

First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2022



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

P.O. Box 2255
Batesville, Arkansas, 72503

Main Street at Fifth
870-793-2203

Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church. We are honored to you have you join us for worship today and we invite you to participate fully in our service. Please know that all are invited to Christ's table to receive communion. Or, you may come forward if you wish to receive a blessing from our priest. Below you will find instructions on how to receive.

Instructions for Holy Communion and Receiving Blessings: All are invited to share in the bread and wine of Holy Communion. To receive the bread, place the right hand in your left palm and extend your hands to the minister distributing the bread. To receive the wine, please assist the minister with the cup by grasping the base and guiding the cup to your lips. You may choose not to receive the wine; indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest when the server with the chalice comes to you. If you do not wish to receive Communion but would like to receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest when the Celebrant pauses in front of you with the bread.

Today's Ministers

Celebrant: The Rev. Gene Crawford

Organist & Choir Director: Mr. Kristian Ameigh

Eucharist Minister: Mr. Steve Massey

Acolyte: Karis Ford

Ushers: Ms. Pam Baxter & Dr. Paul Hance

Tech: Mr. Jon Healey

Altar Guild: Ms. Pat Mason, Ms. Jo Cargill-Krug & Ms. Melissa Taverner

Community Kitchen (11/30/2022): Team Olson

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

The Word of God

Entrance Hymn 59

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

Descant

2 Wak-ened by the sol- emn warn- ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
 5 Hon- or, glo- ry, might, and bless- ing to the Fa- ther and the Son,

1 Hark! a thrill- ing voice is sound- ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
 2 Wak-ened by the sol- emn warn- ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
 3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex- pect- ed, comes with par- don down from heaven;
 4 so when next he comes with glo- ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
 5 Hon- or, glo- ry, might, and bless- ing to the Fa- ther and the Son,

2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis- pel- ling, shines up- on the morn- ing skies.
 5 with the ev- er- last- ing Spi- rit while un- end- ing a- ges run.

1 "Cast a- way the works of dark- ness, O ye child- ren of the day."
 2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis- pel- ling, shines up- on the morn- ing skies.
 3 let us haste, with tears of sor- row, one and all to be for- given;
 4 may he with his mer- cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
 5 with the ev- er- last- ing Spi- rit while un- end- ing a- ges run.

Today's service begins on Page 355 in the Book of Common Prayer.

The people standing (as able), the Celebrant says

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

People

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Celebrant says

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.***

Trisagion (Holy God) - Sung (S100)

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

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.***

First Reading

Isaiah 2:1-5

A reading from the book of Isaiah.

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 122

1 I was glad when they said to me, *
 "Let us go to the house of the Lord."

2 Now our feet are standing *
 within your gates, O Jerusalem.

3 Jerusalem is built as a city *
 that is at unity with itself;

4 To which the tribes go up,
 the tribes of the Lord, *
 the assembly of Israel,
 to praise the Name of the Lord.

5 For there are the thrones of judgment, *
the thrones of the house of David.

6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *
"May they prosper who love you.

7 Peace be within your walls *
and quietness within your towers.

8 For my brethren and companions' sake, *
I pray for your prosperity.

9 Because of the house of the Lord our God, *
I will seek to do you good."

Second Reading

Romans 13:11-14

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

Sequence Hymn 601: *O Day of God, Draw Nigh*

1 O day of God, draw nigh in beau - ty and in power, come
2 Bring to our trou - bled minds, un - cer - tain and a - fraid, the
3 Bring jus - tice to our land, that all may dwell se - cure, and
4 Bring to our world of strife thy sov - er - eign word of peace, that
5 O day of God, draw nigh as at cre - a - tion's birth, let

1 with thy time - less judg - ment now to match our pres - ent hour.
2 qui - et of a stead - fast faith, calm of a call o - beyed.
3 fine - ly build for days to come foun - da - tions that en - dure.
4 war may haunt the earth no more and des - o - la - tion cease.
5 there be light a - gain, and set thy judg - ments in the earth.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 24:36-44

All stand.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to the disciples, “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

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

Sermon

The Rev. Gene Crawford

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.**

Prayers of the People Form IV

388

The Leader and People pray responsively

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

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and 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

Hear our prayer.

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

Hear our prayer.

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.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We pray for Peyton Olson, Dorla Guenzel, Jamie Bridgers, Ann Rhodes, John & Susan Dempsey, Jim Johnson, Mark Shreve, Tammy Kipfer, Patricia Smith, Joan Davidson, Mabelle Christiansen, Cathy McDonald and Don Mills.

For those for whom our prayers have been requested: Glynnis, David, Pam Brown, Jim Wilson, Finn Mitchell, David Yates, Tom & Kathy Celestine, Terry Presley, Charlotte & Jim Franklin, Larry Linder, Gary, Phyllis & Gary Bratton, Peggy, Sarah, Brady & Cody, Patsy Waren, Linda Moe, Olivia, Wendell, Tom Bradshaw, Byron Difani, Dennis Brooks, Landon Terry, Alan Sickle, Fred Denison Sr., Carol Robertson, Suzie Coleman Rash, Jennifer Huskins, Yvonne Adams, Cathy Harrington, Perry, Jacqueline Levey, Jody Gayle, Dan Hignight, Lucy Harris, Jack Ludlow, Sonny Hayes, Hunter Cowan, Jason Marteniez, Nancy O'Neal, Gary Wisnet, and Kathy Kleveno.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life; and for those celebrating birthdays especially,
Gary Perkey (12/1).

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

Confession

The Deacon or Celebrant says

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.**

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.***

Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

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

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

Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with an Offertory sentence.

Offertory Anthem: *Advent Message*

Martin How

Doxology (Hymn 380, v. 4)

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer C

369

The people remain standing

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again, and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages, you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore, we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus (S124)

**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.

Celebrant and People

The people stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord. On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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." After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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." Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

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."

Celebrant
Therefore, according to his command, O Fa - ther,

Celebrant and People
We re - mem - ber his death, We pro - claim his re - sur -
rec - tion, We a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

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 St. Paul 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.**

The Celebrant continues

And now, as our Savior
Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

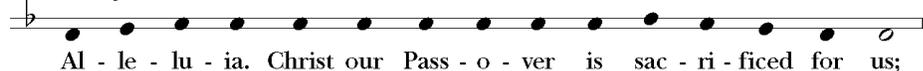
364

**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.***

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

This setting is not used in Lent.


Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;


There-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

This setting may be sung full by all, or by the choir, or as a versicle and response.

Celebrant says

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 are welcome at Christ's table; we ask only that you come seeking a closer relationship with our God.

Communion Anthem: *How Bright Appears the Morning Star*

Post communion Prayer 365

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 peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Post Communion Hymn 703:

Lead Us, O Father, In The Paths Of Peace

Unison or harmony

The musical score is written for three voices (1, 2, and 3) and piano accompaniment. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 1 Lead us, O Fa - ther, in the paths of peace; 2 Lead us, O Fa - ther, in the paths of right; 3 Lead us, O Fa - ther, to thy heaven - ly rest, with - out thy guid - ing hand we go a - stray, blind - ly we stum - ble when we walk a - lone, how - ev - er rough and steep thy path may be; and doubts ap - pall, and sor - rows still in - crease; in - volved in sha - dows of a dark - some night; through joy or sor - row, as thou deem - est best, lead us through Christ, the true and liv - ing Way. on - ly with thee we jour - ney safe - ly on. un - til our lives are per - fect - ed in thee.

1 Lead us, O Fa - ther, in the paths of peace;
2 Lead us, O Fa - ther, in the paths of right;
3 Lead us, O Fa - ther, to thy heaven - ly rest,

with - out thy guid - ing hand we go a - stray,
blind - ly we stum - ble when we walk a - lone,
how - ev - er rough and steep thy path may be;

and doubts ap - pall, and sor - rows still in - crease;
in - volved in sha - dows of a dark - some night;
through joy or sor - row, as thou deem - est best,

lead us through Christ, the true and liv - ing Way.
on - ly with thee we jour - ney safe - ly on.
un - til our lives are per - fect - ed in thee.

Dismissal

Celebrant
People

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.