



The Second Sunday of Advent

St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church

December 6, 2020

The Word of God

Opening Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect for Purity

Celebrant 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.*

Song of Praise

On Jordan's Bank

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant 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. *Amen.*

The First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

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.

After the Reading, the Reader says The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God

Psalm

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

- 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.

The Second Reading

2 Peter 3:8-15a

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.

After the Reading, the Reader says The Word of the Lord
People Thanks be to God

The Gospel Reading

Mark 1:1-8

Before proclaiming the Gospel, the Priest says
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 stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

After the Gospel, the Priest says
The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

All We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People Form IV

After each bidding, you may offer your own prayers aloud.

Leader Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Guide the people of this land, of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

All Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Leader Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

All Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Leader We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

All Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

A concluding prayer is said by the priest

Adapted from the BCP

Confession and Absolution

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

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.

Celebrant 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. *Amen.*

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you.

Birthday/Anniversary Blessing

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor we pray on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

The Offertory

Meekness and Majesty

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

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 him thanks and praise.

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

All 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.

Celebrant Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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."

All Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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.**

Celebrant As our savior Christ taught us, we now pray
All Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Breaking and Sharing of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant 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.

All who are baptized, regardless of age or denomination are welcome to receive communion at the Lord's table. If you are not baptized, or prefer not to receive, you may come forward for a blessing. To indicate that you would like to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest. Please know that there is real wine in the cup; you do not have to receive both bread and wine in order to participate in communion. If you would like to talk about baptism for yourself or a child, please speak to Mtr. Tracey. If you need communion brought to you in your pew, please let one of the ushers know.

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.
All Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Blessing

Closing Song

My Lord He is A-Comin' Soon

Dismissal

Announcements

Birthdays this month

1st: Lincoln Randell
 2nd: Susan Schug
 6th: Janet Whetzel
 14th: Becky Supercinski
 19th: Diana Duesterhoft
 21st: Ron Raif
 26th: Jeff Richardson
 27th: Don King
 30th: Sunni Spraggins
 31st: John Dawes

Christmas Eve Service

Thursday, December 24th, 6:00 PM

Longview Community Ministries

They are the principal organization in Longview that helps people with all sorts of emergency services, including food. They have asked us to help by donating canned fruits and vegetables during this season when food bank donations are down, and the need for services has increased. We will have a basket in the Narthex for ongoing donations. Please donate if you are able.

Ornament Exchange

Sunday, December 20th, Bring a wrapped ornament, costing no more than \$5.00. Place on the table in the Narthex. Following the service, please take one on your way out. Bring as many as you want, but only as many as you bring. Please be aware we cannot socialize, but we can exchange the ornaments. Options: Include a note, poem, or verse inside, expressing how much the Christmas season means to you and hopes for the recipient.

Poinsettia Dedications

If you would like to provide a Poinsettia for the Sanctuary, please fill out the form located in the narthex and place in the offering plate. Suggested donation: \$20.00 per Poinsettia. Please indicate "Poinsettia" on your check.

This Sunday's Servers

Danny's Team: Laura Buckner
Greeter: Amy Brown
Lector: Mary Lynn Dawes
Ushers: Jerry Ritchie
Vestry People: Roxanne Brink, need a person
Worship Tech: Jessica Sanders

Prayer Requests

Healing For:

- Ray
- Devin
- Meg
- Aaron & Roni
- Jo Lee
- Lorraine
- Pete & Margie

To submit a prayer request, fill out the back of the information sheet in the pew and place it in the offering. Or, send an email with your request to: prayer@smaalongview.org

**** Emailed prayer requests are received by all who've signed up for the SMAA prayer chain. This community of prayer is committed to holding up our needs and thanksgivings to God whenever they are shared. TO JOIN IN THIS IMPORTANT MINISTRY, JUST SEND A REQUEST TO SMAA@SMAALONGVIEW.ORG ASKING TO BE A PART OF THE PRAYER CHAIN. ****

Stewardship Update

DATE	GIVING	BUDGET	ABOVE/BELOW
11/08/20	\$1,096	\$3,065	-\$1,969
11/15/20	\$2,131	\$3,065	-\$934
11/22/20	\$5,001	\$3,065	\$1,936
11/29/20	\$2,361	\$3,065	-\$704
YTD TOTALS	\$119,592	\$147,112	-\$27,519

Next Sunday's Servers (12/13)

Danny's Team: Melinda Smith
Greeter: Susan Kuhlman
Lector: Harrison Brown
Ushers: Bryan White
Vestry People: Laura Buckner, David Brown
Worship Tech: Laura Buckner

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