

ST. JAMES HOUSE OF PRAYER EPISCOPAL CHURCH

TAMPA, FL

December 8, 2024

The Second Sunday of Advent



The Gathering of God's People

Prelude

What Child Is This

Traditional French Noel

Bells ring announcing the beginning of worship

Advent Reading

Maisie Reddy and Cosmas Edwards

Opening Hymn

Sing To The Lord A New Song

1 Sing to the Lord a new song.
He to whom wonders long.
Rejoice in God's triumph and tell of God's power!
O sing to the Lord a new song!

2 Now to the ends of the earth,
See His salvation shown.
And still He remember His mercy and truth,
Unchanging in love, to His own!

3 Sing a new song and be glad.
Publish God's praises broad.
Let voices in chorus with trumpets and horns resound
For the joy of the Lord!

4 Join with the sea and the hills,
Thunders of praise prolong.
In judgement and justice, God come to the earth.
O sing to the Lord a new song!

Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer, 355

Officiant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

The Collect for Purity (*in unison*)

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.

Canticle of Praise: *Kyrie* (sung)

LEVAS #236

Lord, have mercy,
Lord, have mercy,
Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy,
Lord, have mercy,
Lord, have mercy, have mercy on us.

The Collect of the Day (in unison)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your 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 lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Reading

Malachi 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. 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; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings

to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

To end, the Lector says The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

Canticle 16 Page 92, BCP

The Song of Zechariah Benedictus Dominus Deus

Luke 1: 68-79

Refrain: Prepare the way of the Lord

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
 he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *
 born of the house of his servant David.
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies, *
 from the hands of all who hate us.
He promised to show mercy to our fathers *
 and to remember his holy covenant.
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, *
 to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship him without fear, *
 holy and righteous in his sight
 all the days of our life.
You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *
 for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
To give his people knowledge of salvation *
 by the forgiveness of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God *
 the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of
death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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 Epistle Reading

Philippians 1:3-11

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

Speak Lord, I'm Listening

Chorus: Speak Lord, I'm listening; plant your word down deep in me.
Speak Lord, I'm listening; please show me the way.

1 Sometimes my heart is slow to follow you;
teach me to hear and understand.
And I'm told the things you promise,
and I hope they all come true.

And I know what waits for those who wait,
and put their trust in you. (*chorus*)

2 Sometimes I stumble on my way to you;
stretch out again your healing hand.
And I'm told the things you promise,
and I hope they all come true.
And I know what waits for those who wait,
and put their trust in you (*chorus*)

The Holy Gospel

Luke 3:1-6

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

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.'"

To end, the Deacon says
People

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Ed Henley

After the Sermon, we take a few moments to reflect on God's word to us.

The Nicene Creed (*in unison*)

BCP, 358

**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 he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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 (*Sung*)

O Lord, our God, we lift up our hearts to You.
O Lord, our God, your people rejoice in You.

God of the living, God of all people,
Lord of all life, we lift up our hearts to You.

In peace we pray to You, Lord God, who hears our prayers:
Lord, hear our prayers, hear our prayers...

For our families, friends, and neighbors,
and those who are alone, we pray today.
Lord, hear our prayers, hear our prayers.

For this community, Lord, our nation,
and our world, we pray today.
Lord, hear our prayers, hear our prayers.

For all victims of hunger, fear,
and injustice, we pray today.
Lord, hear our prayers, hear our prayers.

For all who proclaim the gospel,
and all who seek the truth, we pray today.
Lord, hear our prayers, hear our prayers.

For all who have died, may they rest within your care eternally,
Lord, hear our prayers, hear our prayers.

And now we give You thanks for Your presence in our lives,
O Lord, our God.
Lord, hear our prayers, hear our prayers.

The Confession of Sin and Absolution

BCP, 360

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

Deacon and 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.

Priest

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.

The Peace

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Celebrant says a sentence from Scripture to begin the Offertory.

All are encouraged to make an offering in thanksgiving for all the blessings God has bestowed.

Gifts may be made on the parish website, sjhoptpa.org,

*or by texting **sjhop** to 73256, or by postal mail to:*

St. James House of Prayer Episcopal Church / 2708 N. Central Ave. / Tampa FL 33602

Offertory Anthem

O Dear God

SJHOP Choir

Presentation Hymn

Walk in love as Christ loved us

And gave himself for us.

An offering and sacrifice to God. *(Repeat)*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer B)

BCP, 367

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 him thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People (sung)

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or

place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer (*sung*)

Celebrant

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing:

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

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

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Agnus Dei (*sung*)

Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world (x3)

Grant us thy peace. (Repeat)

The Celebrant invites the People to Communion, in these or similar words

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

A Prayer of Spiritual Communion for those unable to worship with us in person

(if you are watching the live stream, please feel free to say this prayer during the sharing of Communion)

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen. (St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appears.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

2 O come, thou wisdom from on high,
Who orderest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go
(refrain)

6 I come, thou Day spring from on high,
And cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadow put to flight.
(refrain)



Patience People

Patience people 'til the Lord is come.

1 See the farmer await the yield of the soil.
He watched it in winter and in spring rain.
Patience people, for the Lord is coming.

2 You have seen the purpose of the Lord.
You know of His compassion and his mercy.
Patience people, for the Lord is coming.

3 Steady your hearts for the Lord is close at hand.
And do not grumble, one against the other.
Patience people for the Lord is coming.

After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body
and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us
strength and courage
to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. *Amen.***

The Blessing (pronounced by the Priest; the People respond, Amen.)

All are seated for announcements.

THE SENDING OUT OF THE LORD'S PEOPLE

Closing Hymn

Lead Me, Guide Me

LEVAS # 194

*Refrain: Lead me, guide me, along the way
For if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, Let me walk each day with Thee.
Lead me, Oh Lord, lead me.*

1 I am weak and I need thy strength
and power to help me over my weakest hour;
Help me through the darkness thy face to see,
Lead me, Oh Lord, lead me. (*Refrain*)

2 Help me tread in the paths of righteousness,
be my aid when satan and sin oppress;
I am putting all my trust in thee.
Lead me, Oh Lord, lead me. (*Refrain*)

3 I am lost if you take your hand from me,
I am blind without they light to see;
Lord just always let me they servant be.
Lead me, Oh Lord, lead me. (*Refrain*)

The Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the Name of the Risen Christ. Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Postlude

Hearken Ye!

Alfred Burt



Remember In Your Prayers for healing, guidance, comfort, or strength
(click [HERE](#) for link):

Camden Agboglo
Charnell Williams
Lejoan Franklin
Margaret Booth
Jacquelyn Brown Reeder
Victor Ferguson
Delores Thomas
Eleanor Solomon
Richard Grinnell
Morris Kennedy
Maureen Cybulski
Denise Moore Contreras
Cory McIntosh

Lydia Williams
Carol Moorehead
Olivia Whittiker
Mozelle Rhodes
Joe Buczek
Dorothy Batson
Mac Alexander
Stella Jacob
Deborah Blanchett
Virginia McKinney
Roderick James
Anna Valdes
Denise Morris

Janelle Goodwin
Denise Andretta
Michael Carter
Arsenta Sibilly
Clare Kennedy
Gina Norris
Ruby Lockhart
Ernest Reese
Warren Nunn
Rick Cybulski
Errol Kirk
Hazel LaFrance
Rev. Jennifer Thomas

Give thanks for...

Birthdays this week: Julie Sneed (12/13)

Anniversaries: None this week

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Celebrant and Preacher

The Rev. Ed Henley

Deacon

The Rev. Dr. Lynn Grinnell

Musicians

Jay Findlater, Julius James & SJHOP Choir

Lector

Maisie Reddy and Cosmas Edwards

Usher

Barbara Scotland

Camera Operator

Karla Edwards



St. James House of Prayer Episcopal Church

Priest-In-Charge: The Reverend Ed Henley

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