



Holy Cross EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Third Sunday of Advent
December 11, 2022

The Service of the Word

Opening Voluntary: "Holy is His Name"

Holy Cross Chancel Choir

Opening Hymn: "O Come Divine Messiah" (*See Insert*)

Celebrant Blessed the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People ***His mercy endures forever.***

The 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

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL *** (Ages 4 – 10 years)

During the following hymn, children process with the leader to the Chapel for a lesson and singing; they return at The Peace.

Song of Praise: S-96: Kyrie

*Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy
Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy,
Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy,*

The Collect of the Day - *prayed by the Celebrant*

The First Reading: *Isaiah 35:1-10*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall

become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

Canticle 15 The Song of Mary Magnificat
(read responsively by whole verse)

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 for ever. *Amen.*

Sequence Hymn 376: “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

*Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,
Praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!*

*Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother,
All who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.*

The Gospel Reading: *Matthew 11:2-11*

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you Lord Christ.**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’

“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

Sermon *The Rev. Rob Dixon*

The Apostles’ Creed *(in unison)*

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*

(*“catholic” means universal)

Prayers of the People

Heavenly Father, during this season of Advent and beyond, help us to prepare ourselves for your Son.
That he may dwell in us and us in him, eternally.

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.*

Grant that every member of your Church may truly and humbly serve you; *That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on all who suffer from any grief or trouble; especially those among our families and friends who experience sadness and grief during the holiday season; *That they may experience your steadfast love and be filled with peace and joy.*

We pray for all who have died; lovingly receive them into your eternal kingdom. *That we may one day be reunited with them, in you.*

We pray for those on our church’s prayer list, for all who are sick or lonely, for prisoners, and for the victims of crime everywhere. *That your healing presence may embrace them all.*

Let us now pray for our additional needs and those of others.

The Confession

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.*

**For Giving
Electronically**

*Point phone
camera at this
Image.*

Thank You!





The Holy Communion

This portion of the service begins on p. 361 in the BCP however, you are encouraged to give your attention to the altar.

The Communion. *All baptized Christians are invited and welcome to receive Communion. Anyone who does not wish to receive communion is invited come forward, cross their arms over their chest, and receive a blessing. If you would like the clergy to bring communion to someone in the pews, please notify the ushers at the door of the church. For bread only, no wine, put one arm across your chest. Gluten Free available.*

Offertory: “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”
Holy Cross Chancel Choir

*Come Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in Thee
Israel's strength and consolation
Hope of all the earth Thou art
Dear desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart*

*Born Thy people to deliver
Born a child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever
Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone
By Thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne*

The Doxology 380: (v. 3)

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. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

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.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Sanctus S-129

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 Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:
People **Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Communion Hymn: “Here For You”

*Let our praise be Your welcome
Let our songs be a sign
We are here for You
We are here for You
Let Your breath come from heaven
Fill our hearts with Your life*

*We are here for You
We are here for You
(Refrain) To You our hearts are open
Nothing here is hidden
You are our one desire
You alone are holy
Only You are worthy
God let Your fire fall down
Let our shout be Your anthem
Your renown fill the sky*

*We are here for You
We are here for You
Let Your Word move in power
Let what's dead come to life
We are here for You
We are here for You (Refrain)*

*We welcome You with praise
We welcome You with praise
Almighty God of love
Be welcome in this place
Let ev'ry heart adore
Let ev'ry soul awake
Almighty God of love
Be welcome in this place*

Communion Hymn: “Waiting For a Savior” (See insert)

Post Communion Prayer (p. 365 BCP)

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

Closing Hymn 625: “Ye Holy Angels Bright”

Flower Dedications

Your Sermon Notes:

Prayer List

*Requested Prayers will remain on the list for 4 weeks.
Please let us know if you need to be on longer.*

Requested Prayer

Ann, Arlie, Art, Axel, Barbara C., Barbara S., Betty E., Beverly, Bob D., Bobby, Brad, Brenda B., Brian, Brenna, Cheri, Chris C., Chris G., Courtney, Curtis, Debby, Della, Dewey, Diane, Dixie, Donnie, Ede, Elaine, Eleanor, Ellen, Emily, Fay, Fr. Chris, Gary, Gene, Gordon, Gracey, Gretchen, Harold, Jack, Jackie Lap., Jacob, Jerry H., John H. Jr., Joyce, Kathy M., Kelli, Kenneth, Laura G., Laura W., Linda D., Linda S., Lisa, Mabel, Madeleine, Manuel, Marilyn, Mary, Matthew C., Melissa, Michelle, Mike, Nancy, Pamela, Patrick, Phyllis S., Rachel H., Ralph, Regina, Ronda, Sally, Scott, Seth, Sherry Jo, Sylvia, Thomas, Tom L., The Hardcastle Family, The Rev. Marguerite Alley, The Rev. Trisha Spencer, Valerie, Wade, Wendy, William B., & William Z.

Military

Adam Paris, Adam Thomas, Adam Zigler, Alexander Logan, Asa Ramsey, Ben Boyer, Benjamin Merriweather, Bruce Gough,

Cale Eggart, Chase Coleman, Christian Clark, Corbin Czeck, Daniel Payden, Donovan Chau, Doug Wiessman, Dylan Hoewt, Grant Hungerford, Hunter Bailey, Jackie Neville, James Madden, Jeremy Rice, Jessica Parker, Jose Hernandez, Kathryn Rubio, Kevin Kahl, Marc Ruiz, Mike Darrah, Nicholas Pinkston, Sean Haight, Shaun Southall, Stephen del Risco, Terry W. Triplett, Jr., T. J. Bossa, Tyler Post, William Verwoerd

Prayers for Guidance & Peace

Leanne Beaumont

Rest of the Soul

Don Dowd

Clergy

The Rev. Rob Dixon, Pastor/Rector
rdixon@holycrosspensacola.org - 850-477-8596

The Rev. Roger Hungerford, Associate Rector, Emeritus
rog.hungerford@gmail.com - 757-639-5610

Vestry

Marline Austin (Sr. Warden), Craig Iversen (Jr. Warden), Britt Landrum, Carmen Kimmons, Chris Dake, Donovan Chau, Michael Schantz, Nancy Gibbons, Paula Kemmeling, Steve Lukow, Susan Karl (Vestry Member, Clerk), Sylvia Clark Ed Hume (Treasurer) edhume49@gmail.com

Parish Staff

Isabelle Peterson - Music Minister - musicministry@holycrosspensacola.org - 850-477-8596.
Andrew Gregg - Pianist - andrewgregg09@gmail.com - 850-477-8596.
D'Anna Entrekin - Family Life Minister - familylife@holycrosspensacola.org- 850-477-8596.
Eden Craig - Nursery Caregiver
Karla Keesler - Bookkeeper - bookkeeper@holycrosspensacola.org - 850-477-8596
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Holy Cross Episcopal Church

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