



ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ISLE OF HOPE, GA

St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Isle of Hope
The First Sunday of Advent
Holy Eucharist: Rite II
9:00am and 11:15am Service
November 28, 2021

*We are a welcoming community of faith and love that serves one another
and seeks to draw others to God through our ministries.*

The bulletin for the 10:00am virtual service begins on page 7.

**We ask that you adhere to the following COVID precautions: we ask all unvaccinated people ages 2
and up to wear masks for the entire service, including when you come forward for communion.*

OPENING HYMN *Lo, he comes with clouds descending* Hymnal #58

OPENING ACCLAMATION BCP p 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

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.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY BCP p 211

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 LESSONS *The people sit*

A reading from the book of Jeremiah. Jeremiah 33:14-16

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." The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25:1-9 *in unison*

BCP p 614

**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.

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Luke 21:25-36

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." The Gospel of the Lord

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

THE HOMILY

THE NICENE CREED

BCP p 358

Officiant Let us reaffirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

**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 worshiped 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.**

ADVENT PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

- Litanist* God of the prophets, give your church courage to speak truth, and to tell of your love.
People **God of the prophets, hear us and help us!**
- Litanist* God of the angels, give your church voice to sing your presence into the world. Give
 the world a freedom song, and help us to speak peace throughout the earth.
People **God of the angels, hear us and help us!**
- Litanist* God of Mary and Elizabeth, give your church grace to be pregnant with hope and to
 bring forth life for a barren world.
People **God of our mothers, hear us and help us!**
- Litanist* God of Zechariah and Joseph, give your church dreams and visions, and the courage to
 follow them.
People **God of our fathers, hear us and help us!**
- Litanist* God of the shepherds give your church humility, and to all who sit in darkness, alone
 and afraid, a light from heaven proclaiming peace.
People **God of the shepherds, hear us and help us!**
- Litanist* God of the magi, give your church gifts, and the will to leave home to find you among
 the poor.
People **God of the magi, hear us and help us!**
- Litanist* God of the Holy Innocents, give your church power to stand against violence and
 to protect the powerless.

People **God of the victim, hear us and help us!**

Litanist God our Sovereign, you are always coming into the world. Come to us now, soon, and forever, and let us receive you as the Child of holiness and the Wind of change, through whom, this day, we pray. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP p 360

The Deacon says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.**

ABSOLUTION

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.**

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS, BLESSINGS FOR BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

OFFERTORY HYMN

O Come, O Come Emmanuel vs 1-2

Hymnal #56

DOXOLOGY (v 3) (9:00 am)

Hymnal # 380

**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.**

THE PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS (11:15)

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

People **And of thine own have we given thee.**

The people remain standing.

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.**

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.

Celebrant and People

S-125

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 people stand or kneel.

Then 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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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 the blessed Virgin Mary, St. Thomas, and 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.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, 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.

FRACTION

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.

Hymn at Communion

Savior of the Nations Come

Hymnal #54

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant and people

Eternal God, heavenly Father, 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 his 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.

THE BLESSING

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path. And the blessing of God Almighty: Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you this day and always.

EXIT HYMN

God of Grace and God of Glory

Hymnal #594

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Contact Tracing Notice: If you test positive for COVID-19 within 5 days of attending this worship service or gathering, please notify the church office or one of the clergy immediately. Your confidentiality will be maintained, but we will notify those who were present that they may have possibly been exposed to the virus. We will also notify the health department and Canon Loren Lasch on the bishop's staff in accordance with Diocesan policy. If you have been present at a worship service or other event at St. Thomas with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 within 5 days of this gathering, we will notify you immediately that you may have been exposed to the virus. All confidentiality will be maintained.

Serving in our Worship Today

Ushers: Jane Moore (9:00) Bill Franklin/Mary Haley (11:15)

Vestry on Duty: Charlie Barrow (9:00 am) Joe Roberts (11:15)

Cantor: Carolyn Cohen

Flower Guild: Annie Quaile

Altar Guild: Salli White, Anna Fowler, Tracy Edgar, Stacie Bacon, Mary Haley

**St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Isle of Hope
The First Sunday of Advent
Morning Prayer
10:00am Service
November 28, 2021**

OPENING MUSIC

Leader The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all shall see it together. BCP p 75

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION BCP p 79

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

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.

Leader 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.**

A Deacon or lay person using the preceding form remains kneeling, and substitutes "us" for "you" and "our" for "your."

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Leader Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia.

VENITE Psalm 95:1-7

BCP p 82

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, *

and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Then follows

Psalm 25:1-9

See bulletin p 1

At the end of the Psalms is sung or said by all

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE LESSONS AND CANTICLES

All may be seated

The First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

See bulletin p 1

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand and say together

Canticle 15: Song of Mary *Magnificat*

BCP p 91

Luke 1:46-55

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices
in God my Savior. ***

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *

the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

**He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy.
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

All may be seated

The Second Reading: Luke 21:25-36

See bulletin p 2

A reading from the gospel of Luke.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Song of Zechariah *Luke 1:68-79*

BCP p 92

**Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *
born of the house of his servant David,
Through his holy prophets, he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all who hate us.
He promised to show mercy to our fathers *
and to remember his holy covenant,
This was the oath that he swore to our father Abraham,
to set us free from our enemies,
Free to worship him without fear, *
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.
You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
To give his people knowledge of salvation *
by the forgiveness of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God *
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, ***

**and to guide our feet into the way of peace. Amen.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

THE HOMILY

THE APOSTLES' CREED

BCP p 96

Leader and People together, all standing

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS

BCP p 97

The People stand or kneel

Leader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Leader Let us pray.

Leader and People

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.

Suffrages A

BCP p 97

The leader reads the V parts and the people respond with the R parts (in bold).

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord:

R. **And grant us your salvation.**

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

- R. **Let your people sing with joy.**
 V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
 R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**
 V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
 R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
 V. Let your way be known upon earth;
 R. **Your saving health among all nations.**
 V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
 R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
 V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
 R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

The Collect of the Day

BCP p 211

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.**

A Collect for Sundays

BCP p 98

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

BCP p 100

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Intercessions and Thanksgivings are offered at this time.

REFLECTIVE MUSIC

The General Thanksgiving

BCP p 101

Leader and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Leader Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Leader The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.** *2 Corinthians 13:14*

Join us for Virtual Coffee Hour: Conversation with the Clergy through Facebook comments on live video. Birthday and Anniversary blessings will be offered upon request.

Announcements

Advent Resources: Advent Wreaths will be made today before and after both services outside the Parish Hall. Pick up an **Advent Candle Prayer Calendar** as well. Each day pray for the person on the calendar and color in the candle until it is full on Christmas Day. Blank candles are for you to write specific prayer needs specific to you. **The Poetry of Advent** is a companion to Mary Oliver's book, *Devotions*. Books can be purchased at all major book retailers. We will also provide a link to the poems in our Monday email each week.

Christmas Sponsorship to Benefit Afghan Refugee Children – A tree with ornaments for each child is in the Parish Hall. Grab one and sign up on the spreadsheet with the child you have chosen. Presents should be valued at \$25 and returned to the Parish Hall by Dec. 12.

Christmas flowers and greenery: If you'd like to donate toward our Christmas flowers and greenery in honor of memory of a loved one, please, fill out our online form at <https://forms.gle/jaXRuamQEZhf4cB7> or fill out our paper form and turn it in to the church office. The suggested donation is \$15 per plant. Deadline to turn these in is Sunday, December 19.

Feast of St. Nick with kid-friendly supper and brief service following will be **Wednesday, December 8 at 6:00 pm** in the parish hall. More information, including how to sign up for supper, will be in your Monday email.

CAST (Co-op at St. Thomas) returns Friday, December 10 from 4-7 pm! Make plans to join us.

Nominations for Vestry to be elected to serve for 2022 – 2024 are now being taken. If you would be interested in serving on our Vestry, contact Jane Gilchrist at 703-314-4134 or Joe Roberts at 912-507-5577.