

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Diocese of Ottawa • Anglican Church of Canada



ADVENT II

December 6, 2020

HOLY EUCHARIST ~ 8am & 10:30am

Book of Alternative Services page 185

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Welcome to St. John the Evangelist.

We acknowledge that we gather at St. John's on the traditional and unceded territory of the Algonquin Nation. May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.

By attending this service, you are agreeing to appear on video in our on-line worship offering through St. John's website and Facebook site.

Amber stage of the diocesan Pandemic plan means various safety measures to help reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Many of these feel counter-intuitive and just plain strange and awkward. We are social creatures and the desire to linger, chat and hug is hard-wired into us but for now (not for always) there are limitations on how we can "be together". Please be mindful of the following:

- Continue to wear your mask throughout the service.
- Remain in your pew for the duration of the service unless it is absolutely necessary for you to move. The washroom at the back of the church is available for use. If it is occupied, please ensure physical distancing as you wait.
- Refrain from physical contact with those outside your "bubble." When exchanging the peace, make eye contact, smile (behind your mask!) and nod or bow to your neighbours, while wishing the peace of Christ.
- The offering plates will not be passed. If you wish to make a financial offering, you can place your envelope in the offering plate at either the back of the church as you enter or at the exits upon leaving.
- Communion will be brought to you in your pew. Please keep your mask on until the priest has moved away from you. You should sanitize your hands before and after receiving Communion.
- Following the service, please wait for the Greeter to direct your row to exit the church via **side** aisles to the front doors. If you entered by the back parking lot, you may exit via the centre aisle towards the back. Try to have your coat on before you leave the pew to avoid crowding at the exits and recycle your order of service in the blue bin at the exit if you do not wish to keep it. Please sanitize your hands upon leaving.
- Be patient and kind with yourself and one another as we navigate this new way of worshipping together in-person.

HOLY EUCHARIST

Prelude

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All And also with you.

Celebrant Almighty God,

All to you all hearts are open, all desires known and from you no secrets are hidden: 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.

Advent Prose

Refrain: Pour down, O heavens, from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness.

Turn your fierce anger from us, O Lord, and remember not our sins forever. Your holy cities have become a desert, Zion a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation; our holy and beautiful house, where our fathers praised you. **Refrain**

We have sinned and become like one who is unclean; we have all withered like a leaf, and our iniquities like the wind have swept us away. You have hidden your face from us, and abandoned us to our iniquities. **Refrain**

You are my witnesses, says the Lord, and my servants whom I have chosen, that you may know me and believe me. I myself am the Lord, and none but I can deliver; what my hand holds, none can snatch away. **Refrain**

Comfort my people, comfort them; my salvation shall not be delayed. I have swept your offences away like a cloud; fear not, for I will save you. I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Redeemer. **Refrain**

Collect of the Day

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. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 *said together in unison*

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

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

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

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

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.

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.

Second Reading

2 Peter 3:8-15a

But 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 people 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, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
All Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Mark: 1:1-8

Gospeller: The Lord be with you
All: And also with you.

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

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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.'

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Apostles' Creed

Celebrant Let us confess our faith of our baptism, as we say

All I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Intercessions *(kneel or sit)*

Please respond to each petition with "Lord, have mercy."

Confession & Absolution

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table.
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Celebrant Most merciful God,
All 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 neighbours 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 upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Please remain in your pew and refrain from physical contact with those outside your "bubble" as you share the peace of Christ with your neighbours.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Prayer over the gifts

Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant 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 our thanks and praise.

Celebrant Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh, and opened to us the way of salvation. Now we watch for the day when he will come again in power and great triumph to judge this world, that we, without shame or fear, may rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever say this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name.

All 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.

Celebrant We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death a death he freely accepted, 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."

All Therefore, Father, according to his command,
**we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

All **Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.**

Celebrant The gifts of God are for the people of God.

All Thanks be to God.

Communion

Everyone who has been baptized is welcome to receive Holy Communion. During this stage of the pandemic, only the bread will be offered. Please remain in your pews and the priest will come and give communion to you. Please keep your mask on until the priest has moved away from you, at which point you may remove your mask to consume the bread. Sanitize your hands before and after receiving Communion.

Prayer after Communion *(please stand)*

Doxology

Celebrant Glory to God

All whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, forever and ever. Amen.

The Blessing & Dismissal

Postlude

Following the service, please wait until directed by the Greeter to leave your pew by the side aisle and proceed to the exit at the front of the church closest to you. Please keep your physical distance as you exit. If you entered via the back door, you may leave via the centre aisle to that exit. Please take your belongings with you. Thank you for worshipping with us today.

Presiding Celebrant & Preacher
The Reverend Canon Catherine Ascah

Readers & Intercessors
8am: Cindy Penman
10:30am: Trish Warren

Greeters
8am: Karen Bryan; Reta Troop
10:30am: Donna & Paul Howard

Ushers
8am: Terri Marsden; Brenda Ferguson
10:30am: Sue Norman; Ann Hare

Readings for next Sunday, December 13th – Advent III
Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126; 1 Thessalonians 5:15-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

In our Parish we pray for: Heather, Margaret, Dan Burns, Ann R. Bothwell, Karen K., Melanie, Dale Kerr, Ryder, Susan Peters, Philip Burns, Bill Pollock, Paul Dunlop, Lianne Burns, Peter Arcand, Val L., Rita, Chris Cutler.

Friends of the Parish we pray for: Zachary, Terri, Jacqui, Kathy O'Shea, Larry, Diane, John Duncan, David, Tanya James, Diane Chadborne, Nancy & Mary Esther Griffith, Susan Crosbie, Sarah Telford, Logan, Maggie, Robert Apro, Doug, Stephanie, John B., Beverley, Joanne, Meagan, Jeff, and Baby Grayson, Christine Hill.

Parishioners residing in retirement/nursing homes we pray for: Bev Lannin, Cora Beasley, Fran Robinson, Thelma Doherty, Betty Gault, Helen Cameron, Brenda Hauraney, Ken Winkenweder, Irene Leach, Jessie Read, Joan Dillon, Pat & Lily Willis, Leona Jones, Norma McPhee-Ranger.

In our Diocese we pray for: The Rt. Rev'd Shane Parker, Bishop of Ottawa; Cornerstone/Le Pilier, (one of our Diocesan Community Ministries), their Acting Executive Director Martine Dore; Residents, staff, and chaplains of the Ottawa-Carleton Detention Centre; all vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

ST.JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

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Louise Sherry – Church Secretary

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9am -12noon by appointment only.

Weekly Liturgies

Sundays 8am & 10:30am Holy Eucharist

Wednesdays 10am Holy Communion

The Right Reverend Shane A. D. Parker – Bishop of Ottawa

The Reverend Canon Catherine Ascah – Incumbent Priest & Pastor

catherine-ascah@ottawa.anglican.ca | (613) 859-4962

The Reverend Canon Brian Burrows – Honorary Assistant

The Reverend Canon Jim Roberts – Honorary Assistant

Sterling Bennett – Organist 283-7833

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Karen Bryan – People's Warden 284-8149

Garry Rodford – Deputy Warden 284-0488

Dan Willis – Deputy Warden 884-5095

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