

**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church:** The Second Sunday of Advent: Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Prelude:** Wayne Seppala

**Gathering Song** "Praise Him" - Chris, Anna, & Friends

**Processional Hymn** (*The people stand*) #75 (1-3), "There Is A Voice In The Wilderness Crying"

### Opening Salutation

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

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

### 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.*

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath** #56 (3-4), "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

### Collect of the Day

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

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

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**The Lessons** (*The people sit*)

### The First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like washers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord, as in the days of old and as in former years.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** *Thanks be to God.*

### Canticle 16: The Song of Zechariah, Luke 1: 68-79

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;  
*he has come to his people and set them free.*

He has raised up for us a mighty savior,  
*born of the house of his servant David.*

Through his holy prophets he promised of old, that he would save us from our enemies,

*from the hands of all who hate us.*

He promised to show mercy to our fathers  
*and to remember his holy covenant.*

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham,  
*to set us free from the hands of our enemies,*

Free to worship him without fear,  
*holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.*

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
*for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,*

To give his people knowledge of salvation  
*by the forgiveness of their sins.*

In the tender compassion of our God  
*the dawn from on high shall break upon us,*

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,  
*and to guide our feet into the way of peace.*

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.*

### **The Second Reading: Philippians 1:3-11**

I thank my God for every remembrance of you, always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I hold you in my heart, for all of you are my partners in God's grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the tender affection of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what really matters, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People:** *Thanks be to God.*

**Gospel Hymn** (*The people stand*) #67 (1-2), "Comfort. Comfort Ye My People"

### **The Gospel: Luke 3:1-6**

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

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

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.' "

Celebrant: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Celtic Alleluia** (*sung*)

*Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Now He is living, the Christ, out of the tomb He is risen; He has conquered death – opened heaven to all believers. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.*

**Sermon** (*The people sit*) Katherine Bom

**The Nicene Creed** (*The people stand*)

*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** (*Form I, The People stand*)

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this city of La Mesa, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are sick and suffering, especially: [*St. Andrew's prayer list*], let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace.

***Lord, have mercy.***

In the communion of St. Andrew and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

***To thee, O Lord our God.***

*(Silence)*

*(The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect) Amen.*

**Confession of Sin and Absolution** *(The people kneel)*

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

***Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all our 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** *(The people stand)*

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

**Announcements** *(The people sit)*

**Offertory Hymn** *(The people sit)* "Waiting For A King" – St. Andrew's Choir

**Doxology** *(The people stand and sing)*

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below. Praise Him above, you heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

**Dedication/Communion Prayer**

*My Jesus, I believe that you are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart, as though you have already come. I embrace You, and unite myself with you entirely. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.*

**The Great Thanksgiving** (*Eucharistic Prayer B, remain standing*)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. [*Proper Preface*]

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:

**Sanctus** (*S125: Sung*)

***Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.***

(*The people kneel*) 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 the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, 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 Lord 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 he 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 Father, (*spoken*)

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

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord 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 to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, 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 St. Andrew's and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. (sung) ***Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen.***

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

***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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.***

### **Breaking of the Bread**

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**People:** *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

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.***

*(Celebrant and People) We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

**Communion** *(The people sit) "Sanctuary/My Peace" - Chris, Anna, & Friends*

**Post Communion Prayer** *(The people kneel)*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

***Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.***

### **The Blessing**

May the Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain always. ***Amen.***

**Recessional Hymn** *(The people stand) #65 (1-3), "Prepare The Way, O Zion"*

### **Dismissal**

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

**People:** *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.*

**Postlude:** *Wayne Seppala*

**Prayers at the Altar:** *Prayer Ministers are available at the altar for those seeking additional prayer.*