

Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2020

10:30 a.m. Worship Service



“Joy”

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

PO Box 208, 201 S. Third St.

Westcliffe, Colorado 81252

719-783-2477

Bishop:	The Right Rev. Kym Lucas	
Canon to the Ordinary:	The Rev. Canon Alex Dyer	
Regional Missioner:	The Rev. Rich Munsell	
Priest:	Rev. Paul Parsons	
Pastoral Care Priests:	The Rev. Dr. Wayne A. Ewing The Rev. David Thompson	
Musician:	Barbara Saint-Amour	
Bishop's Committee:	Senior Warden:	Janet Smith
	Junior Warden:	Sandra Attebery
	Clerk:	Ann Barthrop
	Treasurer:	Nancy Taylor
	Members:	Marci Gregg
		Sudzy Benesch
		Cathy LoPresti

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Greeting

Reflections

The Word of God

Opening Hymn (listen in silence)

Blue Hymnal 66

"Come thou Long expected Jesus"

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen

Celebrant 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 (spoken)

Blue Hymnal S280

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.*

The Lessons

The First Lesson:

To those who suffer and are oppressed, to the poor who have no hope, God proclaims justice, compassion, deliverance, and restoration. All will be set right.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet 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.

Reader Concludes with: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 126 *In convertendo*

Refrain: The Lord has done great things for us,

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 Lesson: The Epistle

The Thessalonians are given a last charge, told how to behave to the glory of God.

A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the 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.

Reader Concludes with: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual (spoken)

Red Book 113 (v. 1)

Speak now the word of life, Dear Lord to me,
As once you spoke the word Beside the sea;
Beyond the sacred page I seek you Lord;
My spirit longs for you, The living word!

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

People: Glory to you Lord Christ

The Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

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.

Celebrant Concludes with: The Gospel of our Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ

Gradual (spoken)

Red Book 113 (v. 2)

Show me the truth concealed Within your word,
That by your book revealed I know you, Lord;
So send your Spirit, now, Dear Lord, to me
That he may touch my eyes And make me see.

The Homily: Rev. Paul Parsons

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 of God, Light of 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 - Form III

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The Celebrant adds a concluding prayer.

Passing on of a Loved One~Family~Friend~Neighbor

+++Dr. David Boyer+++

November 29, 2020

Cathy LoPresti's Brother

+++Don Drummond+++

January 13, 1938 - November 17, 2020

+++Annabelle (Cooper) Austin Lobeda+++

November 8, 1926 - November 17, 2020

O, Lord, we call upon you in our time of sorrow, That You give us the strength and will to bear our heavy burdens, until we can again feel the warmth and love of Your divine compassion. Be mindful of us and have mercy on us while we struggle to comprehend life's hardships. Keep us ever in Your watch, til we can walk again with light hearts and renewed spirits.



*St. Luke's Prayer Requests
for the week of December 6, 2020*

*May all congregants and those on the prayer list
receive God's grace this day and throughout 2020*

Illness/Injured/Surgeries

Kristen Murray** (Mike & Bonnie's Daughter)
David Thompson's Mom
Loren Elston, Sandy & 12 yo Samuel Barrett (Greg &
Janet's Family)
Eduvrijes Rodriquez (Leida's Mother)
Lee & Park Street
David Cross (ALS) and family

Continued Healing & Prayers

The Drummond Family
The Austin Family
Mary Chandler (The Ann's Cousin)
Wilson Begay and family
Parson's Dad & Grandson
Helen Ensrude (Mike's Mom)

Cathy LoPresti and Family
Neal Johnson & wife Joanne
(Sandra Attebery's Family)
Billie Jo Hermansson and Family
(Ann & Ann's
Daughter and Sister)

Suzane Steele
Sara Barthrop Simpson
Caryn Anderson
(Mike and Bonnie's daughter)

Robyn Tems
Fr. Wayne & Shannon Ewing
Dean Zylich
The Rev. Wendie &
Evalds Jekabsons

Linda & Alan McPeak
Willdra Ruzanski
Jim & Grace Willson (Ann & Ann
Family)

Lisa Kidwell
Maria Thrurn
Zahara

Confession of Sin

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

(Silence may be kept.)

Most merciful God,
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 neighbors 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 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 (Birthdays, Anniversaries, Traveling, Healing)

Offertory: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

***Pledges and Plate can be mailed to POB 208, Westcliffe 81252**

Offertory Music (listen in silence)

Doxology (listen in silence)

"Praise God to Whom All Blessings Flow"

Spiritual Communion

The Lord's Prayer

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.*

Agnus Dei (spoken)

Blue Hymnal S158

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world.

have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world.

have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world.

grant - us thy peace

The Communion Prayer

In union, O Lord,

with the faithful who yearn to gather

at the altar of your Church with the Holy Eucharist,

we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving.

We present you our souls and bodies

with the earnest wish that we may always be united to you,

and,

since we cannot now receive you sacramentally,

we beseech you to come spiritually into our heart.

We unite ourselves with you,

and embrace you with all the love of our souls.

Let nothing ever separate you from us.

May we live in you,

and may you live in us,

both in this life and in the life to come. *Amen.*

A General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
We, your unworthy servants, give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation,
preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world
by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with a truly thankful hearts we may show forth your
praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up ourselves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus
Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. *Amen.*

Closing Hymn (listen in silence)

Blue Hymnal 76

"On Jordan's Bank"

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every breast from sin; make straight the way for God
within, and let each heart prepare a home where such a mighty guest
may come.

Benediction (remain seated)

Dismissal : Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Announcements

Postlude



Meaning of the ADVENT CANDLES

Advent candles (three blue and one pink) represent the four weeks of Advent. St. Luke's now uses the blue color for Advent instead of the violet at the request of several priests. The blue candles represent/symbolize prayer and preparing.

The pink candle of this third week of Advent is a candle of joy.

Today the flame of this candle reminds us of the joy that Jesus brings into this world and his presence with us. Jesus said "Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete."