



SAINT MARK'S
REFORMED EPISCOPAL CHURCH

DECEMBER 9, 2012

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

AN ADVENT SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

"GO YE INTO ALL THE WORLD, AND PREACH THE GOSPEL TO EVERY CREATURE" ST. MARK 16:15

WELCOME!

To all who are spiritually weary and
seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for
comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory;
to all who sin and need a Savior;
to all who are strangers and want a
home;
to all who hunger and thirst after
righteousness;
and to all who will come,
this church opens wide her doors
and offers welcome in the name of
the Lord Jesus Christ.

We value your children!

Nursery Care: is provided during the service for infants and toddlers. If your child wears diapers, please leave all necessary supplies with our nursery care worker. The nursery is on the lower level - the 1st room on your left when exiting Cranmer Hall and heading towards the parking lot.

Children's Church: children from preschool through 5th grade are invited to participate in Children's Church where they will enjoy a structured time of prayer and Bible learning. Children will be dismissed to leave with their teachers during the singing of the sermon hymn and will be able to rejoin the congregation so as to come to the altar rail with their family.

Sunday School for all ages is offered weekly (11:20-Noon).

Descriptions of all of the above can be found on the information table in the Narthex. *For help finding any of these rooms - please do not hesitate to speak to an Usher.*

Prelude *Trio on "Nun komm' der Heiden Heiland" BWV 660* J.S. Bach

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #134 *Come, Pure Hearts* (Cobb)

The Blessing and Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Minister: Our Help is in the Name of the Lord.

People: **Who hath made heaven and earth.**

Let us pray.

¶ *The people may remain standing to pray.*

GRANT, O Almighty God, that as thy blessed Son Jesus Christ as his first advent didst come to seek and to save that which was lost; so at his second and glorious appearing he may find in us the fruits of the redemption which he wrought, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

O GOD, by whose word all things are sanctified, pour forth Thy blessing upon this wreath, and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ and may receive from Thee abundant graces. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

¶ *Two Advent candle are lit.*

Minister: Let us pray. (*The people may remain standing to pray.*)

STIR up Thy might, we beseech Thee, O Lord and come, so that we may escape through Thy protection and be saved by Thy help from the dangers that threaten us because of our sins. Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God forever and ever. **Amen.**

A Bidding Prayer

(Please remain standing.)

BELOVED in Christ, as we await the great festival of Christmas let us prepare ourselves so that we may be shown its true meaning. Let us hear, in lessons from Holy Scripture, how the prophets of Israel foretold that God would visit and redeem his waiting people. Let us rejoice, in our anthems, carols and hymns, that the good purpose of God is being mightily fulfilled. Let us celebrate the promise that our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ will bring all men and all things into the glory of God's eternal kingdom. The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the Gospel preached to them. But first, let us pray for the world which God so loves, for those who have not heard the good news of God, or who do not believe it; for those who walk in darkness and the shadow of death; and for the Church in this place and everywhere, that it may be freed from all evil and fear, and may in pure joy lift up the light of the love of God.

Intercession

Minister: Let us pray.

¶ *The people kneel.*

ACCEPT, O Lord, our intercessions for all mankind. Let the light of thy Gospel shine upon all nations; and may as many as have received it, live as becomes it. Be gracious unto thy Church; and grant that every member of the same, in his vocation and ministry, may serve thee faithfully. Bless all in authority over us; and so rule their hearts and strengthen their hands, that they may punish wickedness and vice, and maintain thy true religion and virtue. Send down thy blessings, temporal and spiritual, upon all our relations, friends, and neighbours. Reward all who have done us good, and pardon all those who have done or wish us evil, and give them repentance and better minds. Be merciful to all who are in any trouble; and do thou, the God of pity, administer to them according to their several necessities; for his sake who went about doing good, thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

BLESSED Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast, the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Collect for Advent

ALMIGHTY God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy 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 quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal, through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever. **Amen.**

Minister: These Prayers and praises let us humbly offer to God, in the words which Christ himself taught us:

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.**

The Prophet proclaims good news to a people in exile.

COMFORT ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.
² Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem,
and cry unto her,
that her warfare is accomplished,
that her iniquity is pardoned:
for she hath received of the LORD'S hand
double for all her sins.

³ The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness,
Prepare ye the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴ Every valley shall be exalted,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low:
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough places plain:

⁵ And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together:
for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

⁶ The voice said, Cry.
And he said, What shall I cry?
All flesh is grass,
and all the goodness thereof is as the flower of the field:

⁷ The grass withereth, the flower fadeth:
because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it:
surely the people is grass.

⁸ The grass withereth, the flower fadeth:
but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

Reader: Here endeth the lesson.

The Second Lesson *Zechariah 9:9-10*

The Lord promises that the King will come to Israel in peace.

REJOICE greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.
¹⁰ And I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem, and the battle bow shall be cut off: and he shall speak peace unto the heathen: and his dominion shall be from sea even to sea, and from the river even to the ends of the earth.

Reader: Here endeth the lesson.

Hymn 11 *The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns* (*St. Stephan*)

The Third Lesson *Haggai 2:6-9*

The Prophet foretells the advent of the desire of all nations.

FOR thus saith the LORD of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land; ⁷ And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts. ⁸ The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the LORD of hosts. ⁹ The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the LORD of hosts.

Reader: Here endeth the lesson.

Anthem *Prepare Thyself Zion*" (*J. S. Bach*). Jody Applebaum

Recitative

Now my dearest bridegroom,
now the hero from the race of David
for the consolation and salvation of the Earth
shall at last be born.
Now the star that comes from Jacob shall shine,
its rays already burst forth.
Rise up, Zion, and abandon your weeping,
your well-being climbs aloft!

Aria

Prepare thyself, Zion, with tender desires
to see with you soon him who is most beautiful, most dear!
Your cheeks must today be far more beautifully resplendent,
hasten, to love your bridegroom with the greatest longing!

The Fourth Lesson *Isaiah 35:1-6*

The Prophet foretells the glory of the kingdom of God.

THE wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them;
and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.

2 It shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice even with joy and singing;
the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it,
the excellency of Carmel and Sharon,
they shall see the glory of the LORD,
and the excellency of our God.

³ Strengthen ye the weak hands,
and confirm the feeble knees.

⁴ Say to them that are of a fearful heart,
Be strong, fear not:
behold, your God
will come with vengeance,
even God with a recompence;
he will come and save you.

⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

⁶ Then shall the lame man leap as an hart,
and the tongue of the dumb sing:
for in the wilderness shall waters break out,
and streams in the desert.

Reader: Here endeth the lesson.

Hymn 3 *Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying* (*Sleepers, Wake*)

The Fifth Lesson *St. Luke 1:26-38*

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

AND in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, ²⁷ To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. ²⁹ And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. ³⁰ And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. ³¹ And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. ³² He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: ³³ And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

³⁴ Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?

³⁵ And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. ³⁶ And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. ³⁷ For with God nothing shall be impossible. ³⁸ And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

Parish Notices

Many thanks to all who came out to help with yesterday's work day.

Bethany Angels - the gifts are due today! Questions? Please see Dawn Mitchell.

Poinsettias - please see the enclosed flyer to give Poinsettias which will be used to beautify our sanctuary on Christmas Eve and throughout Christmastide.

A Booklet entitled: "Advent Wreath Prayers" has been made available for your use (at home). These are intended as aids to your prayers at home during Advent.

Advent Devotionals are available in the Narthex.

A "state of the parish" address from Fr. Patterson - Today during Sunday School hour. All are strongly encouraged to attend this important meeting.

Live Nativity Pageant & a visit from St. Nicholas - this is a fun family event (appropriate for *all* ages). Hear the story of Jesus' birth retold by the Archangel Gabriel (with live animals) and

then come inside for hot cocoa and a visit from St. Nicholas. Please join us and bring a friend!
December 15th, 10:30 am.

Donations of Non-perishable food items, to be given to the food pantry of Grace RE Church (Collingdale) are being accepted. Please make your donations by Dec 15th so that they can be delivered in time for Christmas. Please speak with Judy Palmer if you have any questions.

Sermon Hymn 399 *Lord, Thy Word Abideth* (Ravenshaw)

During the singing of the Sermon Hymn, Children and their teachers may follow the procession of the cross and leave for Children's Church (held on this level, in the last room on your right after you exit the sanctuary through the double doors on your righthand side.)

Homily Fr. Patterson

Offertory Sentences

The Minister may begin the Offertory with this or some other sentence of Scripture.

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive (Acts 20:35).

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal (St. Matthew 6:19-20).

Anthem

At the Presentation of Alms (Tithes)

The Doxology **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.**

Vesper Responsory

Minister. Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed;
People. **Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.**
Minister. Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord.
People. **Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.**
Minister. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
People. **Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.**

(All shall keep silence for a time.)

Closing Collect

Minister. We wait for thy loving kindness, O Lord.

People. **In the midst of thy temple.**

Minister. Let us pray.

O GOD, who makest us glad with the yearly expectation of thy coming, Grant that we, who with joy receive thy only-begotten Son as our Redeemer, may without fear behold him when he shall come to be our Judge, even thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

The Blessing

GO forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render no man evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all men; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn 9 *Hark A Thrilling Voice is Sounding* (Merton)

All are invited to kneel in prayer as the candles are extinguished.

Postlude “*Kommst du nun, Jesu, vom Himmel herunter auf Erden*” BWV 650 J.S. Bach

Following the Postlude, all are invited downstairs for a time of fellowship and refreshments.

ON THE CALENDAR

Men's Prayer Fellowship - Saturdays at 8:30 am.

Pipe Organ work - Saturdays at 9:30 am.

An Address to the parish by Fr. Patterson. Today during Sunday School hour. All are strongly urged to attend this meeting (following the service).

Live Nativity Pageant and a visit from St. Nicholas - December 15th at 10:30 am.

Christmas Eve and Christmastide Services:

Christmas Eve: A Festival of 9 Lessons & Carols, 5 pm.

Holy Communion, 10:30 pm.

Christmas Day: Holy Communion, 10 am (Bishop Hicks, Celebrant)

Christmastide: The Feast of St. Stephan (Dec 26) - Holy Communion, 9 am

St. John (Dec 27) - Holy Communion, 9 am

Holy Innocents (Dec 28) - Holy Communion, 9 am

The Circumcision of Christ (Jan 1st) - Holy Communion, 6 pm

(dinner following)

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY SERVICES - 10:00 am

Holy Communion (1st and 3rd Sundays)

Morning Prayer (2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays)

Sunday School - 11:20 am

Feast Days - as announced

MONDAY, TUESDAY,

WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY:

Morning Prayer - 8:30 am

Evening Prayer - 4:30 pm

THURSDAYS:

Morning Prayer - 9:00 am

Holy Communion - 9:15 am

Bible Study - 10:00 am

Evening Prayer - 4:30 pm

WELCOME, IN THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

If you are visiting St. Mark's Church for the first time, please complete a guest registration card, found in the pew cardholders, so we can have a record of your visit. Please place these cards in the offering plate or give them directly to an usher or the pastor. We are thankful that you are here - please do not hesitate to let us know how we can serve you this morning.

Those serving today: *Ushers:* Ray Cassidy & Mike McTigue (alternates: Matt Mitchell & Dick Palmer); *Crucifer:* Alec Mitchell; *Acolyte:* Trevor Mitchell; *Hospitality:* Sue McGorrey, Judy Palmer & Jody Applebaum; *Altar Guild:* Diane McTigue & Kirsten Horton; *Children's Church:* Phyllis Darrah & Samantha Ford.

Clergy

The Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks, *Bishop*
The Rev. Jason S. S. Patterson, *Rector*
The Rev. Barton Craig, *Assisting Presbyterian*
The Rev. Richard Baird, *Assisting Presbyterian*

Staff

Mr. Bernard McGorrey III, *Organist/Choir Master*
Mrs. Dawn E. Mitchell, *Nursery School Director*
Mrs. Barbara N. Hamarich, *Treasurer*
Mr. Robert Wardlow, *Sexton*
Mrs. Naomi Morris, *Parish Secretary*

Vestry & Wardens

Mr. Thomas Caldwell, *Rector's Warden*
Mr. Matthew H. Mitchell, *Junior Warden*
Mrs. Phyllis Darrah, *Secretary* (2014)
Mrs. Kathleen Palazzolo (2013)
Dr. A. David Hamarich (2013)
Dr. Susan Ragonesi (2014)
Mr. Bernie McGorrey (2015)
Mr. Dennis Serge (2015)



ST. MARK'S CHURCH
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