



ALL SAINTS'
SERVING CHRIST IN SCIOTO
COUNTY SINCE 1819

All Saints' Episcopal Church

610 4th Street, Portsmouth, Ohio

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 13, 2020 • 9:30 a.m.

The Rev. Paul Bennett, Pastor

Morning Prayer Rite II

The service printed here is from The Book of Common Prayer (BCP).

Introit

"O come, divine Messiah"

Venez divin Messie

*O come, divine Messiah; The world in silence waits the day
When hope shall sing its triumph And sadness flee away.
Dear Savior, haste! Come, come to earth. Dispel the night and show your face,
and bid us hail the dawn of grace. O Christ, whom nations sigh for,
Whom priest and prophet long foretold, Come, break the captive's fetters,
Redeem the long-lost fold. You come in peace and meekness
And lowly will your cradle be; All clothed in human weakness
Shall we your God-head see.*

Stanley E. Workman, Jr., piano/tenor; Justin Wiget, tenor

Opening Sentence

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

BCP 79 • The Confession of Sin

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.

BCP 80 • The Absolution

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

Invitatory and Psalter

BCP 80 • Invitatory

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

All: **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. Alleluia.**

Jubilate "Be joyful in the Lord" sung by all

Richmond

**Be joyful in the Lord, you lands, and serve God all your days;
Come now and stand before the Lord with songs of love and praise.**

**Know this: the Lord is truly God and made us all to keep;
We are God's people, God's alone, God's people and God's sheep.**

**Approach God's courts with thankfulness; go through the gates with praise;
Give thanks to God and humbly call upon God's Name always.**

**Lord, you are good; your mercy stands forever strong and true,
And so your faithfulness endures, age-old and ever new.**

Psalm 126 chanted by the cantor

- 1 When the Lord restored the fortunes 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 The Lord has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.
- 6 Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves. Gloria Patri

The Lessons

The First Lesson *Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11*

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.
They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.
For I the Lord love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.
I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,

so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 3: The Song of Mary (*Magnificat*) chanted by the cantor

*My soul doth magnify the Lord, *
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded *
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth *
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, *
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him *
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm; *
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, *
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, *
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever. Gloria Patri*

The Second Lesson 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 444 (*Song of Zechariah*) "Blessed be the God of Israel"

Thornbury

***Blessed be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free;
he visits and redeems us, he grants us liberty.***

***The prophets spoke of mercy, of freedom and release;
God shall fulfill his promise and bring his people peace.***

***He from the house of David a child of grace has given;
a Savior comes among us to raise us up to heaven.***

***Before him goes his herald, forerunner in the way,
the prophet of salvation, the harbinger of Day.***

***On prisoners of darkness the sun begins to rise,
the dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes.***

He guides the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace.

O bless our God and Savior, with songs that never cease.

Spoken by all: **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 Third Lesson John 1:6-8,19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is

the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Reader: The Word of the Lord
People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Homily *The Rev. Paul A. Bennett*

Announcements

BCP 96 • The Apostles' Creed *Standing*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

BCP 97 • The Salutation

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

BCP 97 • The Lord's Prayer *Traditional*

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.

BCP 97 • Suffrages A

Officiant: Show us your mercy, O Lord;
People: **And grant us your salvation.**
Officiant: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
People: **Let your people sing with joy.**
Officiant: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
People: **For only in you can we live in safety.**
Officiant: Lord, keep this nation under your care;
People: **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
Officiant: Let your way be known upon earth;
People: **Your saving health among all nations.**
Officiant: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
People: **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
Officiant: Create in us clean hearts, O God;
People: **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

The Collect of the Day

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. Amen.

Office Hymn 65

"Prepare the way, O Zion"

Bereden väg för Herran

**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.
Oh, 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.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy Name.**

**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.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy Name.**

Prayers of the People Form II

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop; 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*

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*

BCP 101 • The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

BCP 102 • A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

BCP 102 • The Dismissal and Grace

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**