

# THE WORD OF GOD

## Hymn 76

## On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
awake and hearken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings.

2 Then cleansed be every breast from sin;  
make straight the way for God within,  
and let each heart prepare a home  
where such a mighty guest may come.

3 For thou art our salvation, Lord,  
our refuge and our great reward;  
without thy grace we waste away  
like flowers that wither and decay.

4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,  
and bid the fallen sinner stand;  
shine forth, and let thy light restore  
earth's own true loveliness once more.

5 All praise, eternal Son, to thee,  
whose advent doth thy people free;  
whom with the Father we adore  
and Holy Spirit evermore.

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

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

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

# St. Mark's Episcopal Church

*The Second Sunday of Advent*

*December 5, 2021 10:00 am*

## Holy Eucharist Rite II

## The Gloria

*Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.*

*Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,*

*we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.*

*For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen*

## The Collect for the Day

The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## The Lessons

### Malachi 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

The Word of the Lord  
People *Thanks be to God*

### Canticle 16 The Song of Zechariah *Benedictus Dominus Deus* Luke 1: 68-79

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \*  
he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \*  
born of the house of his servant David.  
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,  
that he would save us from our enemies, \*  
from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers \*  
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \*  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear, \*  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \*  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,  
To give his people knowledge of salvation \*  
by the forgiveness of their sins.  
In the tender compassion of our God \*  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, \*  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

### **Philippians 1: 3-11**

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus.

And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

The Word of the Lord  
People      *Thanks be to God*

### **Hymn 65**

### **Prepare the way, O Zion**

1 Prepare the way, O Zion,  
your Christ is drawing near!  
Let every hill and valley  
a level way appear.  
Greet One who comes in glory,  
foretold in sacred story.

*Refrain:*  
O blest is Christ that came  
in God's most holy name.

2 He brings God's rule, O Zion;  
he comes from heaven above.  
His rule is peace and freedom,  
and justice, truth, and love.  
Lift high your praise resounding,  
for grace and joy abounding. [Refrain]

3 Fling wide your gates, O Zion;  
your Savior's rule embrace,  
his tidings of salvation  
proclaim in every place.  
All lands will bow before him,  
their voices will adore him. [Refrain]

The Holy Gospel of our Savior, Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ*

### **Luke 3:1-6**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and

Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

### **The Sermon**

**The Rev. Nancy L. Threadgill**

### **The Nicene Creed**

*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 sin  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

### **The Prayers of the People**

#### **Form III**

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

*Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
That we all may be one.*

*Grant that every member of the Church may truly and  
humbly serve you;  
That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

*We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and  
Sacraments.*

*We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations  
of the world;  
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest.  
*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

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

## *Silence*

The People may add their own petitions.

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquility your dominion may increase until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

*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.*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

## The Peace

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
People *And also with you.*

*Then the Minister and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

# The Holy Communion

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offering and come into his courts. *Psalm 96:8*

## Hymn 59                    Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding

1 Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding.  
"Christ is nigh," it seems to say;  
"Cast away the works of darkness,  
O ye children of the day."

2 Wakened by the solemn warning,  
from earth's bondage let us rise;  
Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling,  
shines upon the morning skies.

3 Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,  
comes with pardon down from heaven;  
let us haste, with tears of sorrow,  
one and all to be forgiven;

4 so when next he comes with glory,  
and the world is wrapped in fear,  
may he with his mercy shield us,  
and with words of love draw near.

5 Honor, glory, might, and blessing  
to the Father and the Son,  
with the everlasting Spirit,  
while unending ages run.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### *Eucharistic Prayer A*

*The Celebrant faces them and says*

The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* We lift them to the Lord.

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

*People* It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Celebrant and People*

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ 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 he 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

*Christ has died.*

*Christ is risen.*

*Christ will come again.*

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

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

*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. Give us today our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses, Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, Save us from the time of trial,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, For the kingdom, the power,  
and the power, and the glory, and the glory are yours,  
for ever and ever. Amen. now and for ever. Amen.*

As our Savior Christ has taught us,  
we now pray,

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

*Give us this day our daily bread. Give us today our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses, Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, Save us from the time of trial,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.*

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

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.

For those unable to receive the physical Communion at this time please pray the following with me:

*My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim your resurrection. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.*

### **Communion Hymn 67 Comfort, comfort ye my people**

1 Comfort, comfort ye my people,  
speak ye peace, thus saith our God;  
comfort those who sit in darkness  
mourning 'neath their sorrow's load.  
Speak ye to Jerusalem  
of the peace that waits for them;  
tell her that her sins I cover,  
and her warfare now is over.

2 Hark, the voice of one that crieth  
in the desert far and near,  
calling us to new repentance  
since the kingdom now is here.  
Oh, that warning cry obey!  
Now prepare for God a way;  
let the valleys rise to meet him,  
and the hills bow down to greet him.

3 Make ye straight what long was crooked,  
make the rougher places plain:  
let your hearts be true and humble,  
as befits his holy reign.  
For the glory of the Lord  
Now o'er earth is shed abroad;  
and all flesh shall see the token  
that the word is never broken.

Let us pray.

### **Celebrant and People**

*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 for ever. Amen.*

### **Blessing**

May the peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge of God and of God's son Jesus Christ, our Lord, and the blessing of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you now and always. Amen.

### **Hymn 75**

### **There's a voice in the wilderness crying**

1 There's a voice in the wilderness crying,  
a call from the ways untrod:  
Prepare in the desert a highway,  
a highway for our God!  
The valleys shall be exalted,  
the lofty hills brought low;  
make straight all the crooked places,  
where the Lord our God may go!

2 O Zion, that bringest good tidings,  
get thee up to the heights and sing!  
Proclaim to a desolate people  
the coming of their King.  
Like the flowers of the field they perish,

like grass our works decay,  
the power and pomp of nations  
shall pass like a dream away;

3 but the word of our God endureth,  
the arm of the Lord is strong;  
he stands in the midst of nations,  
and he will right the wrong.  
He shall feed his flock like a shepherd,  
the lambs he'll gently hold;  
to pastures of peace he'll lead them,  
and bring them safe to his fold.

Let us go forth into the world,  
rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
*People Thanks be to God.*

From *Book of Common Prayer 1979*  
Hymns from *Hymnal 1982*

### Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

Church of the Advent, Jeannette, and the Rev. Martin Wright

### Altar Flowers for the Greater Glory of God

In Loving Memory of  
Don & Liz Hysong  
Anniversary Remembrance  
From Pam

### Next Week's Readings

Zephaniah 3:14-20  
Canticle 9  
Philippians 4:4-7  
Luke 3:7-18

*Sharing Christ's love unconditionally through  
transformational worship and service.*

