



# PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

221 Union Street • Cary, North Carolina 27511

THIRD SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT

*The Rev. Alice Graham Grant, Celebrant*  
*The Rev. George Adamik, Homilist*

HOLY EUCHARIST  
9:00 A.M. SERVICE  
DECEMBER 12, 2021

## Processional

Hark the Glad Sound the Savior Comes

Hymn 72

1. Hark, the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior prom - ised long: let  
ev - ery heart pre - pare a throne, and ev - ery voice — a song.  
4. Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come shall pro - claim; and heaven's e -  
ter - nal arch - es ring with thy — be - lov - ed Name.

## Liturgy of the Word

### Opening Acclamation

*The Celebrant says*

Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People

*You come to your people and set them free.*

*The Celebrant says*

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.*

*The following is sung.*

### Trisagion

Holy God

Hymnal S 102

(Sung Three Times)

Ho - ly God, — Ho - ly and Might - y,  
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us. —

### Collect of the Day

Celebrant      The Lord be with you.  
People        *And also with you.*  
Celebrant      Let us pray.

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.*

### Children's Processional

All Things Bright and Beautiful  
Verse 3

Hymn 405

*Children's Chapel is for children ages 3 to 5<sup>th</sup> grade.*

### First Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-20

A Reading from Zephaniah.

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;  
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter Jerusalem!

The LORD has taken away the judgments against you,  
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;  
you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion;  
do not let your hands grow weak.

The LORD, your God, is in your midst,  
a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness,  
he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing  
as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,  
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

I will deal with all your oppressors  
at that time.

And I will save the lame  
and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you home,  
at the time when I gather you;

for I will make you renowned and praised  
among all the peoples of the earth,

when I restore your fortunes  
before your eyes, says the Lord.

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

### Canticle

The First Song of Isaiah (Isaiah 12:2-6)

Surely, it is God who saves me; \*  
I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, \*  
and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \*  
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, \*  
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; \*  
 see that they remember that his Name is exalted.  
 Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, \*  
 and this is known in all the world.  
 Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \*  
 for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of 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.

## Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

A Reading from Philippians.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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

## Gradual

Creator of the Stars of Night

*Conditor alme siderum*



1. Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,  
 2. Come in your ho - ly might, we pray, re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;  
 3. To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all, we pray you hear us when we call.  
 de - fend us while we dwell be - low from all as - saults of our dread foe.  
 praise, hon - or, might and glo - ry be from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

## Gospel

Luke 3:7-18

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

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

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

## Homily

The Rev. George Adamik

## Nicene Creed

*All who are able, stand.*

*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.

### Prayers of the People

People's Response: *Come Lord Jesus, Come.*

### Confession of Sin

BCP 360

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*All who are able, kneel. Minister 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.*

*The Priest 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.*

### Peace

BCP 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

### Announcements

## Liturgy of the Eucharist

### Offertory

This is the Truth Sent from Above  
*Voices of St. Paul's*

Ralph Vaughan Williams  
arr. James Kirby

Enriching Our Worship 1

### Eucharistic Prayer 2

*The people remain standing.*

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 God thanks and praise.*

*The Celebrant proceeds.*

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

*Celebrant and People*

### Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Hymnal S 128

(organ)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, \_\_\_\_\_ heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho-san-na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_ Bless - ed is he who



*The Celebrant continues*

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. *AMEN.*

*The Celebrant then continues*

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

### Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

*People and Celebrant*

*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.*

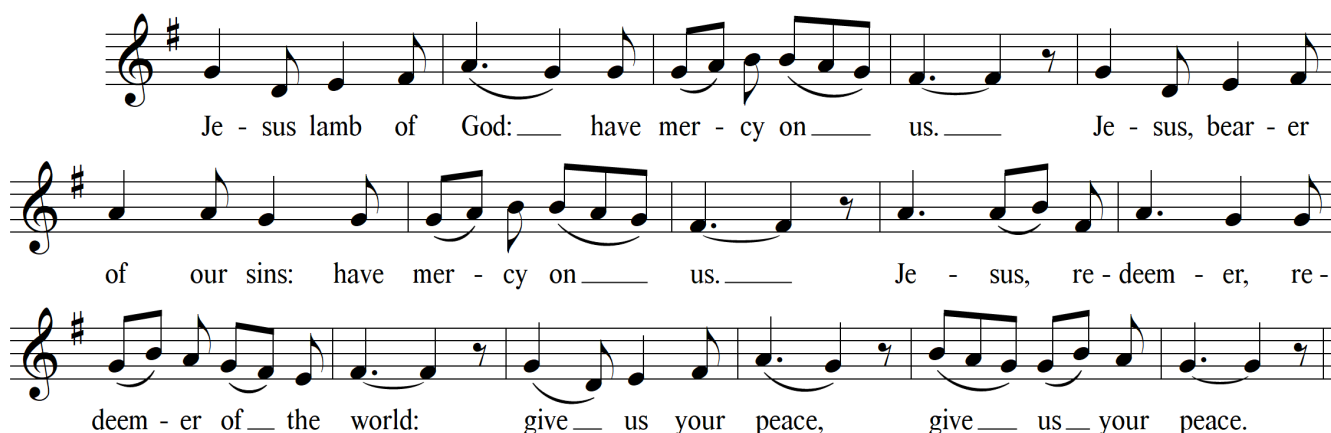
### Breaking of the Bread

*A period of silence is kept.*

### Fraction Anthem

Jesus, Lamb of God

Hymnal S 164



### Holy Communion

*The Celebrant says*

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.

*If you are at home or otherwise unable to take communion, you may say the following prayer.*

### Spiritual Communion Prayer

*In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you*

today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

## Final Prayer

*Celebrant and People*

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food as we hear your Word proclaimed and gather at your holy Table. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

## Blessing

### Recessional

### Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding

Hymn 59



1. Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing. "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;

"Cast a - way the works of dark - ness, O ye chil - dren of the day." 3. Lo! the Lamb, so

long ex - spect - ed, comes with par - don down from heaven; let us haste, with tears of sor - row,

one and all to be for - given; 5. Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther

and the Son, with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit, while un - end - ing a - ges run.

## Dismissal

Deacon

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

## Postlude

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All of the music for today's service is prerecorded by members of St. Paul's Music Ministries using "virtual choir" techniques (individually recorded tracks electronically submitted), and is compiled and engineered by Russell McKinney, Minister of Music, and accompanied by Joanna Li, organist. All music is licensed for broadcast through CCS WORSHIP Cast License #9427.

### MISSION STATEMENT

Acknowledging that all of St. Paul's gifts come from God, the mission of St. Paul's Church is to know Christ and to make Christ known.

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