

Second Sunday of Advent
10:00 AM + November 23rd, 2025



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: Variations on *Duke Street* arr. James Boeringer

Opening Hymn: "Crown him with many crowns" Blue Hymnal 494

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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.**

Gloria: "Lord, have mercy upon us"

Blue Hymnal S 91

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray

The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords:

Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah 23:1-6

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

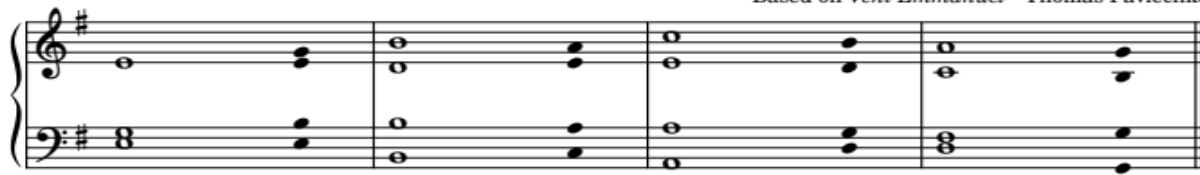
The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Canticle 16

Based on *Veni Emmanuel* - Thomas Pavlechko



Blessed be the Lord, the God of **Israel**; *
he has come to his people and set them **free**.

He has raised up for us a mighty **savior**, *
born of the house of his servant **David**.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our **enemies**, *
from the hands of all who **hate us**.

He promised to show mercy to our **fathers** *
and to remember his holy **covenant**.

Response. O come, O come Emmanuel

This was the oath he swore to our father **Abraham**, *
to set us free from the hands of our **enemies**,

Free to worship him without **fear**, *
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our **life**.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the **Most High**, *
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his **way**,

To give his people knowledge of **salvation** *
by the forgiveness of their **sins**.

Response. O come, O come Emmanuel

In the tender compassion of our **God** *
the dawn from on high shall break **upon us**,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of **death**, *
and to guide our feet into the way of **peace**.

(repeat second half of chant)

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**.

Response. O come, O come Emmanuel

A reading from the Book of Colossians 1:11-20

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers-- all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Sequence Hymn: "How bright appears the morning star" Blue Hymnal 497
(vv. 1 & 2 before Gospel; vv. 3 after)

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke 23:33-43

People's response before the Gospel

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. The people stood by, watching Jesus on the cross; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

People's response after the Gospel

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Rev. Sean Maloney

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.

Prayers of the People – [from Hear Our Prayer: Prayers of the People for the Revised Common Lectionary] *The Leader and People pray responsively*

Glorious God, in confidence and hope we lift our needs and hopes to you in anticipation of your response as we say, Lord in your Mercy, hear our prayer.

Clothe your church with humility and grace, that the sacrificial love of Jesus may course through every mission, every ministry, every program, and every faithful servant. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Help our nation to use wisely the blessings of our history, our geography, our industry, our culture, and our people, so that we might find common purpose and meaning in ensuring the well-being of all who call this land home. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Move through every heart of this assembly and open us up to the possibilities of your love and excite us for the sake of your ministry. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You have placed Christ over all Creation, help us to ensure that the goodness with which it was formed might be preserved and sustained that he might reign over a plentiful and beautiful earth. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Christ knew suffering on the cross, may He be present with those who are suffering now and walk with them into the peace and wholeness of his ever-present love. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Relieve us from the fear of death and grant us entrance into God's glorious eternal presence when our mortal journey has ended. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You may have made Christ our Lord and His name is the name at which every knee shall bow, yet even in his glory he is grace, humility, and love. Help us to walk his path and be his faithful servants, through the same Christ who abides with you and the Holy Spirit, now and always. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins to God.

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 the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace *All stand*

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you**

Announcements:

Offertory Anthem: The King Shall Come Word: John Brownlie, Philip Doddridge; Music: Morning Song, arr. George Mabry

The Holy Communion:

Eucharistic Prayer D

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 him thanks and praise.

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks;
for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light
inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all
things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to
rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you
night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence,
they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and
giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you,
and glorify your Name, as we sing (say),

Sanctus: "Holy, holy, holy"

Blue Hymnal S 114

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty
works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your
own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in
obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all
your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you,
you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy
you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find
you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you,
and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

**We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Grant that we may find our inheritance with [the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, (with _____) and] all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem: "O Lamb of God"

Blue Hymnal S 158

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

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

Post Communion Prayer

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.

Closing Hymn: "Jesus shall reign where'er the sun" Blue Hymnal 544

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit!
Alleluia, Alleluia, **ALLELUIA.**

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, ALLELUIA.**

Postlude: Magnificat quarti toni

Johann Pachelbel



Thank you for joining us today!

if you would like to receive our weekly e-bulletin, please contact the church office (aschurch@allsaintschelmsford.org) To learn more about us, visit <https://www.allsaintschelmsford.org> or call us at 978 256 5673.
