

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

HOLY EUCHARIST

NOVEMBER 28TH, 2021
10:00AM SERVICE

Church of the Messiah



DURING ADVENT

The word “Advent” is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning “coming,” which is a translation of the Greek word *parousia*. Scholars believe that during the 4th and 5th centuries in Spain and Gaul, Advent was a season of preparation for the baptism of new Christians at the January feast of Epiphany, the celebration of God’s incarnation represented by the visit of the Magi to the baby Jesus (Matthew 2:1), his baptism in the Jordan River by John the Baptist (John 1:29), and his first miracle at Cana (John 2:1). During this season of preparation, Christians would spend 40 days in penance, prayer, and fasting to prepare for this celebration; originally, there was little connection between Advent and Christmas.

By the 6th century, however, Roman Christians had tied Advent to the coming of Christ. But the “coming” they had in mind was not Christ’s first coming in the manger in Bethlehem, but his second coming in the clouds as the judge of the world. It was not until the Middle Ages that the Advent season was explicitly linked to Christ’s first coming at Christmas.

Today, the Advent season lasts for four Sundays leading up to Christmas. At that time, the new Christian year begins with the twelve-day celebration of Christmastide, which lasts from Christmas Eve until Epiphany on January 6. (Advent begins on the Sunday that falls between November 27th and December 3rd each year.)

To balance the two elements of remembrance and anticipation, the first two Sundays in Advent (through December 16th) look forward to Christ’s second coming, and the last two Sundays (December 17th – 24th) look backward to remember Christ’s first coming. Over the course of the four weeks, Scripture readings move from passages about Christ’s return in judgment, to Old Testament passages about the expectation of the coming Messiah, to New Testament passages about the announcements of Christ’s arrival by John the Baptist and the Angels.

While it is difficult to keep in mind in the midst of holiday celebrations, shopping, lights and decorations, and joyful carols, Advent is intended to be a season of expectation and uncertainty. Reflection on the violence and evil in the world cause us to cry out to God to make things right—to put death’s dark shadows to flight. Our exile in the present makes us look forward to our future Exodus.

In this season of Advent, to enrich our liturgical experience, we incorporate elements from the *1929 Book of Common Prayer* from the Scottish Episcopal Church throughout several sections of the service. These expressions encourage us to embrace and engage with the beauty of our Anglican liturgical heritage.

THE GATHERING

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

IF THOU BUT SUFFER GOD TO GUIDE THEE - JOHANN GOTTFRIED WALTHER

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL — RUDOLF MOSER, ARR. HEINRICH FLEISCHER

WELCOME

Abel E. Lopez, Rector

PRAYER OF MEDITATION

The Rev. Norma Guerra

O God of our Hope, Come

As we begin this Advent journey, restore us to faithfulness, and shepherd us through these weeks. Soften us and open us to trust in your love, your goodness, your guiding presence. May we take in your word and bring it to life, giving hope to the hopeless through our words and actions. We ask this through Christ, our Savior and our hope. *Amen.*

All remain seated.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Janet & Tom Hryniewicki

Reader 1 “Watch therefore, for you do not know on what day the Lord is coming ... for God’s future Ruler and Judge is coming at an hour you do not expect.”(*Matthew 24*)

Reader 2 We light Advent candles as a sign of our desire to welcome God into our lives. The first candle is for hope: the hope and promise of Jesus’ coming.

Reader 3 Let us pray.

People God of all Hope, as Advent begins, help us to wait and to watch for signs of your promise in our lives and our world. *Amen.*

Stand – all who are able. All sing.

HYMN IN PROCESSION

The Hymnal 1982 #61

SLEEPERS WAKE! A VOICE ASTOUNDS US

SALUTATION

Abel E. Lopez, Rector

Priest O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:

People Let the whole earth stand in awe of God.

Priest The night is far spent, and the day is at hand:

People Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.
Amen!

Remain standing.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Priest and People say together.

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.*

All sing.

KYRIE

The Hymnal 1982 #S-91

Lord, have mercy upon us. *(sung three times)*

Christ, have mercy upon us. *(sung three times)*

Lord, have mercy upon us. *(sung three times)*

Remain standing.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Abel E. Lopez, Rector

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Let us pray.

A period of silence is kept.

Priest

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 LITURGY OF THE WORD

The People sit.

LESSON

Amanda Swain

JEREMIAH 33:14-16

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF JEREMIAH

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."

Lector THE WORD OF THE LORD

People THANKS BE TO GOD

Remain seated and all chant this simplified Anglican chant setting.

PSALM

PSALM 25:1-9; *AD TE, DOMINE, LEVAVI*



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

- 1 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.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O Lord, *
and teach me your paths.
- 4 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.
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 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.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies

The People remain seated.

EPISTLE

Wayne Kempe

1 THESSALONIANS 3:9-13

A READING FROM PAUL'S FIRST LETTER TO THE THESSALONIANS

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.

Lector
People

THE WORD OF THE LORD
THANKS BE TO GOD

SOON AND VERY SOON

1. Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King,
2. No more cry-in' there we are goin' to see the King,
3. No more dy-in' there we are goin' to see the King,
4. Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King;

1. Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King,
2. No more cry-in' there we are goin' to see the King,
3. No more dy-in' there we are goin' to see the King,
4. Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King;

1. Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King,
2. No more cry - in' there we are goin' to see the King,
3. No more dy - in' there we are goin' to see the King,
4. Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King;

Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

|| 1.2. || 3.4.
Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu -

jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah.

The People stand.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

The Rev. Norma Guerra

LUKE 21: 25-36

Gospeller THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO LUKE
People GLORY TO YOU, LORD CHRIST

Jesus said, “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.

“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Gospeller THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD
People PRAISE TO YOU, LORD CHRIST

The People sit.

THE SERMON

Abel E. Lopez, Rector

A period of silent reflection follows.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Matthew Terry, soprano sax
Joyce Dery, piano

LO, HOW A ROSE E’ER BLOOMING

Music: German carol, ES IST EIN ROS; adpt. Matthew Terry

The People kneel or stand. The Reader and People pray responsively.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Steve Hively

Reader Holy, mighty, mysterious God, with your transforming power, inspire us with hope.
People Hear us, God.

Reader Call us into new harmony with all that lives and breathes and has its being on the earth.
People Hear us, God.

Reader Sharpen our senses and strengthen our will, that we may hear and heal the pain of the world.
People Hear us, God.

Reader Alert us to your presence in the mysteries of life, in the songs of angels and archangels.
People Hear us, God.

INTERCESSIONS

Steve Hively

The People may add their own petitions after additional intercessions are read.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Steve Hively

Reader
O God, you make glad the hearts of all who dwell in your house. Accept our gratitude, enjoy our praise, and save us. Grant the fulfillment of our prayers through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Kneel - all who are able.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Abel E. Lopez, Rector

Priest Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbors.

All say 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.*

The Priest stands and says.

ABSOLUTION

Priest 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.

People Amen.

All stand, as able.

SABBATICAL BLESSING

Senior Warden

Juanita Doby

We believe God works in the lives of those who love him, using all things for God's glory. We trust that in this sabbatical time, God will be at work in the lives of Father Abel Lopez and his family, and the lives of the people of this church, using all things for our good and God's glory. Father Abel, we entrust you, your family, and our church family to God's care, for God's good works, and rich blessings.

Rector

Abel E. Lopez, Rector

During this sabbatical time, I eagerly look forward to seeing how God will be at work in the life of this congregation, in my own life, and the life of my family. And so, I entrust you, the parish of Church of the Messiah, to God's care, for God's good works, and rich blessings.

People of Messiah

With joy, we will remember you in our hearts for these upcoming months, praying that God will refresh you in body, renew you in mind, and refill your hearts with the depths of God's love for you.

Rector

Abel E. Lopez, Rector

With joy, I will remember you in my heart for these upcoming months, praying God will bless you with creativity and fill your hearts with His love for you. And knowing the depth of that love, may you continue to bring the truth of God's work, and a demonstration of Jesus' love, to people in our community and beyond.

Acting Rector Designate

The Rev. Jim Lee

Whether together or during a time apart, this church body faithfully serves God with compassion, energy, creativity, and love. Let us now, in a unified voice, offer a prayer of commitment to support the work of this faith community and to the work of God, in our lives and in the larger world.

People of Messiah

Almighty God, during this sabbatical time of transformation, draw our hearts to you, guide our minds and fill our imaginations, empower us to live, love, and feel deeply, and use us as you will, always to your glory. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ; and all God's people say, Amen!

The People remain standing.

THE PEACE

Abel E. Lopez, Rector

Priest

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

Greet one another in the name of the Lord.

OFFERTORY SENTENCES

The Rev. Jim Lee

Priest

Let us present our offerings to God with reverence and expectation.
Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, the Anointed One is coming. (*Zechariah 9: 9*)

THE LITURGY OF HOLY COMMUNION

Seated.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Sung by the Choir

WAKE, AWAKE FOR NIGHT IS FLYING

GLORIA SEI DIR GESUNGEN

*Wake, awake, for night is flying, the watchmen on the heights are crying;
awake Jerusalem, at last.*

Midnight hears the welcome voices, and at the thrilling cry rejoices:

“Come forth, you maidens! Night is past.

The bridegroom comes! Awake; your lamps with gladness take!” Alleluia!

Arise prepare, the feast is here; go, meet the Lord as he draws near.

(German verse)

*Gloria sei dir gesungen Menschen und englischen Zungen,
mit Harfen und mit Zim-beln schön*

*Von zwölf Perlen sind die Pforten an deiner Stadt,
wir sind Konsorten.*

*der Engel hoch um deinen Thron. Kein Aug hat je gespürt,
kein Ohr hat je gehört, solche Freude.*

Das sind wir froh, i-o, i-o, ewig in dulci júbilo.

(English translation)

*Gloria, Let heaven adore you! Let saints and angels sing before you,
with harp and cymbal's clearest tone.*

*Gates of pearl, twelve portals gleaming, lead us to bliss beyond all
dreaming, with angel choirs around your throne.*

*No eye has caught the light, no eaer the thund'ring might,
of such glory. There we will go, what joy we'll know, There sweet delight will overflow.*

Words and Music: Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608);

translation by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878); music adpt. by J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

ALTAR FLOWERS

*Today's Altar Flowers are given in celebration of the life of Sabina Mendez,
from her loving son, Jorge Garcia.*

LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENCE

Singing verse 1, only.



1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and
 2 King of kings, yet born of Ma - ry, as of old on
 3 Rank on rank the host of hea - ven spreads its van - guard
 4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim with



trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly -
 earth he stood, Lord of lords in hu - man
 on the way, as the Light of Light de -
 sleep - less eye veil their fac - es to the



mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
 ves - ture, in the Bo - dy and the Blood
 scend - eth from the realms of end - less day,
 Pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry,



Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth,
 he will give to all the faith - ful
 that the powers of hell may va - nish
 "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!"



our full hom - age to de - mand.
 his own self for heaven - ly food.
 as the dark - ness clears a way.
 Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

BLESSING OF THE PLEDGES

Abel E. Lopez, Rector

Rector Most gracious and generous God, we offer to you and to the work of this faith community, these gifts.

People May these pledges of financial commitment be tangible signs of our intention to be your hearts and hands of healing and redeeming love in your creation.

Rector Bless these pledges, offered to your honor and glory. We pray in your name, Great Creator, in the name of your Son, the Redeemer, and in the name of your Holy Spirit, the Sustainer of all life.

People Amen.

The Rev. Jim Lee

Presider God dwells in you.

People And also in you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Presider continues.

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 coming.

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:

All sing

SANCTUS

The Hymnal 1982 S#-114

Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God of hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Stand or kneel - all who are able.

CONSECRATION

Presider

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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People together.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Presider 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 whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. AMEN.

All recite together.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, in the language of our choice, we are bold to say,

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.

All sing.

AGNUS DEI

The Hymnal 1982 S-#158

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

A period of silence is kept, during which the Priest breaks the consecrated bread.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Rev. Jim Lee

Presider

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

People

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Facing the people, the Presider says the following invitation.

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.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO GOD’S TABLE

All persons are welcome to come to the altar. Children of all ages are included in this invitation. After receiving the bread, it is customary to say, “Amen.” If you prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms to signal that you desire a blessing instead of communion. Let an usher know if you would prefer taking communion at your seat.

GLUTEN-FREE COMMUNION WAFERS

We offer gluten-free wafers for those who prefer such an option. Please inform the clergy of your needs or desire when you come to receive the sacrament.

All sing.
HYMN

The Hymnal 1982 #53

ONCE HE CAME IN BLESSING

All sing.
HYMN

The Hymnal 1982 #325

LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

The Rev. Jim Lee

Presider Let us pray.

Standing or kneeling – all who are able.

Presider and People.

Eternal God, great Creator, 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 Christ's 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.*

ADVENT BLESSING

Presider May God the Creator, who loved the world so much that he sent his only Son, give you grace to prepare for life eternal.

All Amen.

Presider May God the Son, who comes to us as redeemer, reveal to you the path from darkness to light.

All Amen.

Presider May God the Holy Spirit, by whose working the Virgin Mary conceived the Christ, help you bear the fruits of holiness.

All Amen.

Presider And the blessing of ... Amen.

All stand, as able, and all sing.

HYMN IN PROCESSION

The Hymnal 1982 #473

LIFT HIGH THE CROSS

All sing. all verses.

THE DISMISSAL

The Rev. Norma Guerra

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The People are seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Abel E. Lopez, Rector

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

ALL PRAISE TO THEE, ETERNAL GOD

-JOHANN PACHELBEL

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S LITURGY

Special thanks to the Altar Guild Team for their dedication in preparing the church for worship.

10:00AM HOLY EUCHARIST

Preacher:

Abel E.. Lopez, Rector

Presider:

The Rev. Jim Lee

Assisting Priest:

The Rev. Norma Guerra

Director of Music and Liturgy

Dr. David Sheridan

Organist:

Joyce Dery

Soloist:

Matthew Terry

MC and Prayers:

Steve Hively

Readers:

*Janet & Tom Hryniewicki, Amanda Swain,
Wayne Kempe, Juanita Doby*

Intercessory Prayer:

Wayne Kempe

Ushers:

Neal Amsden & Tom Hryniewicki

Pew Crew:

Volunteers

BEST WISHES FROM YOUR MESSIAH FAMILY!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Julie Cho 11/02

Lupe Gaines 11/02

Marcia Vaughan 11/02

Carol Harvey 11/03

Charles Austin 11/05

Deanna Richeson 11/07

Jeff Hollenbeck 11/09

Betty Breedlove 11/11

Emilio Martinez 11/15

Brian Kelly 11/15

Frank Remkiewicz 11/16

Alberto Perez 11/21

Rudy Martinez 11/22

David Johnson 11/22

Biff Baker 11/23

Amie Scales 11/23

Steve Hively 11/24

Jose Luis Flores 11/28

Mario Mata 11/29

Elizabeth Riley 11/29

Ivan Ruiz 11/30

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Bill Turpit & Rex Allen 11/01 13

Neal & Su Amsden 11/08 18

Brad & Jan Karelius 11/27 50