

St Matthew's Episcopal Church
2001 Windsor Drive
P.O. Box 342
Newton, Kansas 67114



Sunday, December 12, 2020
Third Sunday of Advent
Holy Eucharist Rite II
Worship at 10:15 AM

Facebook.com/stmattsnewton
Website: stmatthewsnewton.org

Masks required

Prelude

Chris Teichler

Third Sunday of Advent

Joy

We have lit the first two candles, one for hope and one for peace. Today we light the third candle, the candle of joy. This should be the easy one, because joy is all around us – in children, the lights, the music, in our gatherings. But how often do we let our preparations – or our memories – push joy aside? Joy is like an underground spring that wells up within us, but joy is a choice, an attitude. Like a muscle, it needs to be exercised. So today we open ourselves to joy, trusting that God has already planted it in us. All we need to do is give it care and offer it to share.

The Lector lights the Third Candle (Pink).

Loving God, we open ourselves to you, trusting that this is how you made us; you created us for joy-filled hearts and lives. Show us the creative power of hope; teach us the peace that comes from justice. Fill us with the kind of joy that cannot be contained but must be shared. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you, that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.

Processional

“Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding”

Pg. 59

Opening Acclamation

BCP-Pg. 355

Collect for Purity

BCP-Pg. 355

Gloria in Excelsis

S280

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

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 forever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

The First Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-20

A reading from Zephaniah.

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The First Song of Isaiah

Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely, it is God who saves me; * I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, * and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing * from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, * Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; * see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, * and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, * for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

The Second Reading

Philippians 4: 4-7

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Seq.

“Rejoice, The Lord is King”

Pg.48 1, 1 & 2

The Gospel

Luke 3:7-18

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, ‘You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, “We have Abraham as our ancestor”; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.’ And the crowds asked him, ‘What then should we do?’ In reply he said to them, ‘Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.’ Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, ‘Teacher, what should we do?’ He said to them, ‘Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.’ Soldiers also asked him, ‘And we, what should we do?’ He said to them, ‘Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.’ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, ‘I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-

fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Seq.

“Rejoice, The Lord is King”

Pg. 481, 3 & 4

The Sermon

The Rev. Harvey Hillin

The Nicene Creed

BCP-Pg. 358

The Prayers of the People

Strengthen our hands, renew us in your love, and turn our reproach to gladness, for you are in our midst and will gather us once more:

Surely it is God who saves me!

We rejoice always in you, O Lord; so still our anxiety and teach us by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, to make our requests known to you:

The Lord will be my stronghold and sure defense.

Make your Church a beacon in this holy season, remembering the duties given into our care especially St. Matthew's and Trinity that as Christ came humbly and lived in service to the poor, the suffering, and those of questing heart, even so we might walk in the way of his example:

God will be my Savior!

Move among our children, and give to them the quiet joy of Advent, that with longing and anticipation they may seek for the manger, and rest secure in mystery and wonder:

Therefore, you shall draw water with rejoicing.

Be with any who our sick, suffering, or bereaved, those who are lonely and in distress, and especially with those for whom we now pray Anita, Beth, Danny, Dave, Debbie, Delinda, Delores, Donna, Elaine, Ian, Jane, Jeff, Jerry, Jessica, Joan, Jonah, Judy, Julie, Karen, Kathleen, Kenneth, Kent, Kim, Lauren, Penny, Richard, Robert, Ron, Rose, Suzanne, Susan, Taylor and Logan and their newborn Oaklyn Mae. Quicken within them a yearning hope:

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's Name.

We who have two coats must share with the one who has none, and all with food must do likewise. Stir us to good works that the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, may guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus:

Ring out your joy, for in the midst of you is the Holy One.

Pray for our Full Communion Partner, the Old Catholic Churches of the Union of Utrecht.

Pray for the people of Cape Verde, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau and Senega. Pray for St. Stephen's, Wichita, The Very Reverend Laurie Lewis, and their lay leadership

For the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, our Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, for our Bishop Cathleen Bascom, for all bishops and ministers, and for all the holy people of God.

For Heartland Minster and their Shepherd, The Reverend Marc McDonald, Rector of St Andrews Episcopal Church, Emporia Kansas.

We give thanks for St. Matthew's and Trinity and pray for St. Matthew's Payee Program, Northridge Elementary School their teachers, staff, students and families, Priscilla's Pet Pantry, and all outreach of our churches.

The Concluding Collect

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

Confession of Sin BCP-Pg. 360

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Instrumental Music Chris Teichler

Eucharistic Prayer B BCP-Pg.367

Sanctus S130

The Lord's Prayer BCP-Pg. 364

The Breaking of the Bread BCP-Pg. 364

Hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Pg. 56-1, 2, 3, 7 & 8

The Post Communion Prayer BCP-Pg. 365

The Blessing

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen*

Recessional "On Jordan's Banks the Baptist Cry" Pg.76

The Dismissal

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. So be swift to love, make haste to be kind and in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Chris Teichler

Ministers for This Service

The Reverend. Harvey Hillin, *Celebrant & Preacher*

The Reverend. Barbara Gibson, *Deacon*

Mary Upton, *Lector*

Michael Southern, *Acolyte*

Chris Teichler, *Music*

Ben Teichler, *Videographer*

*Altar Flowers given by
Margie Knupp
"For Blessings Received"*