

EPISCOPAL CHURCH of the
HEAVENLY REST

God's Love. For All.

Second Sunday of Advent
Holy Eucharist Rite I
Sunday, December 8, 2024
8:00 in the morning

Please stand as the ministers enter

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Celebrant continues

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

THE TRISAGION

Repeated three times

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, **Have mercy upon us.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

The people kneel or stand

Merciful God, who sent thy 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 liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All sit

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING

Baruch 5:1-9

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For

they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

The Lector and People pray responsively by half verse

THE SONG OF ZECHARIAH *Benedictus Dominus Deus, Luke 1:68-79*

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, *
for he hath visited and redeemed his people;
And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us *
in the house of his servant David,
As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, *
which have been since the world began:
That we should be saved from our enemies, *
and from the hand of all that hate us;
To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers, *
and to remember his holy covenant;
To perform the oath which he swore to our forefather Abraham, *
that he would give us,
That we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies *
might serve him without fear,
In holiness and righteousness before him, *
all the days of our life.
And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest, *
for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;
To give knowledge of salvation unto his people *
for the remission of their sins,
Through the tender mercy of our God, *
whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us;
To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, *
world without end. Amen.

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:3-II

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

All stand for

THE GOSPEL

Luke 3:1-6

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Dr. Russell Dickerson, *Deacon*

Following the sermon, all stand and say

THE NICENE CREED

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped
and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.**

**And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A Deacon or Priest says

For God alone our souls in silence wait; from God comes our salvation.

All kneel or stand

Intercessor

Almighty God, give us grace to confess your Name, that your Church may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

Silence

Stir up your power, Almighty God, as we strive to serve the common good, that we may confront each other without bitterness and work together with mutual forbearance and respect.

Silence

By your daily visitation, increase our reverence before the mystery of life, that with wisdom and determination we may honor your creation in accordance with your will.

Silence

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, that we may remember and serve those whom it would be easy for us to forget: the homeless and the destitute, the old and the sick, and all who have none to care for them.

Silence

Let your bountiful grace speedily help and deliver all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble, that those who are in need of healing may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care.

Silence

We commend to your mercy all who have died; and we pray that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Silence

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon says

As we seek to heed the warnings of the prophets, we pray also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

The Celebrant stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Celebrant may say one or more sentences of Scripture.

The People stand.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And with thy spirit.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

At Heavenly Rest, we believe that we are called to respond to God's grace and generosity by giving of our time, talent, and treasure. The work of this church community is made possible by the financial contributions of those who worship here and participate in the life of this place.

There are several ways to make a financial gift to Heavenly Rest: you may place cash or a check in the alms basin as it goes by; text the amount you wish to contribute to 84321; use the "Give" tab on your profile in the ChurchCenter App (also known as the Directory App); or visit our website by using the QR code below.

Scan for online giving.
Thank you for your generosity!



OFFERTORY

Those who are celebrating anniversaries in the month of December are invited to follow the procession to the altar rail and receive a blessing.

ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.
People **And of thine own have we given thee.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *Eucharistic Prayer I*

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

It is meet and right so to do.

The Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Here a Proper Preface is said.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying:

THE SANCTUS *Holy, holy, holy*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The People stand or kneel as they are able.

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake 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."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

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

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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, **have mercy upon us.**
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, **have mercy upon us.**
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, **grant us thy peace.**

The following prayer may be said.

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Celebrant Proceeds

The Gifts of God for the People of God.
and may add Take them in remembrance that Christ died for
you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion. If you are not baptized, you may come forward to receive a blessing by folding your arms over your chest. Gluten-free hosts are available upon request. If you are interested in being baptized, please speak to one of the clergy after the service.

Communion will be distributed at two stations: at the altar rail and in front of the pulpit. If you do not wish to receive wine, please cross your arms over your chest when the chalice comes by. Please follow the instructions of the ushers as you wait to receive Communion.

After the ministrations of Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Commissioning of Eucharistic Visitors may be said.

In the name of this congregation, we send you forth, bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one Body because we all share one bread and one cup.

The Celebrant blesses the People

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand for the Procession

THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Celebrant - The Rev. Amanda Watson, Assistant Rector for Community Life

Preacher - The Rev. Dr. Russell Dickerson, Deacon

Assisting - The Rev. David Romanik, Rector

Lay Ministers - Don Bridges, Connie Collier

Sound - Annabel House

Greeters & Ushers - Dustin Rainwater, Tim Lillick



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CLERGY AND STAFF

| | |
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| The Reverend David F. Romanik, <i>Rector</i> | Don Roberts, <i>Verger</i> |
| The Reverend Amanda Watson, <i>Assistant Rector for Community Life</i> | Luke Teten, <i>Assistant Verger</i> |
| The Reverend Karen Boyd, <i>Assisting Priest</i> | Steve Gibbs, <i>Parish Coordinator</i> |
| The Reverend Dr. Doug Thomas, <i>Priest in Residence</i> | Donna Marcy, <i>Parish Bookkeeper</i> |
| The Reverend Dr. Russell Dickerson, <i>Deacon</i> | Melody Brown, <i>Website Manager</i> |
| Bikole Mulanda, <i>Swahili Minister</i> | Austin Hackel, <i>Communications Coordinator</i> |
| Thomas Pavlechko, <i>Organist and Director of Music</i> | Robert Becerra, <i>Sexton</i> |
| Shelly Reed, <i>Music Assistant, Choristers</i> | Brandon Martin, <i>Assistant Sexton</i> |
| Laura Dickson, <i>Music Assistant, Children's Choir</i> | Dorothy Guerra, <i>Housekeeper</i> |
| Carol Ann Weston, <i>Director of Children & Family Ministries</i> | Anne Jones, <i>Nursery Manager</i> |
| Luke Mendez, <i>Coordinator for Youth and Young Adult Ministries</i> | |

VESTRY AND APPOINTED OFFICERS

Kate Haney, *Senior Warden*; Harry Hurt, *Junior Warden*; Debbie Sherman, *Secretary*; David Christianson, Michael Christie, Diane Stearns, Lisa Goolsby, Jay Hardaway, Norene Mansell, John Nichols, Robert Peterson, Sharon Lawler Elizabeth Niblo Wallace, *Chancellor*; and Sam Cutbirth, *Treasurer*