



December 13, 2020 at 10 a.m.

Liturgy of the Word for the

Sixth 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](#).

Prelude for Flute and Organ

An Advent Prelude, Op. 62, No. 1

Charles Callahan (b. 1951)

Bruce Goody, flutist

Introit (sung by all) O Antiphon: O Oriens

All O come, thou DAYSPRING, from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*



Hymn 616

Hail to the Lord's anointed

Tune: *Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein*

Descant: Charles Raines

1 Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
 2 He comes with suc - cor speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
 3 He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth,
 4 Kings shall bow down be - fore him, and gold and in - cense bring;
 5 O'er ev - ery foe vic - to - rious, he on his throne shall rest;

1 Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!
 2 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
 3 and love, joy, hope, like flow - ers, spring in his path to birth:
 4 all na - tions shall a - dore him, his praise all peo - ple sing;
 5 from age to age more glo - rious, all bless - ing and all - blest:

1 He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free;
 2 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to light,
 3 be - fore him on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald, go;
 4 to him shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows a - scend;
 5 the tide of time shall nev - er his cov - e - nant re - move;

1 to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.
 2 whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, were pre - cious in his sight.
 3 and right - eous - ness in foun - tains from hill to val - ley flow.
 4 his king - dom still in - creas - ing, a king - dom with - out end.
 5 his Name shall stand for ev - er, his change - less Name of Love.

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854); para. of Psalm 72

Music: *Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein*, German folk song; adapt. and harm. *A Student's Hymnal*, 1923, after Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941)

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 Lord Jesus Christ, in your resurrection you appeared as the Morning Star that knows no setting: Dawn upon the darkness of the human heart so that the deathly orders of this world may be overcome and your whole creation made new; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LESSONS

The First Lesson

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Lector The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

At the conclusion of the reading:

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

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 126

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

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

Then they said among the nations, *
"The LORD has done great things for them."

The LORD has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.

Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

The Epistle

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Lector Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

At the conclusion of the reading:

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

People Thanks be to God.





1 Her - ald, sound the note of judg - ment, warn - ing us of right and
 2 Her - ald, sound the note of glad - ness; tell the news that Christ is
 3 Her - ald, sound the note of par - don— those re - pent - ing are for -
 4 Her - ald, sound the note of tri - umph; Christ has come to share our



wrong, turn - ing us from sin and sad - ness
 here; make a path - way through the des - ert
 given; God re - ceives his way - ward child - ren,
 life, bring - ing God's own love and pow - er,



till once more we sing the song.
 for the one who brings God near. Sound the trum - pet!
 and to them new life is given.
 grant - ing vic - tory in our strife.



Tell the mes - sage! Christ, the Sa - vior King, has come!

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 Music: *Herald, Sound*, Robert J. Powell (b. 1932) Copyright ©1983, Robert J. Powell. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

The Gospel

John 1:6-8, 19-28

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Celebrant There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

At the conclusion of the reading:

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

A moment of silent reflection follows the sermon.

The Rev. Nicholas Morris-Kliment

The Nicene Creed

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.

Book of Common Prayer, p. 358

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

This is the record of John Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)
arr. Mark Schweizer (1949-2019)
Grant Furguele, tenor

This is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou? And he confessed and denied not, and said plainly, I am not the Christ. And they asked him, "What art thou then? Art thou Elias?" And he said, "I am not." "Art thou the prophet?" And he answered, "No." Then said they unto him, "What art thou, that we may give an answer unto them that sent us? What sayest thou of thyself?" And he said, "I am the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord."

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.

1. Gra - cious Spir - it, give your ser - vants joy to set sin's
 2. Word made flesh, who gave up glo - ry to be - come our
 3. Lov - ing God, who birthed cre - a - tion from the noth - ing -
 4. Tri - une God, e - ter - nal Be - ing, nev - er end - ing,

cap - tives free, hope to heal the bro - ken - heart - ed,
 great high priest, tak - ing on our hu - man na - ture
 ness of space, kin - dling life where all was emp - ty,
 un - be - gun, bound - less grace and per - fect jus - tice,

peace to share love's li - ber - ty. Through us bring your balm of
 to re - deem the last and least: let your cour - age and com -
 turn - ing cha - os in - to grace: when we feel con - fused and
 right - eous and for - giv - ing One: so en - fold us in your

glad - ness to the wound - ed and op - pressed; help us claim and
 pas - sion shape and guide our min - is - tries; as our Sav - ior
 fruit - less, dawn up - on our rest - less night; give us faith's im -
 mer - cy that our wills and yours u - nite; through us may the



show God's fa - vor as a peo - ple called and blessed.
 and our Shep - herd, lead us to the truth that frees.
 ag - i - na - tion, hope's re - new - ing, love's de - light.
 world be - hold you, find your love, your truth, your light.

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.**

Postlude for Flute and Organ Sonata in A minor: *Paesana* Francesco Maria Veracini (1690-1768)

Prayers of the People

This week in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Pray for the Falkland Islands (Extra-Provincial to Canterbury) and The Rt Revd Timothy Thornton - Bishop to the Forces and Bishop to the Falkland Islands. 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, this week we prayer for the Parishes of the Alewife Deanery: Christ Church, Cambridge; St. Bartholomew's Church, Cambridge; St. James' Church, Cambridge; St. Peter's Church, Cambridge; and Diocesan Disciplinary Board.

In the Needham Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Temple Aliyah.

Altar flowers today are given in memory of:

Richard T. Leahy by Ginny Yeradi
 John Richard Lingard by Duff Lingard
 Ricky Nickerson by Bob Nickerson

Your prayers are requested for Tom C., Bob P., Marian G., 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 F., 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](#).

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
Annie Russell, 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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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

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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.

1132 Highland Avenue, Needham, MA 02494 • 781-444-1469

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