

The Lessons

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Isaiah
“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 forever. 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.

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

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 Benedixisti, Domine All sing refrain after each stanza. BCP 708

Refrain: Show us your mercy, O Lord, and grant us your salvation

- 1

You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- 2

You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.
- 8

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- 9

Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.
- 10

Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11

Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12

The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13

Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

Reader: A Reading from the Second Letter of Peter
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.

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

Sequence Hymn

There’s a voice in the wilderness crying vs. 1-2 Ascension Hymnal 75

The Holy Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People: Glory to you Lord Christ.

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.”

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord. People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sequence Hymn There’s a voice in the wilderness crying vs. 3 Ascension Hymnal 75

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed 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 - Form IV BCP 388

The leader and people pray responsively.
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.
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.
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.
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.
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.
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.
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.
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.
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.
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.
Celebrant will add a concluding collect.

Confession of Sin BCP 360

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
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.

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. Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: And also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

Baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion

The Offertory		
Anthem	Prepare the Way The Cathedral Choir	W. Rowan (b. 1951)
At the Presentation	The Doxology America vs. 4	Old 100 th Hymnal 717

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer A BCP 361
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.

The Celebrant continues: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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:

Sanctus Hymnal S-130

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, 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.**

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People: **Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

The Celebrant continues: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.**

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

The Lord’s Prayer BCP 364

**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

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**
Celebrant: 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.

Music at Communion

Solo	<i>Canticle 11</i> Cleamon Downs, tenor	<i>Plainsong</i>
Hymn	<i>Comfort, comfort ye my people</i>	<i>Psalm 42</i> Hymnal 67

Post Communion Prayer BCP 365

Celebrant: 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.**

Blessing

Children’s Sunday School Procession

Recessional *Stuttgart*
Come, thou long expected Jesus Hymnal 66

Dismissal
Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Toccata in d minor* M. Reger (1873-1916)

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Please join us after the service for a time of hospitality in the Chapter House.

Ministers For Today

Celebrant and PreacherDean Gibson
Assisting.....Deacon Wagner
First Reading Lucy Moore
Second ReadingAlison Mitchell
Intercessor.....Josh Hopper
Chalice BearersCarolyn Eichold, Burnley Davis
Oblationers.....Liz and John Ferguson
Crucifers.....Charlie Ramo, Walt Hamil
Acolytes.....Leland Moore, Jordan Moore, Tré Mitchell,
.....Lawson Hamil, Julianna Ramo
Children’s Chapel.....Barbara Mitchell, Janie Chow
Altar Guild..... Barbara Archer, Jennifer Grehan, Donna Moree,
.....M. J. Ramo, Martha Ann Stafford
Flower GuildSage Bolt, Lucy Brady
Ushers Leland Moore, Angus Cooper, Bart Elliott, Ritchie Harris
Hospitality Team.....Kathy Thurber, Natalie Coale, Gretchen Cooper,
.....Mary Esther Elliott, Liz Ferguson, Susan Garth

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Christ Church Cathedral
Cathedral of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast
The Right Reverend Philip Menzie Duncan, II, *Bishop*
The Very Reverend Beverly Findley Gibson, Ph.D., *Dean and Rector*
The Reverend Daniel Andrew Wagner, *Deacon*
Christopher William Powell, *Organist and Choir Master*



Mobile, Alabama

Second Sunday of Advent
December 7, 2014

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
Ten o’clock in the morning

We invite you to participate in the worship of God. Our service is the Holy Eucharist: Rite Two in The Book of Common Prayer. For ease of use, this leaflet contains the congregational portions of the liturgy and service music. Congregational responses are printed in bold. Hymn numbers refer to The Hymnal 1982. Page numbers refer to the Prayer Book for those wishing to use it. Lesson and Gospel texts are taken from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

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*We extend a warm welcome to all visitors. A nursery is available.
A gentle reminder: please **turn off** all wireless devices before the service begins.
Sound enhancement receivers for the hearing impaired are available. Please see an usher.*

Prelude *Gottes Sohn ist kommen* J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

The Word of God

Processional Hymn *Bereden vag for Herran*
Prepare the way, O Zion Hymnal 65

Children’s Chapel (*Ages 3 to Grade 3*) Children process with the leader to the Chapel and return at the peace.
Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Collect for Purity BCP 355
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.**

Trisagion Hymnal S-102

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

The Collect of the Day BCP 211

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.**