



**St. George's Church
Glenn Dale Parish
The Episcopal Diocese of Washington**

December 11, 2022

The Third Sunday of Advent

Welcome to St. George's! We are glad to see you this morning, whether in person or virtually. This booklet has all of the music, prayers and readings you need to participate in today's service. May our worship nourish you for your journey of faith.

Zoom participants are welcome to leave your video camera on; at certain points during the service participants in the sanctuary will see the gallery view of those taking part in the service via Zoom.

Prelude: *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Opening Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #66 *Come, thou long-expected Jesus*

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: Stuttgart from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andachtige und Schone Gesange*, 1715
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Come, thou long ex - pect-ed Je-sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
Born thy peo - ple to de - li - ver, born a child, and yet a King,
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thine all suf - fi - cient mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Celebrant: Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People: You come to your people and set them free.

All pray together: 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.

Gloria: MHSO #61 *Prepare the Way of the Lord*

Words:: Taize Community. Music: Jaques Berthier (1923 – 1994) © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323

The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff, labeled 'Canon 1', has a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a common time. It features a repeating pattern of quarter notes and eighth notes. The lyrics 'Pre - pare the way of the Lord.' are written below the notes. The bottom staff, labeled 'Canon 2', also has a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and common time. It shows a more complex rhythmic pattern with sixteenth and eighth notes. The lyrics 'Pre - pare the way of the Lord, and all peo-ple will see the sal - va - tion of our God. Pre -' are written below the notes. Measure numbers 3 and 4 are indicated above the staff.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray together the Collect of the Day:

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 for ever. Amen.

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!"

Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
 and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
 and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool,
 and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
 the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,
 and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
 but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
No lion shall be there,
 nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
 but the redeemed shall walk there.
And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
 and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
 they shall obtain joy and gladness,
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

Psalm 146:4-9

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help!
 whose hope is in the LORD their God;
Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
 who keeps his promise for ever;
Who gives justice to those who are oppressed,
 and food to those who hunger.
The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind;
 the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
The LORD loves the righteous; the LORD cares for the stranger;
 He sustains the orphan and widow,
 but frustrates the way of the wicked.
The LORD shall reign for ever,
 your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Hallelujah!

Gospel Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #56 *O come, Emmanuel*, verses 1-4

Words: Latin 9th century. Music: *Veni, veni Emmanuel*, Plainsong Mode I Processionale adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890)
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O come, O come, Em-man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,
O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest all things might - i - ly;
O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Si - nai's height
O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from Sa-tan's ty - ran - ny

that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
to us the path of know - ledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.
in an - cient times didst give the law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
that trust thy might - y power to save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.

Re-joice! Re-joice! Em-man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra-el!

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mathew. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Matthew 11: 2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.'

"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

The Gospel of the Lord. **People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon: The Rev. Connie Reinhardt

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 sins,

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen

The Prayers of the People

In this season of preparation for your birth, Lord Jesus, we wait for that time your prophet will say, "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light." Stir up your might and come to save us as we look forward to your holy restoration. We pray, saying **Come O Come Emmanuel.**

In these waning days of autumn, we pray in gratitude for the changing seasons that reflect the beauty of creation. For your wisdom and courage to care for your creation and preserve its resources for future generations, we pray: **Come O Come Emmanuel.**

In this season when we remember the challenging words of John the Baptist, we pray that you will continue to raise up prophets to tell the good news of salvation and call us to repentance and reformation. For the church, for Michael our presiding bishop, Mariann our bishop, Connie our rector, and the community of St. George's, we pray: **Come, O Come Emmanuel.**

In our civil society, we give thanks for leaders who take seriously their call to serve. We ask that all leaders of nations speak the truth, lead with compassion, and act with justice. That all who are held captive by any form of oppression may find liberation, we pray: **Come, O Come Emmanuel.**

In this land of plenty, we pray for those who lack the basic necessities of life. For the children and families of Gaywood Elementary School and the Haiti Micah Project, for the homeless guests of the Warm Nights program, and for all those in need, especially those who are poor, those who are hungry, and those who are out of work, we pray: **Come, O Come Emmanuel.**

In a time when so many need healing, we pray for your wholeness, O God. Grace us all with resilience to endure the challenges we face and strengthen us to reach out to one another. For those who suffer, those who are sick, for those on our parish prayer list and those we remember in our hearts, we pray: **Come, O Come Emmanuel.**

In the midst of life, we also face the realities of death. O God who gives comfort, we pray for those who have died, that they find their eternal home with you. *The people may add their own petitions.* For the departed and for all who mourn, we pray: **Come, O Come Emmanuel.**

We pray in thanksgiving to you O God, bringer of joy, especially for those who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this week. For all the blessings of our lives, we pray:
Come, O Come Emmanuel.

We pray in confidence and hope to you, O Christ, as we await your birth with anticipation and joy.
Amen.

The Confession and Absolution

Celebrant: Now let us confess our sins to God. *Silence is kept.*

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful God, in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Blessings for Birthdays & Anniversaries

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) and anyone celebrating their birthday or anniversary this week as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Offertory

Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering holy and acceptable to God.

Offertory Hymn: Wonder, Love and Praise #722 *The desert shall rejoice*

Words: Garcia Grindal (b. 1943) © Hope Publishing Co.. Music: *Sterling*, Joy F. Patterson (b. 1931) © Hope Publishing Co.,
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The des - ert shall re - joice and blos - som as a rose:

It shall blos - som a - bun - dant - ly and re - joice with praise and sing - ing.
For the ears of the deaf shall hear and the blind, their eyes be o - pened.
For the tongue of the mute shall sing and the lame will dance with glad - ness.
For the ground will be - come a pool and the dry land springs of wa - ter.

Many thanks for your financial support of St. George's. We encourage you to give electronically wherever possible. Text *stgeodragon* to 72356. Or just use your web browser to go to www.onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/Give. You may also donate via Zelle to donations@stgeorgesglenndale.org. Baskets at the doors of the Sanctuary may be used for donations of checks or cash.

The 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 God thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant continues:

We give thanks to you, Holy One, that the days are surely coming when all the world will see the fulfillment of your promise of salvation. You alone are our righteousness, our only hope for justice and peace.

We rejoice and sing to you with gladness, for you have renewed us by your love, restoring the fortunes of the lost, gathering up the broken and outcast, and giving them a home in you.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Sanctus: Wonder, Love and Praise #858 *Holy, holy, holy Lord*

American folk melody Arr. Marcia Power. © Church Pension Fund. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
- san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Celebrant continues:

We give you thanks O God for sending Jesus to be our way in the wilderness: at his word, every valley is lifted and every mountain made low; in his body, all flesh shall see your saving power.

Born of Mary, Jesus Christ is our salvation and strength, the fulfillment of your word and the hope of generations. For he lifts up the lowly and fills the hungry with good things.

And so we remember that on the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying: "Drink this, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in my blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Gracious God, we ask you to pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts that they may be the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit, unite us with Christ and with your church in all the world.

Guard our hearts and minds by the power of Christ Jesus. Speak to our anxieties with the peace that passes understanding, and let our gentleness and joy be a sign of his gracious presence.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer – Traditional Version

Celebrant: The Risen Christ is in our midst, and so with Christ we pray:

**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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The bread is broken and after a time of silence, all sing

Fraction Hymn: *Christ our Passover*

Setting: Peter Cristafulli, based on *Christ ist erstanden* from **Music for the Holy Eucharist Rite II** © 2002 Peter Cristafulli. *Enriching our Worship* #26

Cantor

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sac - ri - ficed for us.

All

There-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le-lu - ia

Celebrant: Mindful that not all are present physically to receive the sacrament, we pray with those who receive spiritual Holy Communion this day:

Lord Jesus, in union with your faithful people, we offer to you our praise and thanks. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we pray that you come spiritually into our hearts. Strengthen us with your grace, O Lord, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died, and rose again for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Communion

*Wherever you are on your journey, whatever you believe or don't believe,
know that you are welcome at this table. For this is Christ's table, and all are welcome.*

*If you would like to receive a blessing rather than the bread and wine,
please indicate this to the Celebrant by crossing your arms in front of your chest.*



Communion Hymn 1: Gather #589 *All Who Hunger*

Words: Sylvia G Dunstan (1955-1993) © 1991 GIA Publications. Music: Bob Moore, (b. 1962) © 1993 GIA Publications
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All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.
All who hun-ger, nev - er stran-gers, seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er; Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil - der - ness and wan-d'ring. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
Come from rest-less - ness and roam - ing. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here, in peace, we have been led.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a - round us is our food.
We that once were lost and scat - tered in com - mun - ion's love have stood.
Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their lives in grat - i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Communion Hymn 2: Gather #253 *Within Our Hearts Be Born*

Words and Music: Michael Joncas, b. 1951 Music: BEDFORD ABBEY © 1994 G.I.A. Publications, Inc. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



O an - cient love, pro - cess - ing through the a - ges: O hid - den
O home - less love, that dwells a - mong the stran - ger: O ho - ly
O gen - tle love, car - ess - ing those in sor - row: O ten - der
O suf - f'ring love, that bears our hu - man weak - ness: O bound - less



love, re - vealed in hu - man form: O prom-ised love, the dawn of seers and sa - ges: O liv-ing
love, that knows the might-y's scorn: O hun - gry love that lay with in a man - ger:
love, that com-forts those for - lorn: O hope - ful love, that prom-is - es to - mor - row:
love, that ris - es with the morn: O might - y love, con-cealed in in - fant meek-ness:



Love, with-in our hearts be born, O liv-ing Love, with-in our hearts be borne.

Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray:

God of new beginnings, we thank you for drawing near to us in word and sacrament to strengthen us with your love and to renew us for your service. Kindle in us the fire of your Spirit, that your light would so shine through us that all may welcome your Son at his coming. This we ask in the name of Jesus Emmanuel, who was and is and is to come. Amen.

Announcements

The Blessing

May God be with you as you keep watch for the One whose Advent is promised. **Amen.**

May God embolden your witness to Christ's coming and so prepare his way. **Amen.**

May you be found ready at Christ's return, at peace in body, mind and spirit. **Amen.**

And may the blessing of God Almighty, God who created us, Christ Jesus who gives us new life, and the Holy Spirit who guides and sustains us, be with you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**



Dismissal Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #65 *Prepare the way, O Zion*

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: Stuttgart, melody from *Psalmadia Sacra, oder Audachtige und Schone Gesange* 1715
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Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.

Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.

Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.

Refrain

Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

Week Three for Advent in Plain Sight

We focus on belts and garments this week that remind us to recognize and embrace our vulnerability and our dependence on God. We are not as strong as we like to think we are.

1. What would it feel like to wear righteousness and faithfulness like a belt around your waist, as Isaiah 11:5 suggests? How does “wearing” these virtues differ from, say, carrying them in your hand or holding them in your heart?
2. Read Jeremiah 13:1–11. Why is a loincloth the most appropriate image for this lesson that God wishes the prophet to impart to the people? What other metaphors might Jeremiah have used to send this message?
3. How do you respond to the idea of vulnerability or dependence? Do you embrace or resist them in your interpersonal relationships? What about in your relationship with God?
4. How would you feel if Jesus ordered you to take a journey without taking any supplies along? In what areas of life do you feel under-equipped? What would it mean to trust in God and step forward without having everything you think you need?

Prayer

Lord God, you are as close to us as the clothes we wear and as vital as the supplies we carry with us. Help us to grow in intimacy with you and learn to trust you for everything we need in life. Amen.