

HOLY EUCHARIST

The Second Sunday of Advent

ST. PAUL'S ON THE GREEN | DECEMBER 10, 2023 - 9:00AM & 11:00AM

PRELUDE

Prelude on 'Veni Emmanuel' - Edward C. Bairstow (1874-1946)

Please stand as the bell sounds.



HYMN IN PROCESSION

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make
 3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our
 4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -
 3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we
 4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy
 5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
 2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.
 3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.
 4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
 5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

Words: Charles Coffin (1676–1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867–1944), after John Chandler (1806–1876); alt.
 Music: Winchester New, melody from Musicalishes Hand-Buch, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823–1889), alt.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Celebrant intones

Our God, Emmanuel, now draws near;

The People respond

O come, let us a-dore.

THE TRISAGION

sung once by the Choir or Cantor, and then twice by all

The musical score for 'The Trisagion' is written for a choir or cantor and then for all. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The first system contains the lyrics: 'Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,'. The second system contains the lyrics: 'Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.' The music is written in a simple, homophonic style with block chords and moving lines in both staves.

Setting: Ver. Hymnal 1982, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Celebrant intones

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

With tender comfort and transforming power you come into our midst, O God of mercy and might. Make ready a way in the wilderness, clear a straight path in our hearts, and form us into a repentant people, that the advent of your Son may find us watchful and eager for the glory he reveals. Grant this through the one whose coming is certain, whose day draws near: your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

Amen.

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. 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. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every 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. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get 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!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

*sung by the Choir or Cantor**Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13*

You have been gracious to your land, O God; *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.

I will listen to what you are saying, *
for you are speaking peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their
hearts to you.

Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, *
that your glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

You, O God, will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness shall go before you, *
and peace shall be a pathway for your feet.

Setting: plainsong

Do 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. The 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. But 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. Since 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, waiting 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? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ANTIPHON *standing; all turn toward the Gospel as the Choir or Cantor sings*

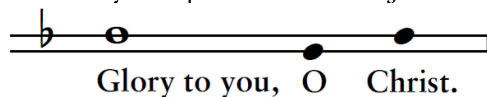
*O Adonai, et Dux domus Israel,
qui Moysi in igne flammae rubi apparuisti,
et ei in Sina legem dedisti:
veni ad redimendum nos in brachio extento.*

O Lord and Ruler of the house of Israel,
who appeared to Moses in the flaming bush,
and gave the law on Sinai,
come and redeem us with outstretched arms.

THE GOSPEL *The Deacon or Priest intones*

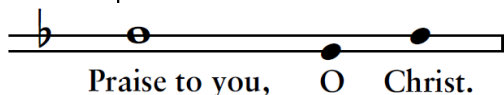
Mark 1:1-8

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



The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And 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. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He 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. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

The Rev. Paul Carling

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

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, She* is worshipped and glorified. She 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.

**Holy Spirit in biblical languages is a feminine-gendered word,
and we use the feminine pronoun here to highlight that aspect of God's fullness.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. *(ISAIAH 9/2)*

You who dwell in darkness and light, in silence and sound, dwell in the hearts of your people. In hope, peace, and joy may we await with anticipation the coming of Christ the Morning Star.

Christ, be our light. **Shine in our hearts.**

You who delivered your people from the misery of bondage in slavery to the land of promise, set us free from enslavement to division, disunity, and distrust in our public life and labor. Illumine those in authority with the light of vision.

Christ, be our light. **Shine in our hearts.**

You who patterned the stars and called the sun and moon into being, pattern the hearts of people everywhere to see in each other the beauty of the universe and the splendor of creation, that divisions of race, class, gender, and ethnicity may be recreated into one common humanity.

Christ, be our light. **Shine in our hearts.**

You who shower comfort and hope to the lowest, the lost, and the least, shower the light of compassion on the sick, the sorrowful, and the suffering. Help us to be your compassion and hope in the world.

(Please speak aloud or offer in silence the names of those for whom you are praying).

Christ, be our light. **Shine in our hearts.**

You who welcome into the brilliant light of eternity those who have died, welcome those whose lives have been cut short by violence, warfare, and strife. Shine the light of hope.

(Please speak aloud or offer in silence the names of those for whom you are praying).

Christ, be our light. **Shine in our hearts.**

And for what else shall we pray? *(Please speak aloud your own prayers, or offer them silently.)*

Christ, be our light. **Shine in our hearts.**

May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find us ever burning with the light of love, the spirit of truth, and the wellspring of hope. Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with those around you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *seated*

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Thank You!

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY *sung by the Choir at 11am*

Come, Dove of Heaven

*Mark Miller (b. 1958)
Words: Adam M. L. Tice*

Come, Dove of heaven, Breath of peace,
sing through us we pray.
sing through us today.
Come, Light Creator, Source of peace,
shine on us, we pray.
shine on us today.
Breath, Source, and Word, come God of peace,
make us new, we pray.
make us new today.
Come, Love incarnate, Word of peace,
dwell in us, we pray.
dwell in us today.

HYMN AT THE OFFERTORY *standing*



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



Refrain
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847); tr. composite; adapt. Charles P. Price (1920-1999)

Music: *Bereden väg för Herran*, melody from *Then Swenska Psalmboken*, 1697; harm. *Koralbok för Svenska Kyrkan*, 1939, alt.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

This year, our Advent Eucharistic prayer changes weekly to draw from the themes and imagery found in each week's scripture texts.

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. 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.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe. The grass withers and the flower fades, but your word stands forever. You speak tenderly to your people, with tidings of peace and comfort. Like a shepherd, you feed us and gather us in your arms. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place who forever sing the glory of your name:

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - - - - ly, God of pow-er and
might: Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Glo -
ry be to you, O God most high. Bles - sed is he that comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san na in the high - est.

Setting: Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena, Healey Willan (1880–1968)

The Celebrant continues

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Baptized by John, Jesus came to be our way in the wilderness, to wash us clean from the dust of death and the stain of sin, and to pour out the power of the Holy Spirit among us.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this wine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising, as we await the day of his coming.

With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service.

Great is the mystery of faith:

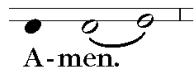
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

By your Spirit, unite us with Christ and with your church in all the world. Help us to repent and live in peace with you and with one another, watching and praying for your new heavens and new earth where righteousness and justice will be at home.

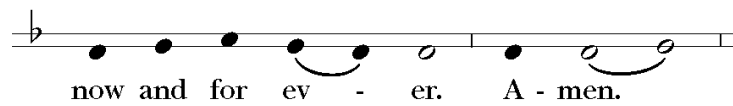
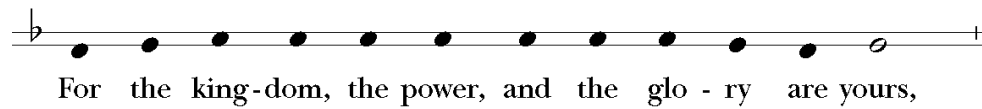
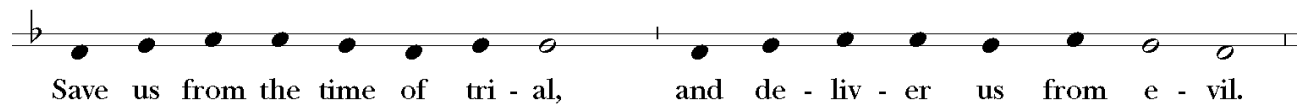
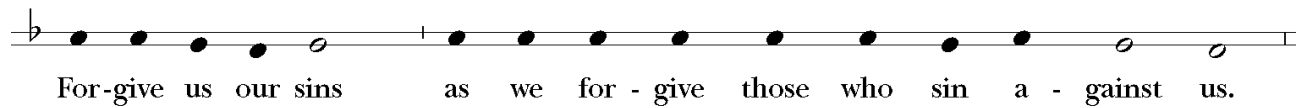
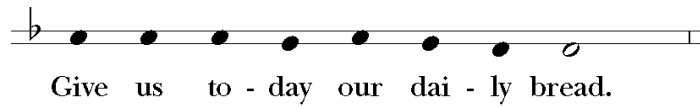
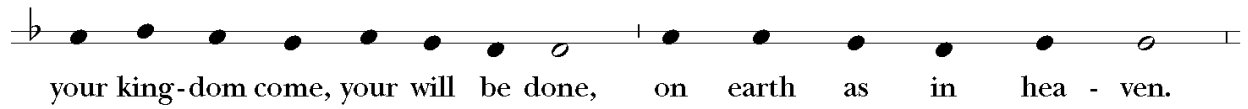
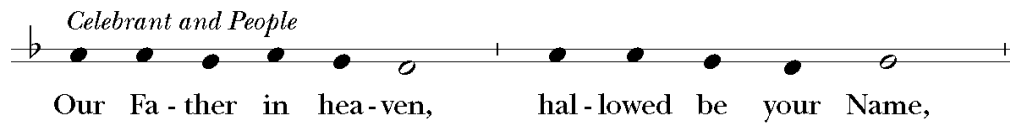
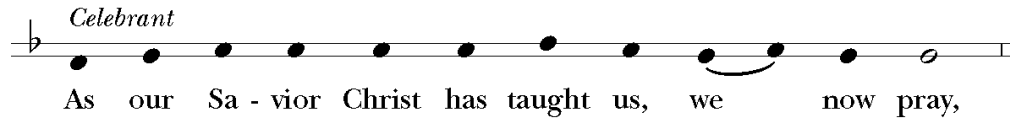
Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

People



A-men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER



Setting: Ambrosian Chant, adapt. Mason Martens

THE COMMUNION

The Celebrant breaks the bread and invites the People to Communion, saying

God bids us now draw near;

O Come, Emmanuel, and find us ready to receive you.

Everyone is welcome to receive the bread and wine of Communion. Please follow the direction of the ushers. Gluten-free bread is available upon request; grape juice is available in the blue-dot cups at the side altars. (For the health of all, we are no longer dipping the bread into the chalice wine by hand.)

Healing prayer is available in the side aisles for those wishing to pray with someone for any need in their lives.

All sing as the distribution of Communion begins:

Organ

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of 31 measures, with measure numbers 6, 10, 14, 18, 23, 27, and 31 marked at the beginning of their respective lines. The lyrics are: "O Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, grant us your peace." The melody is simple and hymn-like, with long horizontal lines indicating sustained notes. The final measure (31) ends with a double bar line.

O Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
on us. O Lamb of
God, you take a - way the sins of the
world, have mer - cy up - on us.
O Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sins of the world,
grant us your peace.

Setting: *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880–1968)

Keep your lamps

traditional spiritual, arr. Andre Thomas

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *standing*

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 forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The Celebrant blesses the People with these or other words of blessing

The blessing of God Almighty: Eternal Majesty, Incarnate Word, and Abiding Presence, be upon you
and remain with you, now and always. **Amen.**

HYMN IN PROCESSION



O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. Hymnal 1940, alt.

Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811–1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to prepare the way.

Amen. We go in the name of Christ.

POSTLUDE

Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying - Arr. Paul Manz

THE WORSHIP IS OVER – THE SERVICE BEGINS

ST PAUL'S ON THE GREEN – 60 EAST AVE., NORWALK, CT 06851

Contact us at: 203-847-2806 info@stpaulsnorwalk.org

The Rev. Daniel Simons *Rector*

The Rev. Paul Carling *Priest Associate*

Molly Cooke *Seminarian*

Will Doreza *Interim Director of Music*

Josh Ehlebracht *Interim Organist*

Marsha Dunn *Parish Administrator*

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