

St. John's Episcopal Church | Old Town Saginaw, Michigan

First Sunday of Advent

Daily Evening Prayer Rite Two with Eucharistic Adoration

Sunday, November 28, 2021 | 6pm

OPENING SENTENCE

The Officiant says

Watch, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning, lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. *Mark 13:35, 36*

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Officiant says to the people

Dear friends in Christ, here in the presence of Almighty God, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, so that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling

*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.*

The Priest alone stands and says

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 Invitatory and Psalter

VERSICLE

All stand

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

People O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant and People

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.

INVITATORY

*O gracious Light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!
Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.*

PSALM 25:1-9

¹*To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.*

²*Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.*

³*Show me your ways, O LORD, *
and teach me your paths.*

⁴*Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.*

⁵*Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.*

⁶*Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.*

⁷*Gracious and upright is the LORD; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.*

⁸*He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.*

⁹*All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.*

*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 Lessons

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

The people sit.

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Thessalonika.

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Reader *The Word of the Lord.*

People *Thanks be to God.*

Silence may follow.

Canticle 15: The Song of Mary

Magnificat

Luke 1:46-55

*My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; **

*for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.
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.*

Luke 21:25-36

The people sit.

A Reading from Luke.

[Jesus said:] ²⁵“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

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

Silence may follow.

Canticle 17: The Song of Simeon

Nunc dimittis

Luke 2:29-32

*Lord, you now have set your servant free *
to go in peace as you have promised;
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, *
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:
A Light to enlighten the nations, *
and the glory of your people Israel.
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 APOSTLES' CREED

Officiant and People together, all 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

SALUTATION

The people stand or kneel

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Officiant Let us pray.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Officiant and People

*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.*

SUFFRAGES

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
- R. *And grant us your salvation.*
- V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
- R. *Let your people sing with joy.*
- V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
- R. *For only in you can we live in safety.*
- V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
- R. *And guide us in the way of justice and truth.*

V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. *Your saving health among all nations.*
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. *Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.*
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. *And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.*

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Lord God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ triumphed over the powers of death and prepared for us our place in the new Jerusalem: Grant that we, who have this day given thanks for his resurrection, may praise you in that City of which he is the light, and where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. *Amen.*

Matthew, Lyndall, Tom, Linda, Becky, Judy, Dennis, Janis, Hunter, Pierce, Bob, Wendy, Berney, Rosalie, Jeff, Misty, Marge, Barb, Sam, Virginia, Emma, Ferris, Visha, Bill, Judy, Mary Jo, William, Bill, Al & Jane, Sharon, Ted, and all our ministries: the Vestry, the altar guild, buildings and grounds, our children's, youth, and family ministries, the choir, the Shared Ministries Development Team, the finance team, for Al, Amy, Kevin, Rev. Pam, and Fr. Curt.

We pray for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially David Fein, Paul Ilkka, and Samantha Barshaw.

We pray for those celebrating wedding anniversaries this week.

In the Anglican Communion we pray for Justin the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Eastern Michigan, and Prince our Bishop Provisional.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we remember today the Anglican Episcopal Church of Brazil.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for D.R.E.A.M. Partnership in the Dominican Republic ... Grace Church, Traverse City – James Perra, Rector... and St. Barnabas, Portage – Mike Wood, Priest-in-Charge.

Locally we pray for our fellow Episcopalians at St. Matthew's and St. Paul's, as well as our partners with Interfaith Saginaw.

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Officiant and People

*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.*

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.*

CONCLUDING VERSICLE

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CONCLUDING SENTENCE

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. *Amen. 2 Corinthians 13:14*

SERMON

THE REV. CURT NORMAN

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION (A Litany of the Blessed Sacrament)

When one has access to a church or chapel where the Sacrament is reserved, it is a good thing to make a point of stopping from time to time to pray in the presence of the Sacrament. God's presence fills the whole earth, and Jesus' promise to be with us always transcends even the grace of the Sacraments, but most of us find that a focus on the Blessed Sacrament may be a helpful reminder. Time spent in contemplation of the Presence will leave one more ready to recognize the hand of God in all places and the image of God in all people. Intercessory prayer, in particular, takes on a special light as we pray for the dispersed Body of Christ in his Church in the immediate presence of the concentrated Body of Christ in the Sacrament.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

O Christ, hear us.

O Christ, graciously hear us.

God the Father,
have mercy on us.

God the Son,
have mercy on us.

God the Holy Spirit,
have mercy on us.

Holy Trinity, One God,
have mercy on us.

Blessed Jesus, Word of God Incarnate,
I worship you.

Blessed Jesus, Son of God and Son of Mary,
I worship you.

Jesus, whom the heavens cannot contain, yet present on the Altar,
I worship you.

Jesus, adored by the heavenly hosts, yet ready to hear our prayers,
I worship you.

Jesus, veiling your glory that we may come close to you,
I worship you.

Jesus, both priest and sacrifice,
I worship you.

Living Bread, that whoever eats will live forever,
evermore give us this bread.

Jesus, manna in the wilderness,
evermore give us this bread.

Jesus, broken bread that feeds the multitude,
evermore give us this bread.

Jesus, bread that comes down out of heaven,
evermore give us this bread.

Jesus, bread that gives life to the world,
evermore give us this bread.

Jesus, the good shepherd, who laid down your life for your sheep,
evermore give us this bread.

Jesus, giving your own Body and Blood to be our food,
evermore give us this bread.

Jesus, revealed in the breaking of the bread,
evermore give us this bread.

From measuring your omnipotence and grace by our weak understanding,
save us and help us.

From doubts, distractions, and irreverence,
save us and help us.

From unworthy and unfruitful receiving,
save us and help us.

From hardness of heart and ingratitude,
save us and help us.

From all lack of charity and refusing to welcome others as you have welcomed us,
save us and help us.

Hear us, Lord, and grant that we may know your presence,
hear us, Lord.

That we may acknowledge our dependence on you,
hear us, Lord.

That we may seek to know and do your will,
hear us, Lord.

That we may recognize and give thanks for every blessing you give us,
hear us, Lord.

That we may come to you in repentance for the wrongs we have done,
hear us, Lord.

That we may approach this ineffable mystery in perfect charity with all,
hear us, Lord.

That we may be made ready to lead a new life,
hear us, Lord.

That we may walk in the way of your commandments,
hear us, Lord.

That receiving this great gift we may grow in gratitude and trust,
hear us, Lord.

That the wounded may find healing, the despondent, hope, and the fearful, courage,
hear us, Lord.

That we may see your image in one another,
hear us, Lord.

That as we adore you here, we may hereafter be ready to stand in your presence,
hear us, Lord.

Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us your peace.

Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

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