

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH – NOVEMBER 27, 2022

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

READINGS: ISAIAH 2:1-5; PSALM 122; ROMANS 13:11-14; MATTHEW 24:36-44

Organ: Now Come, Savior of the Gentiles – Dietrich Buxtehude

Hymn 73, The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

THE WORD OF GOD

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

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 Great Litany (insert)

The Litany will be prayed while all remain standing.

The Lord be with you. **And also, with you.** 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 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.**

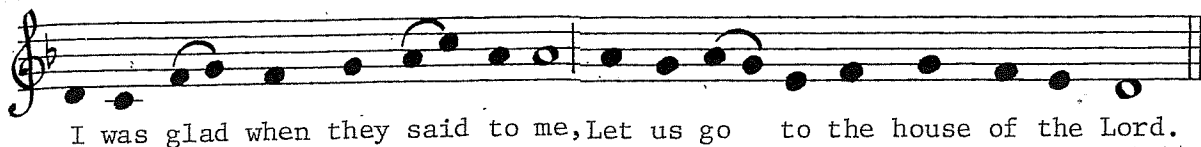
A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

In our lesson from the Hebrew Bible, the prophet Isaiah sets forth a majestic vision of a time when people throughout the world will worship the Lord and live in peace with one another.

The word that Isaiah, son of Amoz, saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem: In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths. For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

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

Psalm 122 is a pilgrim's song of praise and prayer for the peace of Jerusalem. The cantor sings the refrain; all repeat, and sing as indicated by R.



Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem: Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself, To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the Lord. **R.**

For there are the thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you. Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers. **R.**

For my brethren and companions' sake, I pray for your prosperity. Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do you good." **R.**

A Reading from Paul's Epistle to the Romans

In this reading, Paul urges a way of life in full awareness of the nearness of salvation. The time for new conduct and the following of Jesus is coming soon.

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

All stand. The choir sings first, then all join in singing:

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Music: Norah Duncan IV, 1987. © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to Matthew. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

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

Sermon -- The Rev. Michael L. Bradley, Rector

What do we believe?

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.

Let us humbly confess our sins to God. *Silence is kept, then all pray together:*

Almighty; And merciful God, we have wandered and strayed from your ways like lost sheep; we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts; and we have broken your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have left undone those things which we ought to have done. Have mercy upon us. Spare us who confess our faults; restore us who are penitent, and grant that by the hope promised us in Christ Jesus our Lord, we may now live a godly, righteous and holy life; to the glory of your Name.

Amen.

The celebrant concludes with a collect, to which all respond: Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

Solo: Come, Messiah, Come - Lynn Shaw Bailey & Becki Stagle Mayo

O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us Lord, we pray. May we see your Light and walk your way. Alleluia, Lord, we pray. Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us Lord, we pray.

May we see your Light and walk your way.

Hymn 454, Jesus Came, Adored by Angels

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

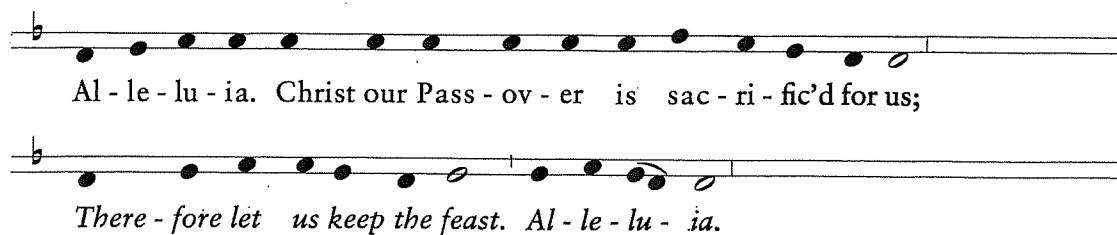
It is truly right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; for when your only-begotten Son humbled himself to come among us as a human being, he fulfilled the plan you formed long ago and opened for us the way to salvation. Now we watch for the day, hoping that the salvation promised us will be ours when Christ our Lord will come again in his glory. 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:

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.

The celebrant continues with the Prayer of Consecration, Memorial Acclamation, and Great Amen.



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.

During Communion, all sing and repeat until it is finished:
Come, come Emmanuel, Come, Emmanuel.

After all have received Communion, please stand and pray together:

Patient God; the God for whom we wait: You have fed us with the bread of eternal life. Keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready on that great day to stand before the Son of man.

We ask this in the name of Christ the Lord . Amen.

May God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with his light and set you free from all sin; and the blessing of God Almighty, etc.

Let us go forth in peace. Thanks be to God.

Hymn 68, Rejoice, Rejoice Believers and Let Your Lights Appear

The Angelus

The bell is rung three times, and all pray silently:

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.

Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

This is repeated twice more, and the bell is rung nine times.

Organ: Andante – Gustav Merkel

Our Mission: We share the light of Christ by loving and serving our neighbors in the world.

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