

ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Worship Bulletin for the Season of Advent November 29, 2020

Virtual Service 9:30 a.m. on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/stgeorgestc/>

Welcome to St. George's! We are blessed by your attendance at our worship today.

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You can find our Current and Past Bulletins for Virtual Services on our website at:
<https://www.stgeorgestc.org/sunday-worship-services-online/>

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

The Word of God

Prelude Hymn

“Lo! he comes, with clouds descending” Hymn 58

Advent ring lighting ceremony — lighting of the Advent wreath with its candles representing Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love

Every Sunday of Advent the candle lighting is preceded by a brief Call to Worship

Celebrant

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the Sunday in which we recall the hope we have in Christ.

The prophets of Israel all spoke of the coming of Christ, of how a saviour would be born, a king in the line of David. They spoke of how he would rule the world wisely and bless all nations.

On Christmas day the Christ of our hope was born. On Good Friday the Christ of our hope died. On Easter day the Christ of our hope rose from the dead. He then ascended into heaven. On the last day, the Christ of our hope will come again to establish his kingdom over all things on earth.

As the follower of Christ, we await his return. We light this candle to remember that as he came to us as humbly in the manger at Bethlehem and gave light to the world, so he is coming again in power to deliver his people. We light this candle to remind us to be alert and to watch for his return.

(Light the First Candle)

Let us pray - Loving God, we thank you for the hope you give us. Help us prepare our hearts for the Lord's coming. Bless our worship. Help us live holy and righteous lives. We ask it in the name of the one born in Bethlehem. Amen

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

BCP 355

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

Collect for Purity

BCP 355

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.*

Kyrie Eleison

BCP 356

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

People Christ, have mercy.

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant 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 First Lesson

Reader A Reading (Lesson) 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Mark 12:24-37

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

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.”

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of the Lord.
People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Homily

The Rev. Robin Reeves-Kautz

We invite your prayers of Thanksgiving and Supplication as modeled in the Lord's Prayer.

Thank you God that you are _____.
(praise God for His character—sovereign, gracious, creator, redeemer, sustainer)

Thank you for blessing us with _____.
(a loving family, friends, nice weather)

We pray Thy Will Be Done on Earth as it is in Heaven,

Thank you for your provision of _____
(healing, provision, peace, . . .)
for _____.
(those with covid, . . .)

Forgive us for _____.
(our complacency, not putting you first, not having faith over fear, not trusting you)

We forgive others for _____.
(holding a different view than ours, not caring for the most vulnerable in our society, inciting violence, spreading fear with false news, betraying us)
as we have been forgiven.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil of _____.
(hatred, fear, apathy, luke-warm faith, doing life on our own and not relying on you)

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Confession of Sin

BCP 359

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

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**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 Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.

The Absolution

BCP 360

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.*

Offertory

The Peace

BCP 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

The Blessing

The Priest, gives the blessing.

Recessional Hymn

“Rejoice! Rejoice, believers”

Hymn 68

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God. *Alleluia. Alleluia.***