus:* Prepare ye the way for the Lord - Prepare ye the way for the Kingdom  
Prepare ye the way - Prepare ye the way for the Lord

The Word said repent and turn from your strivings - Repent and turn from your hatred  
Repent from the doctrines of men that divide - And tear like the wedding gown ripped

Walk in His love like newborn children - Walk in His love let the wedding gown mend  
Walk in His love with humility come with pure hearts  
And cast all your cares to the wind (*to chorus*)

The Word of the Lord came one evening - Concerning His bride’s great sin  
He assured me we will be forgiven - And then let the marriage begin (*to chorus x2*)

## Doxology

*All sing Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise Him all creatures here below, praise Him above ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

## Eucharistic Prayer

*Celebrant* Is the Father with us?

*People He is.*

*Celebrant* Is Christ among us?

*People He is.*

*Celebrant* Is the Spirit here?

*People He is.*

*Celebrant* This is our God.

*People Father, Son and the Holy Spirit.*

*Celebrant* We are His people.

*People* ***We are redeemed.***

*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.***

*Celebrant* It is right and our delight to give You thanks and praise, great Father, living God, supreme over the world. Creator, Provider, Savior and Giver. From a wandering nomad You created Your family; for a burdened people You raised up a leader; for a confused nation You chose a king; for a rebellious crowd You sent Your prophets. In these last days You have sent us Your Son, Your perfect image, bringing Your kingdom, revealing Your will, dying, rising, reigning, remaking Your people for Yourself. Through Him You have poured out Your Holy Spirit, filling us with light and life.

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 glory to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore with angels, archangels, faithful ancestors and all in heaven, we proclaim Your great and glorious name, forever praising You and singing,

***“Sanctus” Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. (2x)***

***Men sing: Holy, Holy, Holy...***

***Ladies sing: Hosanna in the highest, blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. (2x)***

***All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory.***

*People remain standing*

*Celebrant* Almighty God, owner of all things, we thank You for giving up Your Son to die on the cross for us who owe You everything. Pour Your refreshing Spirit on us as we remember Him in the way He commanded, through these gifts of Your creation.

On the same night that He was betrayed He took bread and gave You thanks; He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, take, eat, this is My body which is given for You; Do this in remembrance of Me.

*People      Amen. His body was broken for us.*

*Celebrant* In the same way, after supper He took the cup and gave You thanks; He gave it to them saying: 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. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

*People      Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.*

*Celebrant* We are brothers and sisters through His blood.

*People      We have died together, we will rise together, we will live together.*

*Celebrant* Therefore, heavenly Father, hear us as we celebrate this covenant with joy, and await the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ. He died in our place, making a full atonement for the sins of the whole world, the perfect sacrifice, once and for all. You accepted His offering by raising Him from death, and granting Him great honor at Your right hand on high.

*People      Amen. Jesus is Lord.*

*Celebrant* This is the feast of victory!

*People      The Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia!*

### **The Communion**

*Celebrant* As our Savior taught us, we are bold to pray:

*All 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.*

*Celebrant* We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

*People      Though we are many we are one body, for we all share one bread.*

*Celebrant* The cup of blessing which we bless,

*People      is a sharing in the blood of Christ.*

*Celebrant* Draw near with faith and receive.

*People* ***Christ is the host and we are His guests.***

*Celebrant* Christ is alive for ever.

*People* ***We are because He is.***

*The celebrant then holds the bread and the wine and declares to the people:*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ which was given for you, to keep your body and soul in eternal life. Take this in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on Him in your hearts, by faith, and with thanksgiving.

**“O Come To The Altar”** *Steven Furtick, Chris Brown, Wade Joye, Mack Brock*

Are you hurting and broken within  
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin, Jesus is calling  
Have you come to the end of yourself  
Do you thirst for a drink from the well, Jesus is calling

*Chorus:* O come to the altar, The Father’s arms are open wide  
Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes  
Come today there’s no reason to wait, Jesus is calling  
Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy  
From the ashes a new life is born, Jesus is calling (*chorusx2*)

## **Communion Songs**

**“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”** *John M. Neale, Thomas Helmore*

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear  
(Refrain) Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel  
O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by Thine advent here  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death’s dark shadows put to flight

*Refrain:* O come Thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh  
To us the path of knowledge show and cause us in her ways to go (*Refrain*)

O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind  
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease, and be Thyself our King of Peace (*Refrain*)

**“Come Thou long expected Jesus”**

*Charles Wesley, Rowland H. Pritchard*

Come, Thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free  
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in Thee  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art  
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart

Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King  
Born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring  
By Thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone  
By Thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne

**“Here I am to worship”**

*Tim Hughes*

Light of the world You stepped down into darkness - Opened my eyes let me see  
The beauty that makes this heart adore You - Hope of a life spent with You

*Chorus:* Here I am to worship Here I am to bow down  
Here I am to say that You're my God  
You're altogether lovely altogether worthy - Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days, all so highly exalted - Glorious in Heaven above  
Humbly You came to the earth You created - All for love's sake became poor (*chorus*)

*Bridge:* And I'll never know how much it cost - To see my sin upon that cross (*chorus*)

**Post-Communion Prayer**

*All Almighty God, eternal Father, we have sat at Your feet, learned from Your word, and eaten from Your table. We give You thanks and praise for accepting us into Your family. Send us out with Your blessing, to live and to witness for You in the power of Your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, the First Born from the dead. Amen.*

## The Blessing

### Closing Hymn “On Jordan’s Bank The Baptist’s Cry”

*Charles Coffin, Charles Winfred Douglas*

On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry announces that the Lord is nigh  
Awake and hearken for He brings glad tidings of the King of kings

For Thou art our salvation Lord our refuge and our great reward  
Without Thy grace we waste away like flow’rs that wither and decay

All praise eternal Son to Thee whose advent doth Thy people free  
Whom with the Father we adore and Holy Spirit evermore

*Celebrant* Words of dismissal.

*All* ***Praise be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!***

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