

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 13th, 2020, IOAM
THE WORD OF GOD

Welcome to this live-steamed service from Christ Church Cathedral. This service leaflet contains everything you need to participate. To learn more about Christ Church Cathedral and our current online offerings, please visit ccindy.org. For pastoral assistance, please call 317-636-4577.

VOLUNTARY Récit de Tierce en taille

Nicolas de Grigny

HYMN 76 *Standing*

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make
3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our
4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and
5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -
3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we
4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy
5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.
3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.
4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

THE ACCLAMATION *Standing*

Presider: Blessed are you, most holy and living One.

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

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

Cantor or Choir

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. _____

All

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. _____

Cantor or Choir

Chri - ste e - le - i - son. _____

All

Chri - ste e - le - i - son. _____

Cantor or Choir *All*

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. _____ Ky - ri - _____

e e - le - i - son. _____

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

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.**

THE FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings

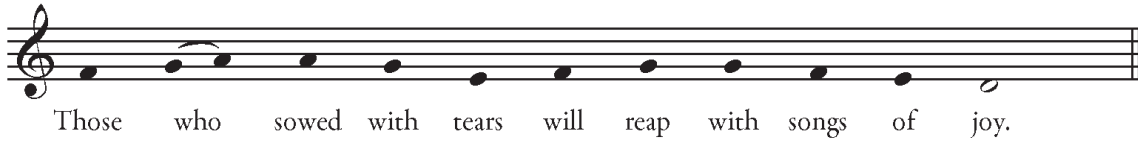
forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 126 *The antiphon is sung first by the cantor, then all.*

Plainsong Tone I.1



- 1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- 3 Then they said among the nations, *
“The Lord has done great things for them.”
- 4 The Lord has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.
- 6 Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

THE SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA

Tone 2



Cantor: Stir up your strength, O Lord, and come to save us.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 1:6-8,19-28 *Standing*

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

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?”

He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Reverend Susan Mills

A period of silence follows the sermon.

THE NICENE CREED *All standing*

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

Leader: Friends, as we joyfully await the full manifestation of God's reign in Christ, let us pray for the needs of the church and the world.

O Wisdom, you come forth from the mouth of the Holy One and reach from beginning to end, mightily and sweetly ordering all things. Behold and bless your church, remembering especially, all lay people, Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Jennifer, our bishop; Mauricio, bishop of our companion diocese of Brasilia; our companions at Transfiguration Church in Nuevo Progreso in the Diocese of Southeastern Mexico, and their bishop, Julio; for the people of the Diocese of Haiti, especially Saint Andrew's Parish in Mithon, for the Venerable Jean Michelin, their priest; in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, pray for St. John's, Bedford, Ms. Rebecca Holbrook, Senior Warden; our clergy, our wardens and vestry, and pray that the wall around Bethlehem and all other barriers come down. Be present in ordering the life of this and every congregation.

Come and teach us the way of prudence.

Leader: O Adonai, God of the Covenant, 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.

Come and redeem us for our life together.

Leader: O Root of Jesse, you stand as an ensign to humankind; before you rulers will shut their mouths, and nations bow in worship: We pray for your peace and justice in every nation and throughout the world; be present to all whose lives are ravaged by war and strife; especially we hold before you those who serve their country in places of conflict whether in uniform or as civilians. Guide the leaders and citizens of this and every land into paths of caring, peace and goodwill.

Come save us and do not delay.

Leader: 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, racism, and injustice.

Come and bring the captives out of the prison house.

Leader: O Sovereign 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 we now name silently or aloud (*pause*) Rosemary, Darrin, Bethany and Philip, Maria, Maureen, Jude, Anthony, Daniel and Katrina, Debra, June, Carla, Mike and Mary, Bill and Maureen, Tom and Sandra, Susan, Rich, and for those infected with COVID-19 and those who care for them. 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.

Come and save us whom you have fashioned out of clay.

Leader: O Dayspring, radiance of the Light Eternal and Sun of Righteousness: Shine your light on those who have died; remember especially those we now name (*pause*) and those who have lost their lives to COVID-19, gun violence, and natural disasters, and bring comfort to all those who mourn.

Come and enlighten all who sit in darkness and the shadow of death.

Leader: O Emmanuel, God with us, Expected One and Savior, We give thanks for all the blessings of this life; for the other blessings we now name silently or aloud (*pause*). 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.

Hasten, O God, the coming of your realm, and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming; even Jesus Christ, child of Mary. Amen.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

Presider: 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 *Standing*

Presider: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

All greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Offerings are received with gratitude by mail, at Donate at www.cccindy.org or by texting CCCINDY to 73256.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

SOLO AT THE OFFERTORY

from *Messiah*

Comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned.

G.F. Handel

-Isaiah 40:1-4

HYMN 64 *Standing*



1 O heaven - ly Word, e - ter - nal Light, be - got - ten
 2 pour light up - on us from a - bove, and fire our
 3 and when, as judge, thou draw - est nigh the se - crets
 4 O let us not, for e - vil past, be driv - en
 * 5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the



1 of the Fa - ther's might, who in these lat - ter days wast
 2 hearts with ar - dent love, that, as we hear thy truth to -
 3 of our hearts to try, to rec - om - pense each hid - den
 4 from thy face at last, but with thy saints for ev - er -
 5 Spi - rit, ev - er One, praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry



1 born for bless - ing to a world for - lorn;
 2 day, all wrong de - sires may burn a - way;
 3 sin and bid the saints their reign be - gin;
 4 more be - hold thee, love thee, and a - dore.
 5 be from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Presider: Let us pray.

People: **Gracious God, in union with the faithful across the Church, we thank you for gathering us as your people. We present ourselves to You, along with all who cannot gather around the altar at this time, believing and trusting in Your real presence in the sacrament of Holy Communion. We love you above all things; our soul longs for you. And so, we call to remembrance the many times we have been fed at your table. As we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we implore you to come spiritually into our hearts. We embrace you with all the affection of our soul. May this spiritual Communion be for us an armor of faith and shield of goodwill and liberation. Sustain us, heal us, and encourage us, with your Holy Spirit until we meet again as one Church and one Body. We ask this for your love. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider: 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. 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.

A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit Among the People of God; Presiding Bishop Michael Curry has called the entire Episcopal Church to prayer with these words.

Presider: God of all power and love, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss. Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire. Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world: a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit. Wherever and however we gather, unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission, that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE ADVENT BLESSING

Presider: May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN 68 *Standing*

1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!
 2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;
 3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
 look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
 a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened sphere!

The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;
 The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.
 rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride - groom is at hand!
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY Gloria in excelsis, op. 59 no. 8

Max Reger

Presider: The Rev. Dr. Joyce Scheyer

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Widening the Circle of God's Embrace with Heart and Voice

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The Reverend Joyce Scheyer, *Canon Pastor (ad interim)*
The Reverend Hipólito Fernández Reina, *Canon for Latino/Latinx Ministries (ad interim)*
The Reverend Fatima Yakubu-Madus, *Deacon*
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