

Welcome
to
Hope Episcopal Church

We welcome you to this celebration of God's Good News!
Whoever you are, and wherever you find yourself on your journey of faith,
you are welcome here!

May God's blessing and peace be with you.

The Rt. Rev. Deon K. Johnson, *Bishop of Missouri*
The Rev. C. Earl Mahan, *Rector*
The Rev. Dr. Angela Ferree, *Deacon*
Bobbi Reese, *Organist and Choir Director*
Chris Sturgeon, *Contemporary Music Director*
Debbie Boles, *Parish Administrator*



Please silence your cell phones during the church service.



Liturgical Participants for November 27, 2022

Rev. C. Earl Mahan, *Celebrant and Preacher*
Rev. Angela Ferree, *Deacon*
Diane Stirling, *Eucharistic Minister and Lector*
Bob Stirling, *Usher*
Bobbi Reese, Bethany Barr, Bernard Barth, Katharine Brown,
Heidi Hoffman Brown, Connor Donnelly, Jennifer Holtmann,
Joanne Owen, Vicki Thompson, *Musicians*
Brenda Finch, *Counter*
Carol Link, Brenda Finch, *Altar Guild*
Barry Schenck, Mark Dinzler, *Videography*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

HOLY EUCHARIST

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Please stand at the ringing of the bell.

Processional Hymn Lo! he comes, with clouds descending Hymn 57

THE BIDDING FOR ADVENT

Celebrant: Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ, as we travel towards Bethlehem in this journey of Advent, we come together in the midst of a busy season to take a breath. To slow down as we anticipate Jesus' coming once more into the world. We are invited for a time to breathe in together the life that God gives us; to listen for the beating of God's heart and the blessings and lessons this season brings. As we gather for this time of worshipful anticipation let us in the silence rest in God's presence.

A prolonged silence is kept.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH



Celebrant: May Christ, the One whose coming we await, fill our homes and hearts with joyful anticipation as we journey to the manger. **Amen.**

Each week we light an Advent candle as a symbol of our journey. With its light comes our prayers and our stories. The candle of this first week of Advent is a candle of **HOPE**. Today the flame of this candle reminds us of the hope that came to this world when Jesus was born and his presence with us. Jesus said "I came so that everyone would have life, life in all its fullness."

The candle is lit.

You called the patriarchs and matriarchs to live by the light of faith to journey in the hope of your promised fulfillment. May we be open to your call and be ready and watchful to receive your Christ, a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. **Amen.**

Hymn O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Hymn 56 vs.1, 2

THE GREETING

Celebrant: Blessed be the Holy One whose coming we await,

People: ***And blessed be the One who comes to set all people free. Amen.***

Celebrant: In the tender compassion of our God

People: ***The dawn from on high shall break upon us,***

Celebrant: To shine on those who dwell in the shadow of death,

People: ***To guide our feet into the way of peace.***

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:

People: ***Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, so that we may truly love you, and worthily praise your holy name; through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.***

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Celebrant: Holy God, we have fallen short in loving you and loving our neighbors; we stand beside each other and ask for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence

Celebrant: Most Holy God, in the midst of this season of expectation and new life, we confess:

People: ***We have resisted the light of your love; we have not fully shared the gifts entrusted to us; and we have not treasured the gifts of others around us. Holy Trinity, make us holy. Holy God, make us whole. Amen.***

Celebrant: May the Trinity of Love bring you back to God and forgive you all your sins; be assured of God's eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Let us pray.

THE OPENING COLLECT

Celebrant: 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 WORD OF GOD

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 2:1-5

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: Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to God's People.

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

Psalm 122 *Laetatus sum* (*Read by all*)

I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."
Now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
Jerusalem is built as a city
that is at unity with itself;
To which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD,
the assembly of Israel,
to praise the Name of the LORD.
For there are the thrones of judgment,
the thrones of the house of David.
Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
"May they prosper who love you.
Peace be within your walls
and quietness within your towers.
For my brethren and companions' sake,
I pray for your prosperity.
Because of the house of the LORD our God,
I will seek to do you good."

THE SECOND LESSON: Romans 13:11-14

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: Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to God's People.

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

Please stand.

Sequence Hymn

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Hymn 66

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 24:36-44

Deacon: 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."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

THE SERMON

The Rev. C. Earl Mahan

Following the sermon, a brief period of silence is observed.

THE ADVENT CREED

Please stand.

Celebrant: Let us stand and affirm our hope in the light of Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God?

People: ***We believe in God, eternal, almighty, creator of heaven and earth.***

Celebrant: Do you believe and trust in Jesus the Christ?

People: ***We believe in Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of all, the Only Begotten One; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, lived and loved among us, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; who descended to the dead, and on the third day rose again; Jesus, Our Savior, ascended into heaven, sits at the right hand of the loving God, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.***

Celebrant: Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

People: ***We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic and apostolic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the dead, and life everlasting. Amen.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please kneel or stand.

Leader: As we enter the Advent Season, and a new Church Year, we reflect on mysteries and the Last Things. Grant us in our contemplation, Gracious God, so to fix our minds on the truth which endures that we may be made ready for the labors of this present time:

People: ***Give us grace to put on the armor of light.***

Leader: Establish your House on the highest mountain, O Lord; that we may offer true worship, and receive sound instruction:

People: ***Teach us your ways, that we may walk in right paths.***

Leader: Inscribe on our hearts the duties of love, quicken us in caring for our neighbor, and keep us spiritually alert to fulfill all the law and commandments:

People: ***For salvation is nearer than when we first believed.***

Leader: Be with your flock, lay and ordained, striving for the well-being of your Church. Move in the might of your Spirit to increase our understanding and confirm us in the good, that we may perceive your righteousness in our midst:

People: ***O house of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the Lord!***

Leader: Visit us as we gather in worship this day, firing imagination, quickening conscience, and deepening trust:

People: ***The one who loves has fulfilled the law.***

Leader: Arbitrate for many peoples and judge between the nations, leading us to beat our swords into plowshares, and our spears into pruning hooks:

People: ***Nation shall not lift sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.***

Leader: Let the balm of your presence fall on those who are sick and for whom our prayers are now offered (*the people may offer their petitions*), and on those who are downcast or in any need or trouble:

People: ***May peace be within our walls, and quietness within our towers.***

Leader: As in the days of Noah, we eat and drink, work and marry. Save us from complacency, spur us to right conduct, and strengthen our faith, that we may be found always in your service:

People: ***For the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.***

Please stand.

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: ***And also with you.***

The Ministers and People greet one another with the Peace of God.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Celebrant: O Lord our God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power; because you have created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.

Please be seated.

Offertory Music

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand.

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 God 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS *(Spoken by all)*

*All: 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.*

Please kneel or continue to stand.

Celebrant: 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..

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,

*All: We remember his death,
 We proclaim his resurrection,
 We await his coming in glory;*

Celebrant: 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 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 Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, 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 pray,

All: ***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,
 forever and ever. Amen.***

THE BREAKING OF BREAD

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ, our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: ***Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

AGNUS DEI *(Spoken by all)*

*All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world
 Have mercy on us.
 Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world
 Have mercy on us.
 Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world
 Grant us your peace.*

THE INVITATION

In the Episcopal Church, all Christians, regardless of age or denomination, are invited to receive Communion. A consecrated gluten-free wafer may be requested from the Celebrant. If you do not want to receive communion, you are invited to come up for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest.

*Celebrant This is the banquet of the Lamb.
 It is made ready for those who love God,
 and for those who want to love God more.*

*So, come you who have much faith, and you who have little;
You who have been here often, and you who have not been here long;
You who have tried to follow, and you who have failed.*

*Come because it is the Lord who invites you;
it is Christ's will that those who want him should meet him here.*

The Gifts of God for the People of God!

Please be seated.

Communion Music

If a Eucharistic visitor is to be sent, the following prayer is said. If no Eucharistic visitor is sent, the service continues with the Post-Communion Prayer.

PRAYER FOR SENDING FORTH EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Deacon: In the name of this congregation we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's body and blood.

People: ***We, who are many, are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.***

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Please kneel or stand.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: ***And also with you.***

Celebrant: Let us pray.

People: ***Eternal God, for whom we await, you have fed us with the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation: keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready to stand before the Son of God, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

THE BLESSING

Celebrant: May the Sun of Righteousness scatter the darkness before your path; And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

Closing Hymn

Hosanna to the living Lord

Hymn 486 vs 1, 2, 3

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Our worship is ended, our service in the world begins. As we await our coming Savior, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

Postlude