# The Episcopal Parish of Saint Paul The First Sunday in Advent

# November 28, 2021

9:30am ~ Liturgy of the Word with Amazing Grace! ~

Rev. Cara Rockhill, Priest-in-Charge



"Candle Temple" by Jan Richards

~From wherever you have come, with whatever you bring, you are welcome here.~

1135 Walnut Street, Newton Highlands, MA 02461 617-527-6642 <u>office@parishofstpaul.org</u> www.parishofstpaul.org

#### **SERVICE MINISTERS**

Celebrant & Preacher: Rev. Cara Rockhill Musician: Brenda Carter

LEM: Margaret Hummel (Statement of Faith & Prayers of the People)

Readers: David Montgomery (reading 1 & Psalm) and Bernice Cramer (reading 2)

Attendance/Usher: Mandi Rice

Altar Guild: Caryn Coyle & Margaret Hummel

Zoom: Eliza Blay

#### **REGATHERING SAFETY:**

Families, households, and "pods" are welcome to sit together. Social distancing is required, and people must mask - regardless of vaccination status. We have masks if anyone doesn't have one. We hope and expect everyone to be respectful of these safety measures.

#### **SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Kaffee Klatch continues! If you wish to gather briefly after our Sunday service, we can offer a cold drink or coffee. No food is allowed and our same regathering safety rules apply. Please practice social distancing and mask up.

#### IN OUR DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER:

**For the Episcopal Church USA:** Michael Curry, our Presiding Bishop; Alan Gates and Gayle Harris, our Bishops; Church of Our Saviour, Arlington, St. John's Church, Arlington, Order of St. Anne & Bethany House of Prayer, Arlington, The Standing Committee and the Brotherhood of St. Gregory.

#### PARISH PRAYER LIST - PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR:

November 2021: James Clark, Jeanne Balcom, Casey Nichols, Esther, Susanna and David Lee, Alice Kast, Margaret Lewis, Michelle Zlomek, Albert Mueller, Elise Ware, Lynda Winkowski, Kathy Brothets, Ed Winkowski, Roger Blake, Sebastian Coyle, Hanna Johnson, Mary Miller, Tom Melideo, Constance Williams, Amy Rader Olsson, Carter Lustig, Robin, Grace McGregor, Natsuko Horiuchi, Julie Le, Sarah Conger, Janet Prifti, Baby Potterbusch, Clay Pandorf, and the O'Brien Family.

#### **STAFF**

Priest-in-Charge Rev. Cara Rockhill – crockhill@parishofstpaul.org Parish Administrator Carolyn Hoogendoorn – office@parishofstpaul.org

# The First Sunday in Advent 9:30am ~ The Liturgy of the Word with Amazing Grace ~

Prelude Brenda Carter

#### **WELCOME**

*Celebrant:* From wherever you have come, with whatever you bring, you are welcome here.

#### **INVOCATION**

In every beginning there is always before To every previous action, a prior thought. To each milestone, an intention.

The journey begins, and begins, and is always beginning.

This gathering place receives us, From every place and background. Many steps have led to this point. Places and people we have been, Lead us to now. Lead us to this next stride.

May our footprints leave a greater impression on our hearts than on the earth. May our walking lead us on deeper journeys,
The discovery of new vistas,
And fresh encounters.

Let this pilgrimage Mould us and shape us, Inform us and reform us.

Speak to us, in stillness and in motion, The revelation that in every beginning, God has already begun.

©David McNeish

#### **CANDLE LIGHTING**

Today, we enter into the season of Advent with the lighting of the first of four candles. In this long season of darkness, we pray for a new light to guide us and to illumine our world with the presence of God. These candles serve as reminders that God ever calls us to patience, humility, faith, and joy—at all times, but especially in this season. The coming of Emmanuel, God-withus, is the source of all goodness and blessing and is that light of the world that will save us all from falling into darkness.

Please light the first candle in body or spirit.

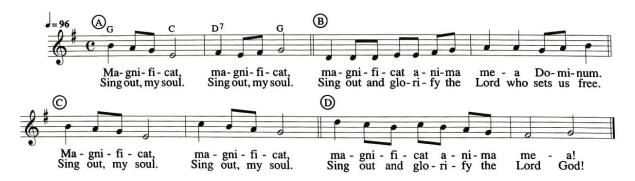
May we ever be ready and prepared to receive Christ. Our light and our salvation come at an unexpected time; therefore, we pray that God gives us the strength to remain patient and awake. In this season of darkness, may this solitary light grow and fill our homes; may it remind us of our hope in God which shall not be in vain. Come, O come, Emmanuel.



Section: Advent Title: Lo! he comes, with clouds descending Meter: 87. 87 Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: St. Thomas, melody att. John Francis Wade (1711-1786); harm. att. Vincent Francis Novello (1781-1861) Reprinted under Onelicense.net. #A-714071.

#### **MAGNIFICAT**

#### Sing out My Soul



### LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### THE COLLECT

Celebrant: God is with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray together.

All:

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and loves with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

#### THE LESSONS

(This week's Psalm comes from the St. Helena Psalter and the other readings are from the NRSV.)

#### THE HEBREW BIBLE

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM Psalm 25:1-9

- To you, O God, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2. Let none who look to you be put to shame; let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3. Show me your ways, O God, and teach me your paths.
- 4. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5. Remember, O God, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.
- 6. Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O God.

- 7. Gracious and upright are you; therefore you teach sinners in your way.
- 8. You guide the humble in doing right and teach your way to the lowly.
- 9. All your paths are love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

SECOND READING Luke 1:46-56

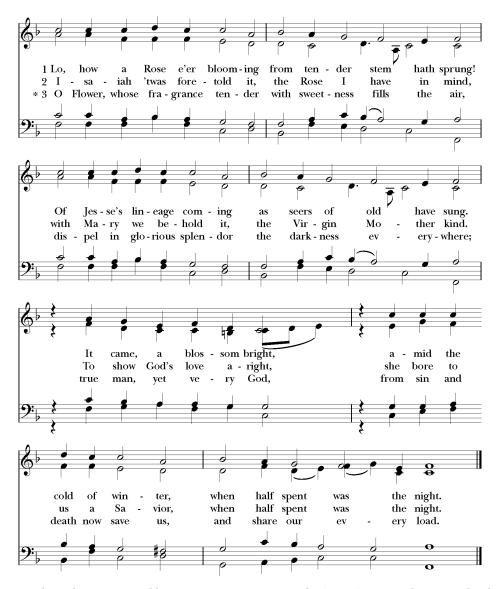
*Reader:* A Reading from Luke.

Mary's Song of Praise.

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever." And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

*Reader:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

All: Thanks be to God.



Section: Christmas Title: Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming Meter: 76. 76. 676 Words: St. 1-2 German, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker (1851-1934). St. 3, Friedrich Layritz (1808-1859): tr. Harriet Reynolds Krauth Spaeth (1845-1925); ver. Hymnal 1940 Music: Es ist ein Ros, melody from Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1599; harm. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621) Copyright: Words: St. 3, © The Church Pension Fund) Reprinted under onelicense.net. #A-714071.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 21:25-36

*Celebrant:* The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All: Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus said 'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.' Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kindom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. 'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

Celebrant: The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON The Rev. Cara Rockhill

**STATEMENT OF FAITH** (please stand as you are able)

We believe in God, whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives, Whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth, whose love was crucified by the evil that waits to enslave us all, and whose love, defeating even death, is our glorious promise of freedom. Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and full of doubt, we put our trust in God; and in the name of Jesus Christ we commit ourselves, in the service of others, to seek justice, and to live in peace; to care for the earth, and to share the commonwealth of God's goodness; to live in the freedom of forgiveness, and the power of the Spirit of love. And in the company of the faithful we will be the church, a community of flawed and forgiving disciples, for the glory of God alone.

Clateria of Faith adapted from the Lan

Statement of Faith adapted from the Iona Community © 2001

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Beloved Community, as we joyfully await the full manifestation of God's life in love, let us pray for the needs of the church and the world.

- LEM: **O Wisdom**, you come forth from the mouth of the Most High and reach from beginning to end, mightily and sweetly ordering all things. Behold and bless your church, remembering especially our Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, our Bishops, Alan and Gayle, our priests, our deacons, and our lay leaders. Be present in ordering the life of this and every community on earth.
- *All:* Come and teach us the way of prudence.
- *LEM:* **O Adonai**, God of the Covenant, ruler of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and on Mount Sinai gave your law. Forgive us when we stray from your guidance and will—help us pay attention to the words of your prophets—both old and new--that we may remain awake and responsive to your call.
- *All:* Come and redeem us for our life together.
- *LEM:* **O Root of Jesse**, we pray for peace and justice in every nation and throughout the world; be present to all whose lives are ravaged by war and strife. Guide the leaders of this and every land into the paths of peace and goodwill.
- All: Come save us, and do not delay.
- LEM: **O Key of David**, and scepter of the house of Israel, you open and no one can shut, you shut and no one can open. Guide us in opening the doors of opportunity for the unemployed, for the homeless, for prisoners, and for all who are oppressed; and lead us in closing the doors that lead to poverty, bigotry, and injustice.
- All: Come and bring the captives out of the prison house.
- LEM: O Ruler of the Nations and their Desire, you are the cornerstone that makes us one: We lift up all who are suffering and in need, especially those on our parish prayer list (read the names). And this morning we also offer our hearts to those remembered in our community prayer book (read the prayers). Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous and help us minister to them in your love.
- All: Come and save us whom you have fashioned out of clay.
- *LEM:* **O Dayspring**, radiance of the Light Eternal and Sun of Righteousness. Shine your light on those who have died, especially our former parishioner Tim O'Brien, who passed away this week. And, for all whom we have lost during this pandemic, but whose bright lights are not forgotten, bring comfort to all those who mourn.
- All: Come and enlighten all who sit in darkness and the shadow of death.

LEM: **O Emmanuel**, God with us, Expected One and Saviour. We give thanks for all the blessings of this life; for the generosity of this community, and the ministers that we lift in love. We celebrate all that is good in our families, friends and community! Make each of us ready to receive you into our hearts, to serve you in all whom we meet, and to greet you in the fullness of your glory in the day of your appearing. Amen.

All: Come and awaken us, God, our wellspring.

(Adapted from Miriam Therese Winter.)

#### THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (please stand as you are able)

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God, our neighbors and ourselves.

All: O God, we bring you our failure, our hunger, our disappointment, our despair, our greed, our arrogance, and our fear. We have not loved you with our whole hearts. We have not truly loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are sorry, we are humbled, and we pray that you will strengthen us with your grace. We turn to you, O God. We renounce evil, we claim love, we choose to be made whole. Forgive us and renew us now.

Celebrant: Almighty God, have mercy on you, forgive you every trespass through our Savior

Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit

keep you in eternal life.

#### THE PEACE

*Celebrant:* The peace of Christ be always with you.

All: And also with you.

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

#### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B**

(from Enriching Our Worship)



Section: Service Music: Canticles Title: A Song of Zechariah [Benedictus Dominus Deus] Canticle 16 (metrical paraphrase)

THE DOXOLOGY HYMNAL #380

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above all life and death Creator, Christ and Holy Breath. Amen.

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: God be with you.
All: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to

you, Almighty God, 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.

SANCTUS Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made

known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error

into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior 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 Jesus 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, according to his command, O God,

# All: We remember Christ's death, We proclaim Christ's resurrection, We await Christ's coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

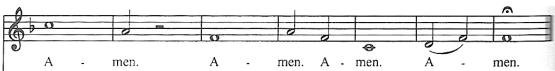
We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

THE GREAT AMEN WLP #863

All:





Setting: Carl MaultsBy from The Saint Mary Mass, © 1989 Malted Milk Music. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

(We invite you to say whatever version of the Lord's Prayer is most meaningful for you.)

*Celebrant:* As Jesus taught us, we now pray:

All: Our Creator in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kindom come, your will

be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And 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 kindom, the power, and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

#### BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

FRACTION ANTHEM WLP #878

Whoever comes to me shall not hunger and Whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

*Celebrant:* These are the Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that

Christ lived, died, and rose again for us, and feed on Christ in your hearts by faith

with thanksgiving.

#### **COMMUNION**

You are welcome at this table, exactly as you are, because of who you are. If you are willing, please come forward to receive Communion. If you do not wish to receive Communion, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing – place your arms across your chest to indicate that a blessing is desired.

#### THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER (please stand as you are able)

*Celebrant*: Let us pray.

All: Eternal God, our Creator, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### **BLESSING**



Section: Advent and Christmas Title: People, look East Meter: 87. 98. 87 Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965) Music: Besançon Carol, harm. John L. Hooker (b. 1944) Reprinted under onelicense.net. #A-714071.

#### **DISMISSAL**

LEM: Let us live in peace and love each other in the name of the risen Christ.

Alleluia, alleluia!

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!



If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to reach out to our Vestry!

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