



Christ Episcopal Church

A Church for All the Seasons of Life

The Holy Eucharist Rite Two

Sunday, November 28, 2021

The First Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM

The Word of God

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One.
Have mercy upon us.

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 Lessons

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

A Reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

¹⁴The 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. ¹⁵In 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. ¹⁶In 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."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 25:1-9

¹To 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.

²Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

³Show me your ways, O LORD, *
and teach me your paths.

⁴Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.

⁵Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.

⁶Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

⁷Gracious and upright is the LORD; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

⁸He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.

⁹All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Thessalonika.

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[Jesus said:] ²⁵“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. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be 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.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON The Rev. Michael Way

THE CREED

All stand.

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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; especially Mona, Judy, Theresa, Craig, Avery, Jen and Braden, Marge, Beatrice, Cathy, Tia, Henry, Barbara, Anthony, Liam M., Dawn M, Liam, Neil, Bob, William Eugene, Richard, Rosemary, Fred and Nancy

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest; especially Lillian E. Heyer, Peter Kovalevich, Miriam Terry and Chuck Guariglia

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.

The Priest adds a concluding Collect.

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Priest 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.

The Priest says

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

All stand.

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

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

Birthdays

Marty Truscott(11/28), Grace Wilson(11/29),
Kevin Foran(11/29) and Trish Thurman(11/29)

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The Celebrant says

Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God.

The Great Thanksgiving

SURSUM CORDA

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 our thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God,
source of life and fountain of mercy.

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

SANCTUS

Celebrant and People

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 Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life.
You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love.
You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards
and show forth your bountiful grace.
But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves;
we would not see your goodness in the world around us;
and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.
Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.
Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you.
You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets
to renew your promise of salvation.
Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus.
Born into the human family, and dwelling among us,
he revealed your glory.
Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil,
opening the way of freedom and life.
On the night before he died for us,
Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you,
he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat:
This is my Body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."
As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

Remembering his death and resurrection,
we now present to you from your creation
this bread and this wine.

By your Holy Spirit may they be for us
the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.
Grant that we who share these gifts
may be filled with the Holy Spirit
and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage
of your daughters and sons,
that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come,
we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
to you be honor, glory, and praise,
for ever and ever. *AMEN*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,
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.

Forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not unto temptation
But deliver us from evil.

For thin is the kingdom, an the power, and the glory,
Forever and ever. Amen.

FRACTION ANTHEM

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.

INVITATION

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

O Lord of the Holy Sacrament, I wish to possess You in spirit. Jesus, come to me, since I, for my part, am coming to You! May Your love embrace my whole being in life and in death. I believe in You, I hope in You, I love You. Amen

THE DISTRIBUTION

*The Priests receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver the bread to the people.
All people regardless of faith background or circumstance are welcome to receive the Sacrament.*

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

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.

BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people, saying

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Those for Whom we Pray

For Healing Mona Dolan, Judy Kelso, Theresa Tuttle, Craig, Avery, Jen and Braden Grootenboer, Marge Poles, Beatrice Griffiths, Cathy Bickerton, Tia LaPiana, Henry Campbell, Barbara Hutchinson, Anthony, Liam Marquez, Dawn M, Liam, Neil O'Connor, Bob Schuler, William Eugene Hahl, Richard Biernacki, Rosemary Darben, Fred Hartswell, Nancy Schlachter
For Friends and Family Theresa Maddalena, Jane Belicose, John Sottile, Maryellen S., Martin Spindell, Kathleen Gardell, Anita McDaniel, Glenn, Sandra Noecker, Mary Balme, Francesca DeGeorgio-Matusewski, Theresa Juskiewicz, Sydney D., Dylan D., Greg Wolf, Carmen Holmstrom, Steve Brody, Fabiola Resto, Ingrid Perilloux, Asiyat Aral, Erna Lindoerfer, Lilly, Sawyer Hines, Darleen Colgan, Sami, Ellen, Elena, Michael A., Mike Szoke Sr., Emily Straniero

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

Church of the Advent in Cape May and The Rev. Peter A. French

Deployments

Daniel McCormack

Birthdays

Marty Truscott(11/28), Grace Wilson(11/29),
Kevin Foran(11/29) and Trish Thurman(11/29)

Anniversaries

None this week

In Memoriam

Lillian E. Heyer, Peter Kovalevich, Miriam Terry and Chuck Guariglia

The flowers that grace the church are given in Thanksgiving for the marriage of their daughter Christina Emmeline to Kyle Byington by Sandra & Mauro Casci.

SERVING OUR WORSHIP

Celebrant

The Rev. Michael Way

Assisting Priest

The Rev. Dr. Cathy Bickerton

Music Director

John Balme

Altar Guild

Melinda Rudnicki, Linda Bath and Barbra Brown

Christ Church Announcements for the week of November 28, 2021

The Church Office is open by appointment only, however, emails and phone messages will continue to be checked regularly. Please contact Father Michael directly in the event of a pastoral emergency.

Thanksgiving Ingathering Thank you

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Thanksgiving Ingathering and helped to box up the dinners. We collected enough food and money to provide **61** complete dinners (minus turkeys) to families served by St Mark's Center for Community Renewal. Special thanks to Bill and Cindy McCormack for delivering all the boxes to St Mark's.

As you give thanks for your blessing this Thanksgiving, many less fortunate families will be thanking you for your caring and generosity.

Outreach Coffee Sale

The December Outreach Coffee and Hot Chocolate Sale will start November 27 and run until December 5. Stock up for the holidays and the long, cold winter ahead. This is also the perfect opportunity to complete your Christmas gift list. We will have the famous Christmas Blend as well as twenty other choices of coffee: Custom blends, single origin, organically grown, espresso, and decaf. Coffee is all fresh roasted and ground to order (whole bean is available) by our favorite local company, Jersey Shore Coffee Roasters. All profits from the coffee sales support Christ Church Outreach Ministries.

This will be a hybrid sale. Order forms and payment will be available online and at the weekend services. Please visit the Christ Church website, and click on the News tab to view the order form (www.christchurchmiddletown.org/news) . If you wish to place an order online please email Erna Sottile with the Item number, Quantity, and desired grind of coffee. All orders must be pre-paid by check payable to Christ Church with 'Outreach coffee sale' on the memo line or on the Christ Church website, www.christchurchmiddletown.org/donate ; select "Outreach coffee sale"

Coat/Winter Clothes Drive

In January we will once again be collecting winter coats and clothing such as gloves, hats, scarves, sweatshirts. As you sort through your winter clothes please put aside anything that is new or gently used. More information will be forthcoming. Thank you.

Seamen's Church Institute Christmas at Sea Program

Christ Church has been supporting Seamen's Church Institute's Christmas at Sea program by donating sample sized toiletries. We will continue this collection throughout the year – put your unopened sample sized toiletries in a bag marked SCI and place them in one of the red wagons.

The Christmas at Sea program also provides the commercial mariners with handmade hats, scarves, vests and socks each winter. SCI has offered suggested patterns of hats and scarves, designed to complement the work and safety gear mariners wear on board, that even beginner knitters and crocheters can make. Sample patterns and more information is posted on the Outreach bulletin board in the undercroft or read more at seamenschurch.org and click Christmas at Sea under For Supporters.

We will be delivering 3 boxes of toiletries and 15 hats and scarves (some brought home from Ireland!)

Christmas Ingathering

Our Christmas Ingathering will take place December 12 at the 10AM service. This year we are partnering with St Mark's Center for Community Renewal to bring some Christmas joy to children of families in need. The Christmas wish list includes: action figures, board games, doll, cars and trucks, arts & crafts sets, building sets, gift cards, hats, mittens, scarves, sweatshirts, socks. The new and unwrapped gifts for children of all ages may be dropped off at the office (call first) but preferable be brought on December 12 to be blessed at the altar. Thank you!

COFFEE HOUR

Please consider hosting one of the upcoming Coffee hours. For the remainder of 2021, hosts are needed for Nov 28 and Dec 19. Please reach out to Lauren Badal or Vicki Schmelzer if you are interested.

Christ Church Prayer Shawl and Crafters Ministry

Change in schedule

Please note the new meeting dates for our ministry. We'll be meeting at Christ Church in room 118 on **the first and third Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m.** Do you want to be part of this important ministry, but you can't make our in-person meetings? That's okay, you can work at home on your shawl or projects. Then, when you are finished with it, you contact Tia LaPiana at tiasemail16@gmail.com, so we can receive your item. Then your work joins with ours and will be blessed by Father Michael before distribution.

Tuesday Women's Study Group

Did you know that we have a Tuesday Women's study group? They meet every Tuesday in Room 118 at 10:30. They are presently reading "Sauntering Through Scripture" by Genevieve Glen, O.S.B., contemplative nun of the Abbey of St. Walburga in Northern Colorado. She is a retreat director, composer of hymn texts, poet, and essayist. She writes regularly on prayer and scripture for "*Give Us this Day*." Newcomers are always welcome!

FILMING HELP

Christ Church continues to livestream the 8 am and 10:00 am services so that those who cannot make in-person worship are able to feel part of our church community. This is an important ministry and each week, we have well over 100 views of the various services. We need occasional filming help with the 10:00 am Sunday service. This would not be a regular commitment, although it could be if someone is interested. Mainly, we want to cover the services when Vicki Schmelzer is unavailable. Live streaming requires familiarity with Facebook and a willingness to film while also attending the service. But the filming process itself is fairly easy. If anyone is interested please reach out to Vicki.

The Christ Church Cycle of Prayer

Each day during our Morning Prayer service we will pray for a few parishioners by name. This way, our entire parish will be prayed for by name at least once each year.

Parishioners prayed for this week:

Monday: Robyn, Kiril, Stefan & Alexander Gerin; Debbie, John & Lexi Gilgannon

Tuesday: Neil & Rita Grootenboer; Jane, Krishna, Jane & Rami Gudapati

Wednesday: Sarry, Mona, Ramzi & Dalia Habiby; Suzanne, Richard, Henry & William Hahl

Thursday: Margaret Hartmann; Elizabeth Harper; Jo Ann & Fred Hartswell

Friday: Warren, Gail & Jay Hasbrouck; James, Mary, Katie & Amanda Hasler