



St. John's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Third Sunday of Advent, Year B

December 14, 2008

BCP-Book of Common Prayer

WLP Hymnal-Wonder, Love and Praise

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

11:15 a.m.

The Reverend J. Fletcher Montgomery, Celebrant

The Word of God

At the Procession

Hymnal #68 "Rejoice! Rejoice, believers"

Llangloffan

Entrance Rite

BCP 355

Song of Praise

Hymnal #S102 "Holy God" *Trisagion*

Archangelsky

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us. (*Sing 3 times*)

The Collect of the Day

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The First Lesson

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who
mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.
They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.
For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their
recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.
I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

The Gradual

Psalm 126 *In convertendo*

- 1 When the LORD restored the / fortunes • of / Zion, *
then / were we • like / those • who / dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth / filled • with / laughter, *
and our / tongue • with / shouts • of / joy.
- † 3 Then they said a/mong • the / nations, *
“The / LORD has • done / great • things / for them.”
- 4 The LORD has done / great things • for / us, *
and / we • are / glad • in/deed.
- 5 Restore our / fortunes, • O / LORD, *
like the / water•courses / of • the / Negev.
- 6 Those who / sowed • with / tears *
will / reap • with / songs • of / joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, / carrying • the / seed, *
will come again with / jöy, / shouldering • their / sheaves.

† *Second half of chant*

The Epistle

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

At the Sequence

Hymnal #76 “On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry”

Winchester New

The Gospel

John 1:6-8, 19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet

Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

The Sermon The Reverend Mary Moore Roberson
The Nicene Creed
The Prayers of the People, Form I
Confession of Sin and Absolution
The Peace

BCP 358
BCP 383
BCP 360

The Holy Communion

At the Offertory "Creator of the Stars of Night"
Chancel Choir Women

Conditor alme siderum

Hymn at the Presentation

Hymnal #380, v. 3 "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow"

Old 100th

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer D

Hymnal #S114 "Holy, holy, holy Lord" *Sanctus*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

BCP 372
Healey Willan

The Breaking of the Bread

Hymnal #S158 "O Lamb of God"

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. (Repeat)

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

BCP 364
Healey Willan

Hymns at the Communion

Hymnal #314 "Humbly I adore thee"

Hymnal #72 "Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes"

Hymnal #597 "O day of peace that dimly shines"

Adoro devote
Richmond
Jerusalem

People's response to the sending out of the Eucharistic Visitors:

May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this Sacrament of Christ's presence.

Postcommunion Prayer and Blessing

BCP 366

Hymn at the Procession

WLP #724 "People, look East"

Besançon Carol

Dismissal

The Hymns of Advent:

Today's Advent hymns express again the longing anticipation of the church of Christ as it looks for the day of His glorious coming:

- **Rejoice! rejoice, believers:** Author Sarah Findlater, born in Edinburgh, Scotland in 1823, was the wife of a pastor of the Free Church of Scotland. Together with her sister, she published this poem, translated from the original German, in a collection entitled *Hymns from the Land of Luther*. The author of the German text was Laurentius Laurenti, appointed cantor and music director at the cathedral church in Bremen in 1684. The tune to which the text is set in our *Hymnal 1982* is from an 1865 Welsh tune collection.
- **Creator of the stars of night--Conditor alme siderum:** Sung today by the choir, this anonymous Mode 4 Gregorian chant from the 7th century is traditionally used in Roman Catholic monasteries and churches at Vespers during Advent.
- **People, look East:** The English author Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965) is best remembered for her poem *Morning has broken*. She first published *People, look East* as "Carol of Advent" in 1928 in *The Oxford Book of Carols*. The musical setting for this hymn is the tune *Besançon*, an ancient carol that was first printed in *Christmas Carols New and Old*, 1871, as the setting for "Shepherds, Shake Off Your Drowsy Sleep."