

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 1 DECEMBER 2024
WELCOME! THE SERVICE ORDER OUTLINES OUR WORSHIP. HYMNS CAN BE FOUND IN THE BLUE HYMNAL.
READINGS: JEREMIAH 33:14-16, PSALM 25:1-9, 1 THESSALONIANS 3:9-13, LUKE 21:25-36

OUR READERS: MARTHA MILLER AND JIM ZINK

ORGAN: PRELUDE ON "COME QUICKLY, SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS" – JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH 1685-1750

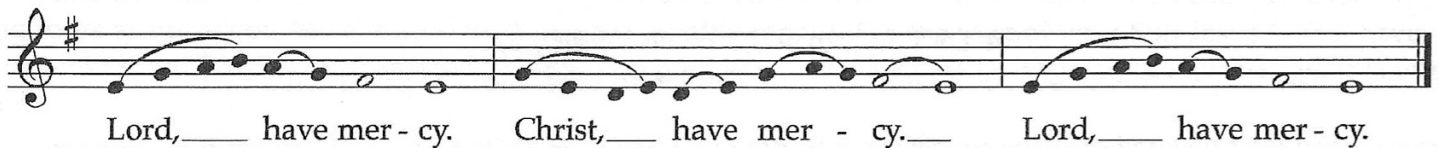
Hymn 66: Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus, Born To Set Thy People Free

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 cantor sings the Kyrie through once; the choir repeats it, and then all sing together:



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 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.**

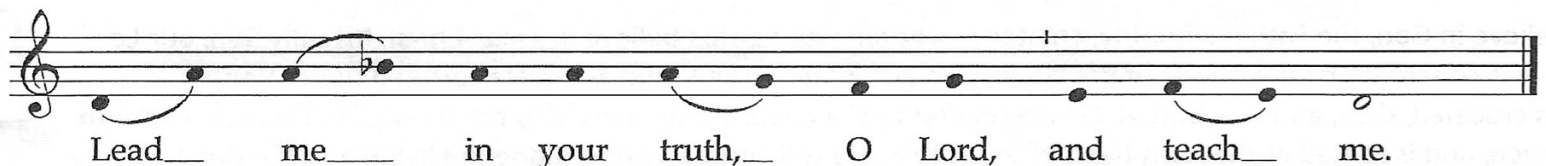
The people are seated.

A Reading From The Prophet Jeremiah

In this prophetic lesson from the Hebrew scriptures, the Lord's promise to the house of Israel and the house of Judah is reaffirmed, foreseeing the arrival of a messianic figure.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



Psalm 25 is a prayer for forgiveness and guidance. The cantor sings the refrain; all repeat, and sing at the conclusion of the psalm.

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. Let none who look to you be put to shame; let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes. Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths. 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. Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting. 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. Gracious and upright is the Lord; therefore he teaches sinners in his way. He guides the humble in doing right and teaches his way to the lowly. All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies. (Refrain)

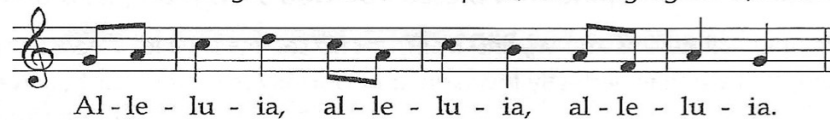
A Reading From Paul's First Letter To The Thessalonians

In this New Testament reading the apostle Paul expresses gratitude to God for his disciples and shares his prayers for them.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And 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.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

All stand The cantor sings "alleluia"; all repeat, and sing again after the verse.



V. Show us your mercy, O Lord; and grant us your salvation. R. Alleluia (3x)

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

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

The disciples asked Jesus how and when the temple might be destroyed. Jesus said, "When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. 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. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away."

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

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

Our Affirmation of Faith - 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.

Prayers of the People

Faithful God, we offer our prayers in hopeful anticipation of your coming.

The response to our petitions: Hear our prayer.

Prayers are offered on behalf of the world and our nation; the Church and its members; our family, friends and loved ones; for those in need, trouble, want or sickness; and for the departed.

For the people of Lebanon, Israel and Gaza. For the people of Russia and Ukraine. For the people of Sudan. And for all countries in the global community for which we pray for peace.

In our Diocese: Christ Church, Cranbrook. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Episcopal Church of South Sudan
For those on our prayer list: Tom Casey, Lori Pranior, Ed Haug, Lynn Kerber, Karen Schulze, Donald Burton, Christopher, Berc Backhurst.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence is kept, then all pray together:*

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.**

May God's peace be with you always. **And also with you.**

The people may greet each other briefly.

Holy Communion

All are invited to receive Communion. The bread is placed in the palm of your right hand. You may dip the bread in the wine or sip the wine from the chalice. Instead of Communion and to receive a blessing, kindly keep your hands folded.

Choir Anthem: Come Quickly, Lord Jesus - Mark Schweizer 1956-2019

After the anthem, all stand for the presentation of the oblations.

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 right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth . . . who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Cantor: Heaven and earth are full of your glory.



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

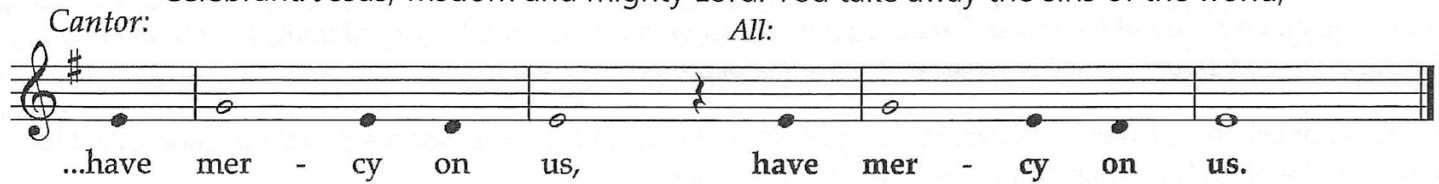


The Celebrant continues with the Prayer of Consecration, Memorial Acclamation, Great Amen, and Lord's Prayer.

After the Breaking of the Bread:

Celebrant: Jesus, wisdom and mighty Lord: You take away the sins of the world,

All:



Music during Communion: The Advent Candle - Robert Chilcott

After all have received, please stand and pray together:

Almighty God; The God for whom we wait: You have fed us with the bread of eternal life and shared with us the cup of salvation. Keep us ever watchful that we will be ready when the Son of Man comes again. We ask this in the name of Christ the Lord. Amen.

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 57, Lo! He Comes With Clouds Descending, Once For Our Salvation Slain

The ringing of the Angelus commemorates Gabriel's visit to Mary and the angels who announced Jesus' birth. The bell is rung three times, and all pray silently, "Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among all people, and blessed is your son, Jesus". This is repeated twice more and concludes with nine strokes of the bell.

Organ: "Helmsley" – Kenneth Leighton

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

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