

# **The Holy Eucharist**

**December 14, 2025**

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

**St. Antony of Egypt Episcopal Church**

**Celebrant:** The Rev. Hillary Kimsey

**Musician:** Chris Eisenberg

**Acolytes:** Jason, Luke

**Livestream Producer:** Guy Fulton

**Eucharistic Minister:** Cris McCarty

**Lectors:** Jim Foley, Cris McCarty

Welcome to St. Antony's. Our Eucharistic celebration is offered both in person and is livestreamed on Facebook. You will find our livestream at <https://www.facebook.com/saintantony/> For those worshipping in person, the use of facemasks is optional, and we encourage respect for each person's choice to remain as healthy as possible.

*Our service includes both a prelude and a postlude offering. We ask that you use this time in quietness to prepare for our celebration of God's unconditional love for each of us and as an opportunity to give thanks as well as to show our respect for our musicians.*

We have been entrusted to be care takers of this beautiful piece of God's creation. 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.

## **Welcome**

## **Prelude**

**Opening Hymn "On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry" Hymnal 76**

## **Salutation**

*The Celebrant says to the people*

Blessed are you, holy and living One.

**People You come to your people and set them free.**

**Hymn for lighting of Advent Wreath (Next page)**

*The first two blue candles and the pink candle are lit as we sing.*

**“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah” ELW 240**



Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



Lift\_ your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.

**Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* God be with you

**People** And also with you

Let us pray

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.**

**Kyrie**

**S-96**



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

*The people are seated for the reading of Scripture.*

## **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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 146:4-9**  
**Lauda, anima mea**

*Psalm Tone 411*

Robert Knox Kennedy  
(b. 1945)



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their/ help! \*  
whose hope is in the Lord their/ God;

5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is/ in them; \*  
who keeps his promise for/ ever;

6 Who gives justice to those who are op/pressed, \*  
and food to those who/ hunger.

7 The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the/ blind; \*  
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed/ down;

8 The Lord loves the righteous; the Lord cares for the/ stranger; \*  
he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the/ wicked.

9 The Lord shall reign for/ ever, \*  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Halle/lujah!

**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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence Hymn      “O come, O come, Emmanuel”    Hymnal 56**  
*(Verse 5 before the Gospel; verse 6 after)*

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

*Celebrant*      The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People*      **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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.”

*Celebrant*    The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*      **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

### **Homily – The Rev. Hillary Kimsey**

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

**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 *Nicole Steller*, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**The Prayers of the People** Adapted from *“Hear our Prayer”* by Jon White and Lisa Graves

*Leader*

Lord who has created and loved us and who calls to us be still and wait; Heed our prayers as we say, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Help us to hear and to accept gratefully your call to be God's people, ignoring the glory of favor of this world in favor of the glory of the kingdom of God.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Turn us away from our fears and division and teach us to embrace your promise, that ours might be a nation of hope and generosity.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Open our eyes to the majesty of your creation and strengthen our resolve to preserve its abundance for the sustenance of all future generations.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lead us to where your loving presence is most needed and help us to be your agents of love to our neighbors.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Enter into the lives of all who suffer, that they might draw strength from your presence.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Deal tenderly with those who are grieving and with those whose wounds from loss are reopened at the time of year. May we feel the assurance of your promises that we will be reunited in your glorious presence in the new age.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For Phil, our Bishop, for Hillary our Vicar, and for all the clergy and lay ministers throughout our diocese, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For Donald, our President, Bob our Governor, and for all who hold local, national, and international authority, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

In the World Anglican Communion we give thanks and pray for Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil. In Jerusalem and the Middle East we give thanks and pray for Father Andewegg Institute for the Deaf, Beirut. In our own Diocese of Olympia we give thanks and pray for St. Stephens, Longview; St. Peter's, Seaview; St. Anne's, Washougal. **Lord, hear our prayer.**



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

*Prayer list is read*

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

Let us pray for peace to come to our hurting world.

**Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as beloved children of one God. For yours is the power and the glory, now and forever. Amen.**

*The Celebrant concludes*

Almighty God, in the face of Christ we see the fullness of your love for us. Help us to be the people you created us to be and to live fully in the light of your countenance. All this we ask in the name of Lord, Jesus Christ who with You and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, One God, now and always. **Amen.**

### **The Confession**

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**

### **The 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**

*Celebrant*      The peace of Christ be always with you.

**People**      **And also with you.**

*The clergy and people greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

### **Birthdays and Anniversaries**

*Birthday Prayer* - **Watch over your 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 passes understanding abide all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Announcements**

**Offertory Hymn   *"Watchman, tell us of the night"*   Hymnal 640**



You can make a donation to the church by  
scanning the QR code with your phone.

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

### *OFFERTORY INSTRUCTIONS*

*The offertory plates are passed throughout the congregation by the ushers. Please accept the plate and pass it all the way down your row. When it comes to you, we invite you to use those few seconds to thank God for the blessings in your life and reflect on how you are giving back. Giving is never an obligation; it's always an invitation! We know that everyone gives as the Spirit leads, and that gifts of time and talent don't fit in the offering plate! We also know that many people give online or by the QR code above. (If so, feel free to place the "I Gave Online" card in the plate as it passes you.) So whether you have something to put in the plate today or not, this moment is just between you and God. If you simply pray "Thank you, God" each time you touch the offering plate, that is a powerful spiritual practice.*

### **The Doxology** *(sung)*

**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.**

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

### **Eucharistic Prayer D**

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:*   **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts!

**People:** We lift them up to the Lord.

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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

It is truly right to glorify you, Holy One, 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:

### Sanctus S-130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,\_\_\_\_

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,\_\_\_\_

hea - ven and earth are full,\_\_\_\_ full\_\_\_\_ of your glo - ry. Ho -

-san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes\_\_\_\_ in the name of the Lord.\_\_\_\_ Ho -

-san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The Celebrant continues*

We acclaim you, holy God, 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.

Holy God, 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, Jesus 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 Jesus 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 Christ who died and rose for us, you sent the Holy Spirit, your own first gift for those who believe, to complete your work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for Jesus 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 Jesus 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 Jesus 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."

Almighty God, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and descent among the dead, proclaiming Christ's resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting Christ's 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, together saying:

*Celebrant and people*

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

*The Celebrant continues*

God our Creator, 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 our Savior 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.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with matriarchs, patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with Antony 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 Jesus Christ our Savior.

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.**

**The Lord's Prayer** (*spoken*)

*The Celebrant continues:*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we pray in the language of our hearts.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

## Fraction Anthem S-164



Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

### COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

*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.*

*To receive the bread, please make a semi-circle around the altar; the ushers will guide you. You may kneel or stand. Cup your hands in front of you to receive the bread. For the wine, you may choose either to get a single-use compostable cup on your way to the altar, or to receive from the common cup. To do so, simply guide the chalice to your lips. If you prefer not to receive wine at all, communion in one kind is just as valid; simply cross your arms over your chest when the wine is offered to you, and the minister will say the words over you and move on.*

*To receive a blessing instead of communion, simply cross your arms over your chest when each element is offered to you.*

*\*\* If you would prefer to have communion brought to you for any reason, simply remain seated and let the usher know when your row is sent. The usher will alert the altar party, who will bring communion directly to you.*

*Hand sanitizer can be found next to the hymnal and prayer books on the chair in front of you.*

## Communion Music – Chris Eisenberg

## **The Postcommunion Prayer**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.**

**And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.**

**To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

**Closing Hymn      “*Prepare the way, O Zion*”      Hymnal 65**

## **The Dismissal**

*Celebrant*    Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

## **Postlude**



Please join us for coffee hour after the service. The Fox Family is our host today.

## ***Happy Birthday!***

12-16 Winter Winslow

12-19 Helen Stockton

***Happy Anniversary!*** There are no anniversaries this week.

The Altar Flowers are given today by Jane Teller for looking forward to Christmas.

\*Flowers arranged by Lori Fagan\*

The Sanctuary Lamp is given today by Linda Robuck in thanksgiving for her granddaughters, Lena and Emma.

## ***Calendar of Events***

<b><i>Sunday, Dec. 14</i></b>	<b><i>8 am – Holy Eucharist Rite 1</i></b> <b><i>9:00 am – Episcopal 101</i></b> <b><i>10:15 am – Holy Eucharist Rite 2</i></b> <b><i>11:45 am – BC Meeting</i></b> <b><i>Youth Group – Canceled</i></b>
<b><i>Tuesday, Dec. 16</i></b>	<b><i>11:00 am – Witty Knitters</i></b>
<b><i>Wednesday, Dec. 17</i></b>	<b><i>5:30 pm – Advent Soup Supper</i></b>
<b><i>Thursday, Dec. 18</i></b>	<b><i>12:30 pm – Bible Study</i></b>
<b><i>Saturday, Dec. 20</i></b>	<b><i>8:00 am – Men’s Christmas Breakfast and gift exchange at church.</i></b> <b><i>10:00 am – Greening of the Church</i></b>
<b><i>Sunday, Dec. 21</i></b>	<b><i>8 am – Holy Eucharist Rite 1</i></b> <b><i>9:00 am – Episcopal 101</i></b> <b><i>9:30 &amp; 11:45 am – Choir rehearsal</i></b> <b><i>10:15 am – Holy Eucharist Rite 2</i></b> <b><i>10:15 am - Teen Bible Study</i></b>

***The mission of St. Antony’s is to be a loving and welcoming people who worship God,  
grow Christ, and serve others: Gather, Grow, and Go!***

### ***St. Antony of Egypt Episcopal Church***

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