

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2020

10:30 a.m. Worship Service



“Peace”

“Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men.”

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:

The Rev. Dr. Winnie Mitchell

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 60

"Creator of the Stars of Night"

Creator of the stars of night, your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all, we pray you hear us when we call.

In sorrow that the ancient curse should doom to death a universe,
You came, O Savior, to set free your own in glorious liberty

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:

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

The First Lesson:

The prophet Nathan receives a word from the Lord for King David, professing the great things which God commits to do for the house and family of David.

A reading from the Second Book of Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you." But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Reader Concludes with: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Canticle 3 *Manificat*

My soul doth magnify the Lord*
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded*
the lowliness of his handmaiden.

For behold, from henceforth*
all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me*
and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him*
throughout all generations.

He hath shown strength with his arm*
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of
their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat*
and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things*
and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel*
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his
seed for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit*
as it was in the beginning, is now, and
will be forever. *Amen*

The Second Lesson: The Epistle

God works through the witness and testimony of his saints throughout the ages, through the prophecies of old, through the secrets, mysteries and questions of all time, through all these things, to reveal himself in glory to his people throughout all the world.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans 16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith – to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

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 Luke.

People: Glory to you Lord Christ

The Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

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: The Rev. Dr. Winnie Mitchell

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.



*St. Luke's Prayer Requests
for the week of December 20, 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)**

Jim Willson **

Dallas Anderson**

David Thompson's Mom

**Loren Elston, Sandy & 12 yo Samuel Barrett (Greg &
Janet's Family)**

Eduvijos 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

**Carryn Anderson
(Mike and Bonnie's daughter)**

Linda & Alan McPeak

Willdra Ruzanski

Robyn Tems

Fr. Wayne & Shannon Ewing

Dean Zylich

The Rev. Wendie &

Evalds Jekabsons

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.*

"O God, unseen yet ever near"

O God unseen yet ever near, thy presence may we feel; and thus inspired with holy fear, before thine altar kneel.

Here may thy faithful people know the blessings of thy love, the streams that through the desert flow, the manna from above.

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

Blue Hymnal 423

“Immortal, invisible”

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great Name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might; thy justice like mountains high soaring above thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

Benediction (remain seated)

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

Announcements

Postlude

