

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

December 11, 2022

**Third Sunday in Advent / Year A, Rite I**

St. Antony of Egypt Episcopal Church, Silverdale, WA

Presider: The Rev. Craig Vocelka

Livestream Producer: Guy Fulton

Welcome to St. Antony's. Our worship of God is offered both in person and on Facebook livestream at the same time. You may find our livestream at <https://www.facebook.com/saintantony/>. For those worshipping in person, we will use face masks during the service and observe social distancing.

We acknowledge that the Suquamish and S'Klallam people are the traditional stewards of the land on which our buildings stand and we pay our respect to their people and heritage.

## Introit

### The Salutation

BCP, Page 323

*Presider* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

### Collect for Purity

BCP, Page 323

*Presider* Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Collect of the Day

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

**People** And with thy spirit.

*Presider* Let us pray.

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, wo whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

### Transition Prayer for St. Antony's and the Diocese

*Said by all*

**God of Love,**

**You are with us in every transition and change.**

**As we enter into this new era with excitement and even some anxiety,  
we recall your deep compassion, presence, and abounding love.**

**We thank you for the gifts, talents and skills with which you have blessed us.**

**We thank you for the experiences that have brought us to this moment.**

**We thank you for the work of others that gives breadth and depth to our own work.**

**Be with us as we move forward, rejoicing with you and supporting one another.**

**We ask this in your Holy Name. Amen.**

## 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.

## **Canticle 15 Page 91, BCP**

### **The Song of Mary Magnificat**

Luke 1:46-55

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.

### **The Second Reading - James 5:7-10**

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

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

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.”

### Homily – The Rev. Craig Vocelka

The Nicene Creed, *said together, standing as you are able.*

BCP, Page 326

**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

*Leader* I ask your prayers for those in the Armed Forces of our Country.

*People* O Almighty God, shelter the men and women of our armed forces under your mighty wings; steel their courage in times of peril; give them integrity and honor in all they do; grant perseverance and resilience to their families; and heal the wounded warriors. We remember those who are deployed, especially *Ben Newcomb and Travis Sanger*, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Prayer for Ukraine and Russia**

**Dear God, we ask that you be with the people of war-ravaged Ukraine. Give them physical and spiritual strength to withstand the horrors of war; console them in their misery, distress and losses; sustain them in their hope for peace. We ask that you also be with their brothers and sisters in neighboring Russia. Please open their eyes and hearts to the reality of the war and give to all people in both countries the desire to know the Truth that will set them free, and the courage and strength to pursue that Truth. We thank you for all the citizens of the world who value and pursue peace, and we ask that those who made the ultimate sacrifice in this war will not have died in vain. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## **The Prayers of the People**

### **from "Intercessions for the Christian People"**

*Deacon or other leader*

Jesus said that the signs of God's dominion were to be seen in the healing of the sick, the raising of the dead to new life, and the preaching of good news to the poor. Let us pray that our lives may be the instruments of God's work in the world, saying: O God, most worthy of praise, hear our prayer.

We thank you, God, for the gift of creation. Grant that we who bear your image may be faithful stewards of your gift and administer its bounty with wisdom for the good of all your creatures. O God, most worthy of praise,

**Hear our prayer.**

We thank you that you have called us to be your people. Give us patience as we await your coming, and grant us wisdom to discern your will in our daily lives, that each of us may serve others for the building up of our common life. O God, most worthy of praise,

**Hear our prayer.**

We thank you for the community of faith throughout the world. Strengthen your church as it witnesses to your love. Guide us in the fulfillment of your mission, that all may be one. O God, most worthy of praise,

**Hear our prayer.**

We thank you for the privilege of ministering to others. We remember before you all who are sick or in need. We pray for those who have died. Grant us the grace to accept suffering with patience and to be strengthened by our common life in the body of Christ. O God, most worthy of praise,

**Hear our prayer.**

We thank you for your countless gifts. Above all, we thank you for the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ, and for our unity in him through baptism. O God, most worthy of praise,

**Hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence. The People may add their own petitions.*

*The Presider concludes* We offer our thanksgiving and prayers to you, the one God and the source of light and life, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **The Confession and Absolution**

*Deacon* Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*Silence may be kept*

*Minister and People* **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.**

*The Priest stands and says*

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**The Peace** *The clergy and people greet one another in the name of the Lord, maintaining a respectful distance.*

## **Birthdays and Anniversaries**

**Birthday Prayer – Watch over thy children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of their life; though Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Announcements**

### ***THE HOLY COMMUNION***

*The presider may begin the offertory with a sentence of scripture.*

*The offering plates are placed on the altar as a sign of our self-offering to God and our promise to give faithfully to the church.*

**The Offertory Sentence, said together**

**All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee.**

## **Eucharistic Prayer I**

**BCP, Page 333**

*The people remain standing. The Presider faces them and says*

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them unto the Lord.**

*Presider* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

*People* **It is meet and right so to do.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Presider proceeds*

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. But chiefly are we bound to praise thee for the glorious

resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath won for us everlasting life.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

**Sanctus** (*Spoken*)

**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.**

*The people stand or kneel as able. Then the Presider continues*

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, Oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye, all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy

grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN**

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

*People and Presider*

**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 Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

*Presider* Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

*The Presider may say*

The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*We invite all present to participate in this feast, regardless of where you are on your spiritual journey. Our table is open to all, as this is God's gift to all.*

*We are serving the cup individually. After receiving the bread, the body of Christ, if you like, please take a cup from the tray and then the Eucharistic Minister will serve you the wine, the blood of Christ. Please leave your cup at the baptismal font so we can properly dispose of them.*

*If needed, we do have gluten free communion wafers available. Just ask as you approach the priest.*

*If you do not wish to receive the Eucharist but would like a blessing, please approach the priest with your hands crossed over your chest.*

*We ask that you remember to use the hand sanitizer as you come to receive the Holy Eucharist.*

Those who are participating by livestream may say the following prayer.

**Prayer for Spiritual Communion** From A Prayer Book for the Armed Forces

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. And since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our heart. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

After Communion, the Presider says

Let us pray.

*Presider and People:* **Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

**The Priest gives the blessing**

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen.

*Deacon* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

***Happy Birthday!***

13<sup>th</sup> Gail Campbell-Ferguson

***Happy Anniversary!***

16<sup>th</sup> Stan & Moonyeen Marks

Altar Flowers are given today by Norma Tipton in remembrance of Marie Tipton.

\*Flowers arranged by Loretta McGinley\*

The Sanctuary Lamp is given today by the Altar Guild.