



Second Sunday of Advent

10:00 AM + December 6, 2020

Welcome! You are invited to participate fully in our worship.
Whoever you are, wherever you are on your journey of faith, welcome!

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

Prelude: Watchmen, tell us of the night (Aberystwyth), Variation 1 & 3

Paul L. Thomas (b. 1929)

Hymn: Watchmen, tell us of the night tune: Aberystwyth

Hymn 640

1 Watch-man, tell us of the night, what its signs of prom - ise
2 Watch-man, tell us of the night; high - er yet that star a -
3 Watch-man, tell us of the night, for the morn - ing seems to

are. Trav - eler, o'er yon moun-tain's height, see that glo - ry -
scends. Trav - eler, bless - ed - ness and light, peace and truth its
dawn. Trav - eler, dark - ness takes its flight, doubt and ter - ror

beam - ing star. Watch-man, does its beau - teous ray
course por - tends. Watch-man, will its beams a - lone
are with - drawn. Watch-man, let thy wan - derings cease;

ought of joy or hope fore - tell? Trav-eler, yes; it
gild the spot that gave them birth? Trav-eler, a - ges
hie thee to thy qui - et home. Trav-eler, lo! the

brings the day, prom - ised day of Is - ra - el.
are its own; see, it bursts o'er all the earth.
Prince of Peace, lo! the Son of God is come!

Two groups may sing antiphonally, alternating by sentences.

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Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**
Celebrant 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.

Trisagion

S102

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

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Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Let us pray together.

Collect Said in unison
Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!"

See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

People's response after the reading **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

- 1 You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.
- 8 I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

A Reading from 2 Peter 3:8-15a

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

People's response after the reading

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel according to Mark 1:1-8

People Said before the reading

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Said after the reading

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'"

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Paul Kolbet

Silent Meditation

The Nicene Creed

Spoken by all, standing.

**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.

The Prayers of the People – Rite 1 (Modernized)

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world:

Almighty and everliving God, we are taught by your holy Word to offer prayers and supplications and to give thanks for all people. We humbly ask you mercifully to receive our prayers.

Inspire continually the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all who confess your holy Name may agree in the truth of your holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, heavenly Father, to all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, especially Alan and Gale our Bishops, Paul our interim rector, and Valerie our deacon, that by their life and teaching, they may proclaim your true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer your holy Sacraments.

And to all your people give your heavenly grace, especially to this congregation, that with reverent and obedient hearts we may hear and receive your holy Word, and serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of our lives.

We pray that you will also so rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Donald our President, Joe our President-Elect, and Charlie our Governor, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to see you gracious hand in all your works, that, rejoicing in your whole creation, they may honor you with their substance, and be faithful stewards of your bounty.

We ask you in your goodness, O Lord, to comfort and sustain all who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity [especially...].

We remember before you all your servants who have departed this life in your faith and fear, [especially...], that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we ask you to give us grace to follow the good examples of all your saints, that we may share with them in your heavenly kingdom.

PRAY FOR THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION Pray for The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain (Extra-Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury), The Rt Revd Carlos López-Lozano - Bishop of Spanish Reformed Episcopal Church.

We pray for our Presiding Bishop Michael; Alan and Gayle, our Bishops, for Paul, our Interim Rector and for Valerie Cowart, Deacon.

In our Diocese: St. Paul's Church, Bedford, All Saints' Church, Belmont, St. Mark's Church, Burlington, The Officers of the Diocese and for the Racial Justice Commission.

We also pray for the faith communities in Chelmsford, especially for St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church.

PRAY FOR THOSE JOINING GOD'S MISSION IN OUR PARISH especially for all who are working on the Christmas Eve Services.

PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH IN NEED OF HEALING:

Carol Gilchrist	recovering from fall resulting in a broken femur
Mia Terris	daughter of Jessica & Richard, pray for a correct diagnosis of her condition
Denise Seyffert	health concerns
Mike Thompson	recovery from surgery

Elizabeth Sandoval	health concerns
John MacKenzie	cancer treatments at home
Molly Loder	Brain cancer
Nate Barrow	Medical concerns

PRAY FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS OF OUR PARISHIONERS:

Carolyn	friend of Lois Freeman – tumor in her lung
Anna & Family	friends of the LaRochelles - being evaluated for a possible heart transplant
Dan Willman	son of Barbara Willman – beginning the bone marrow transplant process for multiple myeloma
Sampath S	friend and work colleague of Scott Bempkins - cancer
Hugh Fossum	friend of Katie LaRochelle - Hugh is having a recurrence of myeloma, prayers for Hugh & his wife Carol as they deal with healing and treatment while also being quarantined from their children and grandchildren.
Dan	friend of Katy Belanger – stage 4 lung cancer
Chris Gobron	brother of Deb Collins – recurrence of esophageal cancer
Jennifer	Sister of Lissie Bates-Haus - Cancer
Joanna Nickerson	Deacon Bruce's wife - Parkinsons
Erismath M. Kintu	Rowena's father – health concerns

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE AT HOME, IN NURSING HOMES, OR LIVING WITH CHRONIC ILLNESSES: Terry Hunter, Brian Hunter's brother, Chaz Freeman, Lois Freeman's son, Vinnie and Jeanette Freeman, Janet Laughlin at Newbury Court, Concord, Larry Van Walters, Ken Lager, twin brother of Kate Friesner, Katherine Luetters, Garrett Burgess, Ginny Wright, D'Youville, Lowell

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES AND THEIR FAMILIES: Especially for those who have been deployed overseas, and for all others serving our country.

PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS AND FAMILY WHO ARE HEALTH CARE WORKERS:

Theresa Camacho, Chris Pyne, Linda Cahill, Pam Meinhardt, Larisa Ducharme, Lois Freeman, Nancy St. Onge, Kiyomi Hammoumi, Gail Carmichel, sister of Linda Coles, Leigh Lovely, sister of Lynn Gresock, Kathryn Harrington, Ben, Dave, & Marlene Hillman, Michelle & Dave Colton, Dr. Amanda Kowalski, daughter-in-law of Karen Kowalskim Cherie & Scott Hamelin, Christy Brodeur, Jessica McSheehy Del Llano, Sean Olbert, Laura Andrews.

Prayers for the Departed: Nancy Dietz, sister of Cynthia Bennett and Rosanne Wilson. Nancy passed away on Nov. 29.

Celebrant adds a concluding collect

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.

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.

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you

Offertory: *Watchmen, tell us of the night (Aberystwyth), Variation 2*

Paul L. Thomas (b. 1929)

Announcements

The Lord's Prayer

**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.

Contemplative Eucharist

Concluding Prayer

Almighty God, our fast from Holy Communion does not arise out of any lack of devotion to you, but out of the love you have commanded that we have for one another. Give us strength to endure and bless this fast so that our spiritual hunger will lead us to worship you as one family once again gathered around your altar where with your Son Jesus Christ you live and reign with the Holy Spirit, one God, unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Blessing

Postlude: *Wachet auf (Wake, awake)*

Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748)

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Join us for online coffee hour at 11am on Sunday! The Zoom link is found in an email invitation sent on Sunday mornings along with the links to other ways to join us during the week.

Next Sunday, December 13, is our annual service of Lessons & Carols! Look for it on our website.

Christmas Eve Services: 4:30 PM, Prayers, Pageant, & Carols at 300 Apollo Drive Chelmsford

7:30 PM, Live Zoom Festive Holy Eucharist

+ Prerecorded Holy Eucharist with Christmas Hymns available at

www.allsaintschelmsford.org and broadcast on Chelmsford Telemedia (Comcast channel 8 or Verizon channel 38 as "Stone Church Worship")

