

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The First Sunday in Advent
November 29, 2020 10:00 am

The Rev. Paul DeWitt Reid, Rector

7809 Old York Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027 215.635.4185

Holy Eucharist

The Rev. Paul DeWitt Reid, Rector
The Rev. Simpson Coriolan, Priest Associate
David Antony Lofton, Music Director

Prelude: *Preludes Opus 28 Nos.3 & 4/We Have Come into His House*
by Chopin & Ballinger

A Litany for the First Sunday of Advent

Presider	There is a voice that cries in the wilderness, the prophet word demanding change: “Prepare ye the way of the Lord; fill in the gullies, level the ridges, straighten the crooked, move the mountains: God's glory shall be revealed and every eye shall see it!”
People	Smooth the rough places, move the mountains, let God's glory be displayed!
Presider	In the wilderness of our cities, furrowed by freeways and shaded by skyscrapers, where hollow people jostle without love or get lost in the wastes of suburbia, where anonymous persons hide in luxurious homes and rented rooms, and broken men and women line up at shelters for a bed and respite from dereliction.
People	Prepare ye the way of the Lord. Smooth the rough places, move the mountains, let God's glory be displayed!
Presider	Too often in the wilderness of our religions, buildings and crowds persist as symbols of status, where evangelism is seldom found, where prayer and sacrifice are optional extras, and where Jesus is even feared as “extremist”
People	Prepare ye the way of the lord. Smooth the rough places, move the mountains, let God's glory be displayed!

Presider Voice in the wilderness, what shall we do?
Prophet of the Lord, what is the word?
“Turn, turn, turn to the Lord:
you who have two suits, give one to the naked;
if you eat well, share with the hungry;
in business and authority, deal with compassion –
and be ready for the One who comes with fire.”

People Smooth the rough places, move the mountains,
let God’s glory be displayed!
From ‘Australian Accents’ (Lutheran Publishing House: Adelaide, 1988)

The Lighting of the First Candle

(At the Advent Wreath)

Reader Come and save us, O Lord God of all.
People Come and save us, O Lord God of all.
Reader Show us your light and we will be saved:
People O Lord God of all.
Reader Glory to God, Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier.
People Come and save us, O Lord God of all.

(The first candle is lit)

Presider Show us your mercy, O Lord:
People And grant us your salvation.

Opening Hymn

My Lord what a morning
Join our soloist and sing along at home!

Lift Every Voice #13

[Refrain]

My Lord what a morning,
My Lord what a morning,
My Lord what a morning,
When the stars begin to fall

You'll hear the trumpet sound,
To wake the nations underground,
Looking to my God's right hand
When the stars begin to fall

[Refrain]

You'll hear the sinner moan,
To wake the nations underground,
Looking to my God's right hand
When the stars begin to fall
[Refrain]

You'll hear the Christians shout,
To wake the nations underground,
Looking to my God's right hand
When the stars begin to fall
[Refrain]

The people standing, the Presider says the Kyrie
Lord have mercy upon us.
People **Christ have mercy upon us.**
Presider Lord have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day

The Presider says The Lord be with you.
People **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 Lesson

A reading from Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence--
as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil--
to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous

deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *

shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *

stir up your strength and come to help us.

Restore us, O God of hosts; *

show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

O Lord God of hosts, *

how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?

You have fed them with the bread of tears; *

you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *

and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

Restore us, O God of hosts; *

show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *

the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

And so will we never turn away from you; *

give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *

show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Gospel Hymn

Have thine own way, Lord

Join our soloist and sing along at home!

Lift Every Voice #145

vs. 1,2,4

Have Thine own way Lord! Have Thine own way!

Thou art the Potter, I am the clay!

Mold me and make me after Thy will,

While I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have Thine own way Lord! Have Thine own way!
Search me and try me, Master, today.
Purer than snow, Lord, wash me just now,
As in Thy presence humbly I bow.

Have Thine own way Lord! Have Thine own way!
Hold o'er my being absolute away!
Fill with Thy Spirit 'till all shall see
Christ only, always living in me!

The Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Mark 13:24-37

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

Jesus said, “In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory.
Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the
ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.
“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts
forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things
taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this
generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and
earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. “But about that day or hour
no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.
Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man
going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with
his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep
awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the
evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep
when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Homily The Rev. Paul DeWitt Reid

The Affirmation of Faith

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 overcame death.

 You are God. We worship you.

Taken from the New Zealand Book of Common Prayer

The Confession of Sin

Presider

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Presider and People

O promised Christ:

We are a world at war.

Our peace depends on Your coming.

We are a sinful people.

Our pardon depends on Your coming.

We are full of good intentions but weak at keeping promises;

our only hope of doing God's will

is that You should come and help us do it.

Lord Christ, Word made flesh,

our world waits

for Your peace,

for Your pardon,

and for Your grace.

Even so: Lord Jesus, quickly come. Amen.

(From the Worship Sourcebook)

The Absolution

Presider I proclaim the grace of God to all.
Your sins are forgiven
By the light of Christ.
May God strengthen you in all goodness
and by the power of the Holy Spirit
keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The Reader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

We pray for all who have died.
(Please pray for those who have died.)

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.
(Please add your own intercessions.)

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of Christ be always with you.

People

And also with you.

The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Words of Welcome, Announcements & Blessings

The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer for Advent 1

By Samuel Wells and Abigail Kocher

The Offertory

The Offering of Music

Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus arranged by John Harold

Tessika McClendon, soprano

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 our thanks and praise.

Celebrant

Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor tongue told of a glory like yours, Lord God, for you are the potter, and we the clay, and you fashioned us in your image.

Though the pot was broken in your hands in the division and exile of your people and the rejection of your Son, you made an even more wondrous vessel out of agony and estrangement.

In Jesus you glorify your chosen people and inaugurate your church to be his body in the world. In his death the pot was broken once and for all, but in his resurrection, you refashioned a new pot from the same clay to feed your people forever.

And so we gladly thank you, joining with the company of angels and archangels and all the host of heaven in their unending hymn.

Sanctus

Blue Hymnal #S124

Join our soloist and sing along at home!

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant

Ever-present God, your prophets longed that you would tear the heavens and come down; and in your Son Jesus Christ you have come down and filled the earth with the splendor of your dwelling among us. In him you were present to friend and stranger, the intrigued and the suspicious, the betrayer and the bereft.

Come down now in the power of your Holy Spirit upon this bread and cup and make them be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ; who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "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. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Word of life, though heaven and earth will pass away, your words will never pass away. As you feed us with this living bread, strengthen those who wonder if they can survive this day; restore any who are downtrodden and heavy-laden; visit all who are forsaken and alone.

Open the window of heaven that your church may glimpse the hope of your glory and your world may be transfigured by the light of your truth, until that day when heaven finally comes to earth, when your Son returns on the clouds and your Spirit infuses your creation with resurrecting grace, and you are all in all, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

And now, let us join hands as we say

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

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

People *We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread
and the one cup.*

Agnus Dei

Blue Hymnal #S161

Join our soloist and sing along at home!

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world sins: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world sins: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world sins: grant us peace.

The Celebrant invites the People.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. All are welcome at the Lord's Table.

Chalice Bearers, please come forward.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [*Amen.*]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [*Amen.*]

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray

Loving God, we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
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*

Advent Blessing

May you remember in the consumer busy-ness of the season, to find quiet times of waiting and remember to keep a Holy Advent. Amen.

May he whose coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, be upon you and remain with you this day and for ever more. Amen.

The Closing Hymn

*The King shall come when morning dawns
Join our soloist and sing along at home!*

**Blue Hymnal #73
vs. 1,3,5**

The King shall come when morning dawns,
And light triumphant breaks;
When beauty gilds the eastern hills,
And life to joy awakes.

The King shall come when morning dawns,
And earth's dark night is past;
O haste the rising of that morn,
The day that e'er shall last.

The King shall come when morning dawns,
And light and beauty brings:
Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy people pray,
Come quickly, King of kings.

The Presider dismisses the people with these words

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit, Alleluia, Alleluia
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Postlude:

Allegro in b minor

by G. F. Handel