



**Digital Bulletin**  
December 13, 2020 9:00 AM  
Third Sunday of Advent

**Prelude** “Rejoice, Beloved Christians” J. S. Bach

**Welcome & Introduction**

**Opening Hymn** “Hark! The glad sound, the Savior comes” Hymn 72

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| <p>1. Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes,<br/>the Savior promised long:<br/>let every heart prepare a throne,<br/>and every voice a song.</p> <p>2. He comes, the prisoners to release<br/>in Satan's bondage held;<br/>the gates of brass before him burst,<br/>the iron fetters yield.</p> | <p>3. He comes, the broken heart to bind,<br/>the bleeding soul to cure;<br/>and with the treasures of his grace<br/>to enrich the humble poor.</p> <p>4. Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,<br/>thy welcome shall proclaim;<br/>and heaven's eternal arches ring<br/>with thy beloved Name</p> |
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Book of Common Prayer Pg. 355

*Officiant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**People** **And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Officiant* 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.

**People** **Amen.**

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

This week we light the Candle of Joy (or Shepherd's Candle) to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus. The wreath itself, made of evergreens, representing the everlasting life promised by Jesus Christ. The circular shape of the wreath symbolizes the eternal love of God that has no beginning and end. And the pine cones on the wreath represent the Spirit of new life that beckons us to joyfully await the Light of Christ coming into the world.

*Officiant* Lord, have mercy.

**People** **Christ, have mercy.**

*Officiant* Lord, have mercy.

## Collect of the Day

*Officiant*        The Lord be with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**  
*Officiant*        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.*

## A Reading from 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*            The Word of the Lord  
*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

## Canticle 15

Book of Common Prayer Pg. 91

## The Song of Mary *Magnificat*

*Luke 1:46-55*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

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

### **A Reading from the First 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*            The Word of the Lord  
***People***            **Thanks be to God.**

### **The Gospel**

*Officiant*           The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John  
***People***            **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

### **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.

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

**Sermon**            The Reverend Judith Sato

**Meditation**      Meditation Song: "Joy To The World (Joyful Joyful)," music by Handel, Beethoven, and Phil Wickham; words by Isaac Watts, Henry Van Dyke, and Phil Wickham; arr. Dan Galbraith

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.

**Advent 2020 Prayers of the People**

*(To have a name added to the prayers of the people please contact The Rev. Judi Sato)*

O God, our Emmanuel, we live these days in continual hope. We offer our prayers confident of your faithfulness to us and all creation.

*Silence*

We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Kym, our Bishop, Matt and Judi, our priests, and Gary our deacon, that they may seek truth and lead with love.

*Silence*

We pray for all the world, national and community leaders.

*Silence*

We pray for those who serve and work beyond the walls of comfort and safety. We pray for first responders and all who put their lives before others. And we pray for our deployed military: Gary, Vince, Danielle and Dallas.

*Silence*

We pray for those celebrating birthdays this week: Sue B., John P., Nathan, Melanie, Melissa G., Monica, Evan, Jane L., Karen K., Tim and Mary A. And those celebrating anniversaries: Jim and Marion Moore and Arnie and Carol McKechnie. We also give thanks for the birth of Benjamin Arthur McElyea, son of Emily and Jon McElyea.

*Silence*

We pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; Ji-bril, Laura, Miles, Ashleigh, Tom, Cheryl, Sue H., Reuben, Gael, Cindy, Tyler, Austen, Christine, Emily, Bev, Alvin, Cory, Patty, Chuck, Roger, John and Lisa.

*Silence*

We remember those who have died, especially Mary Frechette. Join our hearts with those who grieve.

*Silence*

Gracious God, grant us strength and vision to prepare a place for you within our own hearts and within our shared life in this faith community, that we may love and serve the world beyond our walls.

## The Confession

The Book of Common Prayer Pg. 360

*Officiant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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.**

*Officiant* 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

*Officiant* The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

*(You are encouraged to use your cell phone to exchange the peace via text message)*

## Announcements

### Digital Offering

*(To make a one-time contribution to St. Michael's or to pay your pledge online;)*

1. Using your text message on your smart phone, text the word GIVE to 719-223-3446.
2. Click on the secure link sent to you via text message to make a contribution.

## The Doxology

“Praise God from whom all blessings flow”

Hymnal 380, st. 3

## The Great Thanksgiving Prayer B

The Book of Common Prayer Pg. 367

*Officiant* All things come of thee O Lord.

**People** **And of thine own have we given thee.**

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

*Officiant* Lift up your hearts.

**People** **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Officiant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People** **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*The Officiant proceeds ...*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name: Saying together

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation;... Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving... Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

The Book of Common Prayer Pg. 369

**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**

*Communion can be picked up at St. Michael's every Sunday 10:30 – 12:00 PM.  
If you wish to have Communion delivered to your home, please sign up on the website.*

## Post Spiritual Communion Prayer

Lord of the Feast,  
thank you for feeding us with the  
spiritual Body and Blood of Christ.  
May we be reminded of the many times  
we have been fed at your table,  
always being drawn closer to you  
in the breaking of the bread.  
We acknowledge your presence among us,  
just as you were present with your disciples.  
May your Holy Spirit continue to strengthen us  
to live, learn, and love beyond our walls.  
For the sake of your love in our lives,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

## Final Blessing

**Final Hymn** "In the bleak midwinter,"

Hymn 112

1. In the bleak midwinter,  
frosty wind made moan,  
earth stood hard as iron,  
water like a stone;  
snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
snow on snow,  
in the bleak midwinter,  
long ago.
2. Our God, heaven cannot hold him,  
nor earth sustain;  
heaven and earth shall flee away  
when he comes to reign:  
in the bleak midwinter  
a stable-place sufficed  
the Lord God incarnate,  
Jesus Christ.
3. Angels and archangels  
may have gathered there,  
cherubim and seraphim  
throngèd the air;  
but his mother only,  
in her maiden bliss,  
worshipped the beloved  
with a kiss.
4. What can I give him,  
poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd,  
I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a wise man,  
I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him—  
give my heart.

## Dismissal

*Deacon* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia!  
*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Postlude** Prelude in C Major

J.S. Bach

Parish Announcements:

- To view all the weekly announcements, please view the **Weekly eNews** emailed every Friday at 6:00 AM. Included are new events, links, and exciting information about what is happening at St. Michael's. To be added to the email list call the church office or email [support@stmikeschurch.com](mailto:support@stmikeschurch.com)

- **Home Christmas Communion Delivery** can be delivered to your home December 26-28, but you must sign up at [www.stmikeschurch.com/signup](http://www.stmikeschurch.com/signup) **no later than noon on December 23.**
- **Christmas Communion** will be made available to you in-person inside the church using physical distancing and safety precautions as outlined by state, local, and diocesan guidelines. Christmas Communion pre-registration is now open and time slots will be available December 23 3:00 – 7:00 PM and December 24 3:00 – 9:00 PM. Sign up online [www.stmikeschurch.com/signup](http://www.stmikeschurch.com/signup)
- **Donate new stuffed animals** for our December Donation Drive “Stuffed with Love”. New stuffed animals will be donated to the Children’s Hospital of Colorado Springs and Safe Passages, an organization that supports children who have experienced trauma. Donations can be dropped off before December 20 to the clear bins located outside the church office doors. You may also drop off donations on Sundays between 10:30 AM -12:00 PM during Drive Thru Communion.
- **Christmas Light Festival Volunteer Opportunities:** Sign up online [www.stmikeschurch.com/signup](http://www.stmikeschurch.com/signup)  
 Sunday, December 6 12:00 – 3:00 PM  
 Thursday, December 10 3:00 – 5:00 PM  
 Friday & Saturday, December 11 & 12 3:00 – 7:00 PM  
 Friday & Saturday, December 18 & 19 3:00 – 7:00 PM

**Christmas Light Festival Open to St. Michael’s & the public:**

December 11 & 12 5:00 – 7:00 PM  
 December 18 & 19 5:00 – 7:00 PM

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Join us at 10:00 AM for Virtual Coffee Hour [CLICK HERE](#)