

The Second Sunday of Advent



December 6, 2020



THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

WELCOME

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Variations sur un chant gallois

Francois-Henri Houbart

OPENING HYMN

Comfort, comfort ye my people

Hymnal 67



1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus
2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert
3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er



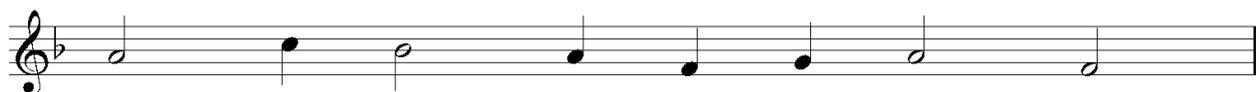
saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



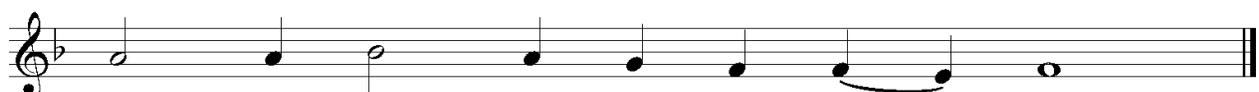
mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -
since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry



ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



tell her that her sins I cov - er,
let the val - leys rise to meet him
and all flesh shall see the to - ken



and her war - fare now is o - ver.
and the hills bow down to greet him.
that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Enriching Our Worship

Officiant Blessed are you, holy and living One.
People **You come to your people and set them free.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 211

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

Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:1-11

Lector A reading from Isaiah.

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD.

Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All people are grass;
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!"

See, the LORD God comes with might, and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

- 1 You have been gracious to your land, O LORD,
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people
and blotted out all their sins.
- 8 I will listen to what the LORD God is saying,
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him,
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

SECOND READING

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Lector A reading from Second Peter.

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times didst give the law, in cloud, and majesty, and awe.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Branch of Jesse's tree, free them from Satan's tyranny
that trust thy mighty power to save, and give them victory o'er the grave.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8

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

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

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

HOMILY

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A New Zealand Prayer Book

Officiant Together let us affirm our faith.

All **You, O God, are supreme and holy.
You create our world and give us life.
Your purpose overarches everything we do.
You have always been with us.
You are God.**

**You, O God, are infinitely generous, good beyond all measure.
You came to us before we came to you.
You have revealed and proved your love for us in Jesus Christ,
who lived and died and rose again.
You are with us now.
You are God.**

**You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.
You are our God. We worship you.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

based on Advent hymns
Emily Williams Guffey

Reader Let us pray for the church and for the world.
Creator of the stars of night, which keep watch when our own faith is dim:
Awaken hope and kindle our longing for your return.

People In your mercy,
Come, Lord Jesus.

Reader Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set your people free:
Release us from our sins and fears, that we may live in your light and truth.

People In your mercy,
Come, Lord Jesus.

Reader O Come, Desire of nations: bind in one the hearts of humankind.
Dissolve our sad divisions, and strengthen us to work for peace.

People In your mercy,
Come, Lord Jesus.

Reader With the angels who announce your coming with shouts of joy, let us name the blessings of our lives, especially those who celebrate birthdays this week, including *Jennifer Faust, Mary Keatts, Marisa Leney, Eileen MacDonald, Kathryn Treece, Steve Hughes, Debbie Faust*, and those we now name. (*People add names silently or aloud.*)

Silence

You lift up our lowliness in many marvelous ways.

In your mercy,

People **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Reader Comfort all who sit in the darkness of illness, grief, or distress, especially *Marie Abdulla, Pat Ald, James Atwater, Sue Barber, Genet Barthwell, Tim Cook, David Dieter, Digory, Kate Latham Driscoll, Debbie Faust, Vincent Faust, Grace, Hope Hoffman, Judith, Lauren Keils, Lucinda Keils, JoAnn Kelly, Matthew Klein, Kathryn Lincoln, Arnold Matthews, Jane McFeely, Jonathon Moon, Paul, Kathleen S., Marilyn Shabby, Gregg Stewart, Len St. Jean, John T., Bobbie Traxler, Sue Urbanski, Mimi Van Scoter, Megan White, Bob Wright*, and those we now name. (*People add names silently or aloud.*)

Silence

Speak to them your peace, which passes all understanding.

In your mercy,

People **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Reader Welcome into your glory those we love but see no longer, especially those we now name. (*People add names silently or aloud.*)

Silence

May light perpetual shine upon them, bright as sun and moon together.

In your mercy,

People **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Officiant Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay; comfort those who mourn, and give new hope to your people, who seek you and trust in your love. By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom on earth as in heaven, where you live and reign, one God for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 360

Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

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.

Officiant 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.
All Amen.

PEACE

Officiant In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace. – *Luke 1:78-79*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The people share with one another signs of Christ's peace.

VESTRY GREETING

OFFERTORY

BCP 377

Officiant Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

*Please give generously at christcd.org/online-giving
or by mailing a check to Christ Church Detroit, 960 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit, 48207.*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Thou Shalt Know Him

Mark Sirett

Thou shalt know him when he comes not by any din of drums,
Nor his manners nor his airs, nor by anything he wears.
Thou shalt know him when he comes, not by his crown or by his gown,
But his coming known shall be by the holy harmony which his coming makes in thee.
Thou shalt know him when he comes. Amen.

PRESENTATION HYMN

OLD 100TH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God 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:

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Celebrant continues

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,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

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.

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

LORD'S PRAYER

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

Common Worship

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Let us pray.
All **As the grain once scattered in the fields
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside
are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together
from the corners of the earth into your kingdom.
Amen.**

The priest does not receive, but begins the Prayer for Spiritual Communion.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Common Worship

Celebrant Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love,
you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels,
and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life.
All **Although we cannot gather in person as a congregation
and consume these gifts of bread and wine together,
we thank you that we do receive the sacrament of Christ's presence,
the forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion.
By the power of the Holy Spirit,
may we embody your desire and be renewed for your service,
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

CONCLUDING COLLECT

Celebrant Lord Jesus, stay with us. Assure us with and revive us in the truth that in you alone, we are and always will be one body. Nourish us with solace and strength to be bread for the world, and bring us at last to that heavenly banquet, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

BLESSING



1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a
 2 O _____ Zi - on, that bring - est good tid - ings, get thee
 3 but the word of our God _____ en - du - reth, the _____



call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a
 up to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late
 arm of the Lord is strong; he stands in the midst _____ of



high - way, a high - way for our God! The _____
 peo - ple the com - ing of their King. Like the
 na - tions, and he will right the wrong. He shall



val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the
 flowers of the field they _____ per - ish, like
 feed his _____ flock like a shep - herd, the



lof - ty hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed
 grass our works de - cay, the power and pomp of
 lambs he'll gent - ly hold; to pas - tures of peace he'll



pla - ces where the Lord our _____ God _____ may go!
 na - tions shall _____ pass like a dream _____ a - way;
 lead them, and _____ bring them _____ safe to his fold.

Words: James Lewis Milligan (1876-1961), alt. Music: *Ascension*, Henry Hugh Bancroft (b. 1904) Copyright ©1938, Henry Hugh Bancroft.
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DISMISSAL

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

ABOUT THE ART AND MUSIC

The art on the cover depicts today's Gospel reading and it is called *John the Baptist Preaching in the Desert* (1973). It is from the JESUS MAFA collection. JESUS MAFA is a response to the New Testament readings from the lectionary by a Christian community in Cameroon, Africa. Each of the readings was selected and adapted to dramatic interpretation by the community members. Photographs of their interpretations were made, and these were then transcribed to paintings. *John the Baptist Preaching in the Desert* is reprinted here with permission under the Creative Commons Attribution Noncommercial License of Vanderbilt University. All music is reprinted and streamed with permission under OneLicense account #A-725867.