

THE
FIRST SUNDAY
OF ADVENT:
HOLY EUCHARIST
RITE II
NOVEMBER 29, 2020
10:00 AM

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 John and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the first born 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.**

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

The Lord’s Prayer *(Said by all, kneeling)*

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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Priest: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Invitation to Communion: *All baptized people are welcome to receive the consecrated bread of the Eucharist. Please come forward to the priest to receive. Please receive the bread (a wafer) in the palm of your hand. Please know that the Episcopal Church maintains that the full blessing of the Eucharist is available in only one element. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Those not receiving the bread are invited to receive a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms in front of your chest.*

Postcommunion Prayer *(Said by all, kneeling)*

Priest: Let us pray.

People: 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

Closing Hymn 68, vv.1-2 *(Sung by the choir; standing)* *Rejoice, rejoice believers*

Rejoice! rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear!
The evening is advancing, and darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising, and soon he will draw nigh;
up, watch with expectation! at the midnight comes the cry.

See that your lamps are burning, replenish them with oil;
look now for your salvation, the end of sin and toil.
The marriage-feast is waiting, the gates wide open stand;
Rise up, ye heirs of glory, the Bridegroom is at hand!

The Dismissal

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Voluntary

Tower Bells

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Flower dedications

*In thanksgiving for Mary Bruce Edmonds on her birthday, by Helen Haines
In memory of Phyllis DeVliegher Sloyer, by her husband, Robert W. Sloyer, Jr.*

We invite you to prepare for the service in quiet meditation and prayer.

Tower Bells

Voluntary

The Liturgy of the Word

Entrance Hymn 66 *(Sung by the choir)* *Come, thou long-expected Jesus*

Come, thou long expected Jesus
born to set Thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in Thee.

Israel’s strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by Thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

The Opening Acclamation

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

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for the First Sunday of Advent

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Let us pray.

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.**

The First Lesson 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 *(Seated)*

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn 615 *(Sung by the choir; standing)* “Thy kingdom come!” on bended knee

“Thy kingdom come!” on bended knee
the passing ages pray;
and faithful souls have yearned to see
on earth that kingdom’s day.

But the slow watches of the night
not less to God belong;
and for the everlasting right
the silent stars are strong.

And lo, already on the hills
the flags of dawn appear;
gird up your loins, ye prophet souls,
proclaim the day is near:

the day to whose clear shining light
all wrong shall stand revealed,
when justice shall be throned in might,
and every hurt be healed;

when knowledge, hand in hand with peace,
shall walk the earth abroad;
the day of perfect righteousness,
the promised day of God.

The Holy Gospel Mark 13:24-37 *(Standing)*

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

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. “But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Children’s Homily

The Sermon *(Seated)*

The Reverend David C. Killeen

The Prayers of the People *(Kneeling or standing)*

I ask your prayers for God’s people throughout the world; for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; John, Charles, and Dorsey, our Bishops; Dave, Abi, and Wallace, our priests; Joe, our deacon; Chris, our seminarian; Sabrina, our urban missionary; Pat, preparing to become a deacon; and Juan Carlos, our companion parish priest; 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

I ask your prayers for Julia Livingston, Shari Arrington, Ann Macmillan, Grady Enlow, Darwin Klug, Paula, Corinna Strayer, Michael J. Guadagnoli, Elizabeth Bennett, and all those affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

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

The celebrant adds a concluding collect.

Confession of Sin and Absolution

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

All: 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 offers absolution of sins.

The Peace *(Standing)*

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Then the Clergy and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord. During the exchange of the Peace, we ask that people show signs of peace that do not involve physical contact.

The Holy Communion

Offertory

“Sleepers, wake! a voice is calling”

Felix Mendelssohn

We encourage you to place your offerings in the offertory plates at the exits of the church if you are worshipping with us in person.

If you are worshipping with us online, you can text your gift by texting STJOHNS to 732-56. You can go to the St. John’s website and click on the Give Now button on the top-right of the homepage. You can mail your gift to the church office: St. John’s Episcopal Church, Attn: Finance Office, 211 N. Monroe St., Tallahassee, FL, 32301. If you bank online, set up St. John’s as a vendor with your bank for quick, easy, online payments.

The Great Thanksgiving-Eucharistic Prayer B *(Standing)*

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People : **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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 S 130 *(Sung by the choir)* Holy, holy, holy

Franz Schubert

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, (2x)

heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. (2x)

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. (2x)

(The congregation may kneel or remain standing.)

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.

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,

Priest and People:

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

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.