

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 11, 2022



PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL HYMN
ON JORDAN’S BANK

HYMNAL 76

OPENING ACCLAMATION & COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and forever. Amen**

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.



LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: THE THIRD CANDLE

Celebrant On this third Sunday of Advent,
we light a candle for joy. We pray, O God, in the height
of our Advent walk that you would grant us the courage
to experience joy.
Joy in the face of apathy.
Joy in the face of sorrow.
Joy in the face of uncertainty.
Remind us, God of love, that we were made in joy.
May we live that way.
People **We light a candle for JOY, may it light the way.**

**Welcome to Grace,
we’re glad you are here!**

*If you have any questions, our
ushers, greeters and members are
here to help, don’t hesitate to ask!*

Restrooms are located through the
door to the left of the pulpit at the
top and bottom of the stairs. There
is also a handicap lift in the narthex
(front entrance) if you need
assistance getting to the lower level.

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on Instagram

SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTE	Max Cendrowski
ALTAR GUILD	Carmen Lescure Virginia Danner
CANTOR	---
CHALICIST	Dcn. Kathleen
FELLOWSHIP	Kara DeBord
GREET/USHER	Kathy Brown Brian Reid
LECTOR	Brett Brenner
LIVESTREAM	Carmen Lescure
TELLER	Pat Hallett ---

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

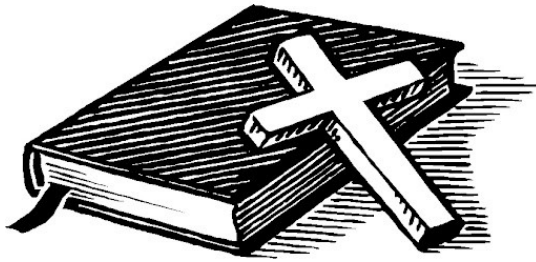
People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us;
and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins,
let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

Please be seated.



THE LESSONS

THE FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 35:1-10

Lector A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, or shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE

MAGNIFICAT

LUKE 1:46-55

Read responsively by the whole verse

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.

THE SECOND LESSON

JAMES 5:7-10

Lector A reading from the letter of James.

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand if you are comfortable doing so for the hymn and the reading of the Gospel

SEQUENCE HYMN

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL (*verses 3 & 4*)

HYMNAL 56

THE HOLY GOSPEL

MATTHEW 11:2-11

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’

“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

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

THE HOMILY

THE REV. KATHLEEN SMITH-JONES

THE NICENE CREED

When prompted, please stand if you are able.

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.
Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped 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, FORM IV

Deacon Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth,
live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace;
that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources
rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ
in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit;
give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Silence

Celebrant Hasten, O God, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your people, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate.

People **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

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 ABSOLUTION

Celebrant 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.

People **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord. Then all are seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY HYMN

PREPARE THE WAY, O ZION

HYMNAL 65

PRESENTATION HYMN

IN THE BLEAK MID-WINTER, *verse 4*

Please stand if you are able.



What ____ can I give him, poor ____ as I am?

If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;

if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet

what I can I give him give ____ my ____ heart.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING | EUCHARISTIC PRAYER C

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 God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People **By your will they were created and have their being.**

Celebrant From the primal elements you brought forth the human race,
and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation.
But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Celebrant Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed
your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son,
born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

Celebrant And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles,
and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope,
to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

DEUTSCHE MESSE

HYMNAL S130

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues:

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant Remembering now his work of redemption,
and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

People **We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.**

The Celebrant continues

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca,
God of Jacob, Leah and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see
your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table
for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal.

Celebrant Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ,
that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Celebrant Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship,
from generation to generation.

People **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

People **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

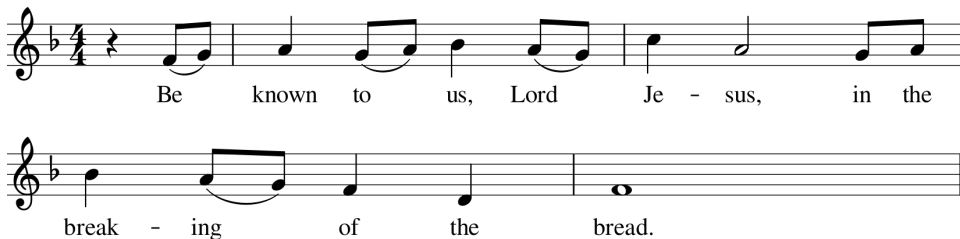
The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ

People **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

FRACTION ANTHEM

BE KNOWN TO US, LORD JESUS



The cantor or choir sing the verses

1. The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ.
2. One body are we, alleluia, for though many, we share one bread.

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INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

May all who share these gifts be found in Christ and may Christ be found in you.



All are welcome to come forward and receive the Body of Christ. Simply come forward, and when it is your turn extend your arms, resting one hand on top of the other. If you would rather not receive, you can still come forward to receive a blessing. Just cross your arms across your chest and the clergy will bless you.



COMMUNION HYMN

WATCHMAN, TELL US OF THE NIGHT

HYMNAL 640

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant Let us Pray.

People **God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Celebrant May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; And the blessing of God Almighty:
✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you, and remain with you always

People **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

TELL OUT, MY SOUL

HYMNAL 438

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

THE CHURCH

For the clergy: ++Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; ++Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church; +Eugene Taylor Sutton and +Robert Ilhoff, Bishops of the Diocese of Maryland; Edie+ Holton, our Priest; Kathleen+ Smith-Jones, our Deacon, and Al Horton, postulant to the Vocational Diaconate.

In the Diocesan prayer cycle, we pray for St. Luke's, Eastport; St. Anne's, Annapolis; St. Stephen's – Severn Parish; and for the Rev.'s Christopher Dreisbach, Diane C. Fadely, Susan S. Keller, and Marta D-V Johnson.

In our Parish prayer cycle, we pray for Rebekah, Sean, Elinor and Eli Hamley

The Flowers on the Altar are given to the Glory of God by Nancy Hughes, in thanksgiving for her birthday.

OUR COMMUNITY

The Homebound: Teeny Phillips, Marvin Metzgar.

Those With Recent Needs: Peg Jung; The Killmayer Family; Kathy Brown; The Generazio Family; Abby & Tom Kahn; The Cendrowski Family; Art & Dawn Reid, Sandy Cain; Tammy Trimmer; John Ell; Marilyn Rich; Zoe Huck; Claudia; The Dean Family; William; Barry Slocum.

Those With Ongoing Needs: Kate Jauch; Virginia Danner; Eddie Danner; Jason Harris; Fred Zupka & Family; Chuck Szuberla; Barry Stocks; Lisa Cox & Harriet Carr; Betty Ramsay; Steve Foust; Susan Kimble; Meghan Davidson & Family; Charlotte Barnhouse; Abby & Tom Kahn; Susan Mann; David & Mary Alice Thoma; Catherine Thompson; Felicia Watkins-Kimble.

THE WORLD

For elected leaders in this country and around the world, especially President Joseph Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris; Governors Larry Hogan (*MD*) and Glenn Youngkin (*VA*); and Mayors Nathan Brown (*Brunswick*) and Nate Fontaine (*Lovettsville*). For victims of hunger, human trafficking, substance abuse and natural disasters in the United States and throughout the world.

We pray for the people of Ukraine.

We pray for the victims, family, and communities that have suffered from senseless violence.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEC 18 | THE GREAT GRACE SWEET SWAP

Do you like to make/bake Christmas treats, but find it hard to find outlets for your bounty? Do you love to indulge in Christmas treats, but are not a baker? Well...we've got both covered! Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 18th. We'll host a special Fellowship Hour devoted to Christmas treats after our worship service! Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/GraceSweetSwap>

DEC 21 | THE LONGEST NIGHT

Join us **Wednesday, December 21 at 5pm** for a service of The Longest Night, for those whose joy and expectation are overshadowed by the pain of loss many experience during this season, when the world's merriment puts their grief and sorrow in stark relief. We will gather for a short service of candle-lighting, remembrance and prayer.

COMING UP AT GRACE

12/13	Tue	6:30pm	The St. Luke Artisan and Crafters Guild	<i>Undercroft</i>
12/14	Wed	7:00pm	AA "Double Dippers" Meeting	<i>Undercroft</i>
12/18	Sun	12:15pm	The Great Grace Sweet Swap	<i>Undercroft</i>
12/21	Tue	5:00pm	The Longest Night Service	<i>Nave</i>
12/24	Sat	5:00pm	Christmas Eve Service	<i>Nave</i>
12/25	Sun		Christmas Day: No Service	
1/1	Sun	11:00am	Christmas Lessons & Carols	<i>Nave</i>

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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