



**CHRIST CHURCH  
CATHEDRAL**  
A CATHEDRAL FOR THE CITY

**Sunday, December 6 – Advent 2, Year B**

**10.30 a.m. Service**

## Service of the Word—Advent 2—B

Officiant: The Very Reverend M. Ansley Tucker  
Reader: The Reverend Ross Bliss  
Preacher: The Very Reverend M. Ansley Tucker  
Prayers: The Reverend Canon Nancy E. Ford

Dominical Greeting & Sunday Notices

*The Reverend Ross Bliss*

*Vicar* Grace, mercy and peace to you  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Organ Prelude: Prelude on 'Veni Emmanuel'

*John Behnke (b. 1953) / choir enters*

### The Gathering of the Community

Introit: The Advent prose

*plainsong*

Drop down, ye heavens, from above,  
and let the skies pour down righteousness.

Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord,  
and my servant whom I have chosen:  
that ye may know me and believe me:  
I, even I, am the Lord,  
and beside me there is no Saviour:  
and there is none that can deliver out of my hand.

*Antiphon*

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people,  
my salvation shall not tarry:  
I have blotted out as a thick cloud  
thy transgressions: Fear not, for I will save thee:  
For I am the Lord thy God,  
the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer.

*Antiphon*

Placing of the Advent Candle

*Deacon* Jesus Christ is the light of the world.  
*People* **A light no darkness can extinguish.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

Almighty God,  
who sent your servant John the Baptist  
to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah,  
inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth,  
to turn our disobedient hearts to you,  
that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge,  
we may stand with confidence before his glory;  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*People* **Amen.**

### The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading

*2 Peter 3.8-15a / all seated*

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Response to the Reading: Psalm 85.1-2, 8-13

*sung by the choir / remain seated*

*Antiphon* Show us your mercy, O Lord,  
and grant us your salvation

You were gracious to your land O Lord, \*  
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob

You have forgiven the iniquity of the people \*  
and blotted out all their sins.

*Antiphon*

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, \*  
for he is speaking peace to his faithful his people  
and to those that turn their hearts to him.

Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, \*  
that his glory may dwell in our land.

*Antiphon*

Mercy and truth have met together, \*  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other;

Truth shall spring up from the earth \*  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

*Antiphon*

The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, \*  
and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness shall go before him \*  
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet..

*Antiphon*

Second Reading

Homily

Anthem: Prepare ye the way of the Lord

*Mark 1.1-8*

*The Very Reverend M. Ansley Tucker*

*Michael Wise (d. 1687)*

Prepare ye the way of the Lord,  
make straight in the desert  
a highway for our God.

Ev'ry valley shall be exalted  
and ev'ry mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall be made straight  
and the rough places shall be made plain.

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed  
and all flesh shall see it together.

And the voice said cry, (What shall I cry?)  
all flesh is grass, and the goodliness thereof  
is as a flower that is in the field.

The grass withereth, the flower fadeth,  
but the word of the Lord shall stand fast forever.

O Zion, that bringeth glad tidings,  
get thee up into the montains.

O Jerusalem, that bringeth glad tidings  
lift up thy voice with strength  
and say unto Judah, "behold thy God".

*Officiant* We believe in God  
*All* **creator of all things,  
the God of Abraham and Sarah,  
the holy one who freed the slaves from Egypt  
with steadfast love and mercy,  
who made a straight path in the wilderness,  
who promises to make all things new.  
We believe in Jesus, the Messiah,  
who is Emmanuel, God with us.  
He is King of Kings, yet born of Mary.  
He showed God's love through healing and teaching,  
and chose the way of servant-suffering by dying on a cross.  
After three days he rose from the dead and appeared to many.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the one who inspires faith,  
who has spoken through prophets and preachers,  
the one who breathes new life into the church and the world,  
who is making all things new.  
We believe that God is still creating.  
We believe that Jesus is still with us.  
We believe that the Holy Spirit is calling us forth  
in love and mercy. Amen.**

Prayers of the People  
The Lord's Prayer

*The Reverend Canon Nancy E. Ford*

*Officiant* Gathering our prayers and praises into one,  
let us pray as our Saviour taught us.  
*All* **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 forever. Amen.**

## The Blessing

*Officiant* May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,  
and scatter the darkness from before your path.  
And the blessing...

*People* **Amen.**

## Hymn

*Merton / Common Praise #108*

Hark a herald voice is sounding:  
“Christ is nigh,” it seems to say.  
“Cast away the dreams of darkness,  
O ye children of the day!”

Wakened by the solemn warning,  
let the earthbound soul arise;  
Christ our sun, all sloth dispelling,  
shines upon the morning skies.

Lo, the Lamb so long expected,  
comes with pardon down from heaven;  
let us all, with deep repentance,  
pray that we may be forgiven,

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

Honour, glory, might and blessing  
to the Father and the Son,  
with the everlasting Spirit,  
while eternal ages run.

*Text: Latin (Vox clare.); tr. Edward Caswall (d. 1878)*

## The Sending Forth of the Community

### Dismissal

*Deacon* With the light of Christ in our hearts  
let us rejoice in our commission to care,  
for each other, for our neighbours,

and for the world. Alleluia!  
*People*      **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Voluntary: Gottes Sohn ist kommen (BWV 600)

*J.S. Bach (d. 1750)*



### **Assisting with Today's Liturgy**

*Verger*      Canon Elaine Ellison

*Musicians*      The Christ Church Cathedral Guild of Bell Ringers  
The Cathedral Consort  
Mark McDonald, *Assistant Director of Music*  
Donald Hunt, *Director of Music*

*Camera and Tech Team*      Kate Newman  
Mark Thompson

*Chancel Guild*      Margaret Ketchen, *president*



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