



December 6, 2020 at 10 a.m.

Liturgy of the Word for the

Fifth Sunday of Advent

An Advent of Hope

Welcome to Christ Church!

Thank you for joining us. You can worship with us on [Facebook Live](#).

We invite and encourage your full participation in our worship this morning. This service bulletin is the only document you'll need to participate in this morning's liturgy.

We are blessed because of your presence here this morning, and we want to do everything possible to make you feel at home. You are welcome here!



Loving God and neighbor, as Jesus teaches

Welcome and Announcements

This week's announcements can be [found here](#).

If you would like more information about Christ Church, please [click here](#).

Organ Prelude

Chorale Prelude on "Psalm 42"

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

Introit (sung by all)

O Antiphon: O Clavis David

All O come, thou KEY OF DAVID, come and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

Hymn 67

Comfort, comfort ye my people

Tune: Psalm 42



1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus
2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert
3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er



saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -
since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry



ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



tell her that her sins I cov - er,
let the val - leys rise to meet him
and all flesh shall see the to - ken



and her war - fare now is o - ver.
and the hills bow down to greet him.
that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be the One, Holy, and Living God.

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Celebrant 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 inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Kyrie

Lord, have mercy upon on us

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A moment of silence is kept.

All 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.

Celebrant 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.

The Collect of the Day

Advent Collects © Wm H. Petersen, 2008

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

All Gracious God, your Son Jesus Christ opened wide gate of heaven, making plain the way that leads to eternal joy: Grant that we who have been buried with Christ in baptism and raised to new life may strive courageously for the freedom and peace of the world; through the same your Son, Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LESSONS

The First Lesson

Isaiah 40:1-11

Lector 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.

At the conclusion of the reading:

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

People Thanks be to God.

Canticle 15 – The Song of Mary

Luke 1:46-55

The psalm is read responsively, breaking at the asterisk ().*

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 Epistle

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Lector 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, s without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

At the conclusion of the reading:

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

People Thanks be to God.

Descant

2 Wak-ened by the sol- emn warn- ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
5 Hon- or, glo- ry, might, and bless- ing to the Fa- ther and the Son,

1 Hark! a thrill- ing voice is sound- ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
2 Wak-ened by the sol- emn warn- ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex- pect- ed, comes with par- don down from heaven;
4 so when next he comes with glo- ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon- or, glo- ry, might, and bless- ing to the Fa- ther and the Son,

2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis- pel- ling, shines up- on the morn- ing skies.
5 with the ev- er- last- ing Spi- rit while un- end- ing a- ges run.

1 "Cast a- way the works of dark- ness, O ye child- ren of the day."
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis- pel- ling, shines up- on the morn- ing skies.
3 let us haste, with tears of sor- row, one and all to be for- given;
4 may he with his mer- cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
5 with the ev- er- last- ing Spi- rit while un- end- ing a- ges run.

Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, alt. Music: Merton, William Henry Monk (1823-1889); desc. Alan Gray (1855-1935)
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The Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Celebrant 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."

At the conclusion of the reading:

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Nicholas Morris-Kliment

A moment of silent reflection follows the sermon.

The Nicene Creed

Book of Common Prayer, p. 358

Please stand as comfortable, and able.

All

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

Please stand or kneel or sit, as able and comfortable.

Intercessor As we prepare to meet the Lord Jesus, let us offer prayers to God who comes as the rising sun into the darkness of our lives.

Intercessor For the coming of Jesus Christ in power and glory, let us pray to the Lord.

People Come, O Lord and save us.

Intercessor For the coming of Wisdom to teach and guide us, let us pray to the Lord.

People Come, O Lord and save us.

Intercessor For the coming of Emmanuel, the hope of all the peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

People Come, O Lord and save us.

Intercessor For the peace of the world, and for our unity in Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

People Come, O Lord and save us.

Intercessor For Alan and Gayle our bishops and all bishops, for the presbyters, for the deacons and all the people who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God, let us pray to the Lord.

People Come, O Lord and save us.

Intercessor For the church throughout the world and faithful in every place, let us pray to the Lord.

People Come, O Lord and save us.

Intercessor For the leaders of the nations and all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

People Come, O Lord and save us.

Intercessor For justice, peace, and freedom among peoples of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

People Come, O Lord and save us.

Intercessor For travelers, for the sick and suffering, for the hungry and depressed, and for those in prison, let us pray to the Lord.

People Come, O Lord and save us.

Intercessor For the dying and the dead, let us pray to the Lord.

People Come, O Lord and save us.

Intercessor For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

People Come, O Lord and save us.

Intercessor Joining our voices with the blessed Virgin Mary and with all the saints and angels of God, let us commit ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

People To you, O Lord, we pray.

Celebrant O Wisdom, breath from the mouth of God most high, who reigns from one end of the earth to the other and governs all creation with strong and tender care, come and teach us the way of freedom. Glory to you forever and ever. **Amen.**

Source: *Intercession: A Theological and Practical Guide*, Ormonde Plater, p. 115

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

All

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.

Offertory Sentence

Officiant O Lord our God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power; because you have created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being. *Revelation 4:11*

Thank you for renewing or beginning a pledge for 2021. Your pledge keeps our foundation firm. Thank you for being a Living Stone. To give online [click here](#).

Offertory Anthem

Come Quickly, Lord Jesus

Mark Schweizer (1949-2019)

O come now Lord Jesus, our Dayspring, our Cheer, and lift up our spirits by your Advent here. The herald is calling, his cry we obey, in deserts and valleys, "Prepare God a way." O come, Root of Jesse, O come now and free Your people, Your children, from death's tyranny. The poor and the needy who suffer great wrong Give strength and give justice and bid them be strong. O come Key of David, our hearts open wide. Our path, guard with safety and lead us on high. Make straight what was crooked and rough places plain, Make hard hearts be humble for God's holy reign. Come quickly Lord Jesus, as dawn follows night, Creator, Redeemer, the people's true light, Let all things on earth and in heaven adore, And own you as Savior and King evermore.

A General Thanksgiving

Book of Common Prayer, p. 836

All Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. Amen.

Hymn 65

Prepare the way, O Zion

Tune: *Bereden väg för Herran*



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

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The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Concluding Blessing

Officiant May Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God Almighty—Christ, Creator, and Spirit—rest upon you now and always. **Amen.**

Organ Postlude

Chorale Prelude on “Freu dich sehr, O meine Seele” (Psalm 42)

Georg Böhm (1661-1733)

Prayers of the People

This week in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain (Extra-Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury) and The Rt Revd Carlos López-Lozano - Bishop of Spanish Reformed Episcopal Church. Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Alan and Gayle, our Bishops; Amy, Dean of our Cathedral; Carol, our Regional Canon; and Nick, our priest. Also, our companion parish at St. Luc's, Lazil, Haiti and our siblings at the MANNA Community in Boston.

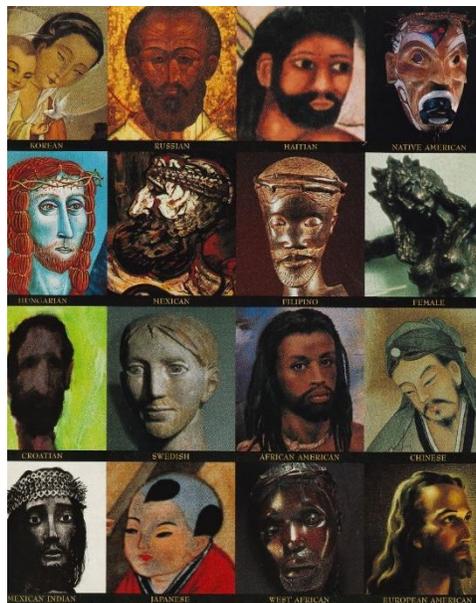
In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we prayer for the parishes of the Alewife Deanery: St. Paul's Church, Bedford; All Saints' Church, Belmont; St. Mark's Church, Burlington; The Officers of the Diocese; and, Racial Justice Commission.

In the Needham Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Grace Lutheran.

Altar flowers today are given in memory of:
Jennifer Lynn Hagar from Dr. and Mrs. William Hagar
Natalie and Bill Graham

Your prayers are requested for Jeff M., Martin W., Richard, Leo, Sommer, Meghan, Jim, Linda, Sara Y., Carol M., Jenny, Geoff C., Kathryn M., Robert B., Jennifer P., Linda B., Kara J., Sarah, Michael, Gail, Thomas, Linda, and Betsey. And prayer for all serving our country - especially, remembering Tom Z., Emmy, Jack, Sean, Ian, Colin, Tim and Andrew.

Please email your prayers to the [office](mailto:office@ccneedham.org) (office@ccneedham.org).



Thank you to those who assisted in the service today!

Pamela Goody, Director of Music
Charles Raines, Associate Director of Music and Organist
Christ Church Quartet: Lisa Correnti, Lea Peterson, Grant Furgieuele, and Mark Anderson
Phil Bergen, Lector
Tim Lysaght, Broadcast Verger

And others to be named on air!

To assist during worship, please email the office (office@ccneedham.org) or sign up [here](#).

Thank you for renewing or beginning a pledge for 2021.
Your pledge keeps our foundation firm. Thank you for being a Living Stone.
To give online [click here](#). Or text "CCN123" to 73256.



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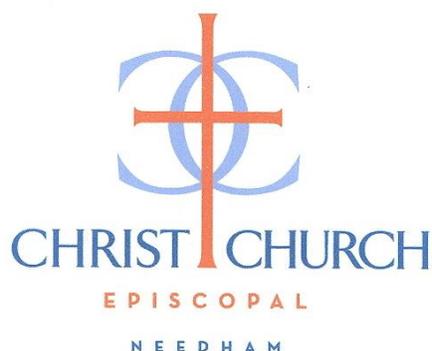
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PARISH STAFF

The Rev. Nicholas M. Morris-Kliment, Rector
Pamela Goody, Director of Music Charles Raines, Associate Director of Music & Organist
Lea Peterson, Director of Youth Choir Woody Hughes, Facilities Manager
Maryann Badejo, Bookkeeper Ali Heard, Parish Administrator

ELECTED OFFICERS

Stan Hitron, Warden Jeff Murphy, Warden
Stefano Migliuolo, Treasurer David Carnahan, Clerk
Members of the Vestry: Duncan Allen, Robert Begin, Jim Black, Denise DeGross,
Janet Haines, Bob Keener, Ingrid Melvin, Michael Niden,
Annie Russell, Patty Smith, Joe Sweeney, and Ginny Yerardi.
Assistant Treasurers: Duncan Allen and Janet Haines

Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

The office is closed for meetings Mondays from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.
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