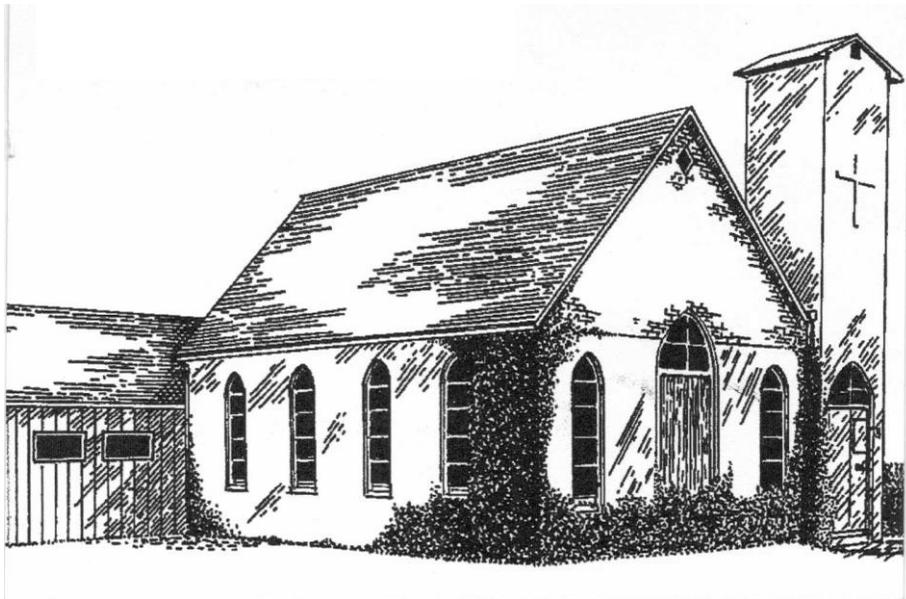


St. John's Episcopal Church

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2014



The Rev. Rebecca Myers, Priest-in-Charge

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A Note on Today's Readings

The Third Sunday of Advent—Year B

On this Third Sunday of Advent we again are focused on John the Baptist. Today we hear more about John's ministry and his response to questions raised by his message. An important issue for many in the days of the early Church was the relationship between Jesus and John. In response to those who believed that John the Baptist was the Messiah, the early Christians remembered John's own words: "I am not the Messiah...I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord.'"

The first reading is Isaiah's poem of the anointed one and his ministry of peace, healing, and redemption. In his first sermon Jesus applied this passage to himself. In this Advent time we anticipate our celebration of the birth of the anointed one who comes to save.

The second reading is the conclusion of Paul's first letter to the Church in Thessalonica. He wrote this letter to encourage them to persevere in the Way as they waited for the return of Jesus. Paul assures them that the Lord will return but that their lives now are to reflect the nature of God's kingdom rather than to be spent in sitting back and awaiting the End.

The Church's Eucharist is a foretaste of that coming of Christ which is still ahead. In word and sacrament, song and story, we encounter the reign of God in our midst and we reveal that future joy to the world. Like John the Baptist we are sent ahead of the One who is coming and our joy is to see God's presence in the world increase.

Holy Eucharist

The Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 14, 2014

Liturgy of the Word

Hymn

O come, O come, Emmanuel

Hymnal 56

All standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People Glory to God for ever and ever.

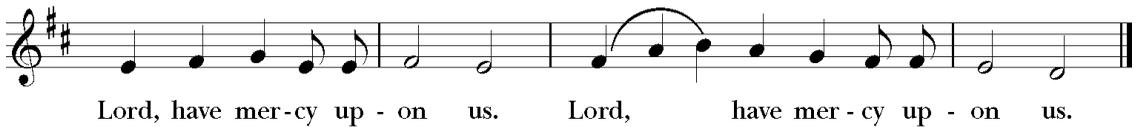
The Celebrant says

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.

The following is sung, all standing

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.



Collect of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant 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.*

First Reading

Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11

All sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Remain seated.

Psalm 126

BCP p. 782

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Thessalonika.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People Thanks be to God.

Sequence

All stand.

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Hymnal 616

Holy Gospel

John 1:6-8,19-28

All stand.

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the Gospel is read, the people respond as follows:

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Rebecca Myers

Nicene Creed

All 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,
 was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
 and became truly human.
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],
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.

Prayers of the People

All remain standing.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. In particular we pray for those celebrating birthdays this week, Dean Leas and Pamela Baker. We pray for those serving in the armed forces, especially Silvestre.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. In particular we pray for Les, Erin, Linda & family, Juanita, Jerry, Brenda, Shirley, Calvin, Bill, Raymond & Elaine, Mary, Elaine, Jack, Linda, Fred, Avery, Michael, Mason, Nellie, Leroy, Mary Ann, Katie, Jeff, Thalia, Craig, Barbara, Logan, Daphne, Rob, Wayne, Fay, Katrina, Teresa, and the Gill family.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin

All kneel.

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence.

Minister and People

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.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

Peace

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.
People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements

Announcements may be made at this point in the service.

Holy Communion

The Celebrant says

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

Offertory Hymn

Watchman, tell us of the night

Hymnal 640

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

Great Thanksgiving

The people 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 our thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God,
source of life and fountain of mercy.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

Sanctus

Celebrant and People

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.

Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. *AMEN.*

The Celebrant then continues

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

People and Celebrant

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.

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Blessed are those who are called to the Supper of the Lamb. Alleluia.
Whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.
Alleluia.

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.
Whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.
Alleluia.

Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our
land.
Whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.
Alleluia.

Mercy and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
Whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.
Alleluia.

Truth shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
Whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.
Alleluia.

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Communion Hymn

When We All Get to Heaven

LEVAS 20

1. Sing the won-drous love of Je-sus, Sing His mer-cy and His grace;
2. While we walk the pil-grim path-way, Clouds will o-ver-spread the sky;
3. Let us then be true and faith-ful, Trust-ing, serv-ing ev-'ry day;
4. On-ward to the prize be-fore us! Soon His beau-ty we'll be-hold;

1. In the man-sion bright and bless-ed, He'll pre-pare for us a place.
2. But when trav-'ling days are o-ver, Not a shad-ow, not a sigh.
3. Just one glimpse of Him in glo-ry Will the toils of life re-pay;
4. Soon the pearl-y gates will o-pen; We shall tread the streets of gold.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time. The first system consists of a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a bass clef staff. The second system also consists of a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp and a bass clef staff. The lyrics are placed between the two staves of each system.

When we all _____ get to heav - en, What a day of re-



When we all get to heav - en, What a

Detailed description: This system contains the first two lines of musical notation. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The lyrics are: "When we all _____ get to heav - en, What a day of re-". The first line of music ends with a fermata over the final note. The second line of music continues with the lyrics: "When we all get to heav - en, What a".

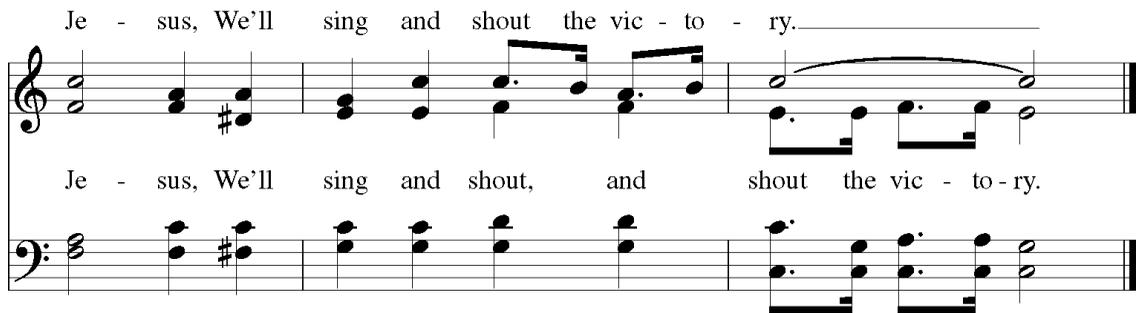
joic - ing that will be! _____ When we all _____ see



day of re - joic - ing that will be! When we all see

Detailed description: This system contains the second two lines of musical notation. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The lyrics are: "joic - ing that will be! _____ When we all _____ see". The first line of music ends with a fermata over the final note. The second line of music continues with the lyrics: "day of re - joic - ing that will be! When we all see".

Je - sus, We'll sing and shout the vic - to - ry. _____



Je - sus, We'll sing and shout, and shout the vic - to - ry.

Detailed description: This system contains the final two lines of musical notation. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, We'll sing and shout the vic - to - ry. _____". The first line of music ends with a fermata over the final note. The second line of music continues with the lyrics: "Je - sus, We'll sing and shout, and shout the vic - to - ry.". The system concludes with a double bar line.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Blessing

The priest blesses the people, saying

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.*

Postcommunion Hymn

Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes

Hymnal 72

Dismissal

Celebrant Alleluia, alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

News & Notes

Rebecca's Schedule: Rebecca will be at St. John's Corbin Tuesday, December 16 through Thursday, December 18. Her Sabbath Days will be Monday, December 15 and Friday, December 19. You may leave her a message by phoning the church office at 606-528-1659 or emailing priest-in-charge@stjohnscorbin.org.

Adult Forum: During December, we'll continue our discussion of *The Thirty-Nine Articles, BCP 867-876*. Come learn about this historic document, which guides our denomination. Are the *Articles* still relevant today? Join the discussion. There will be no Adult Forum on December 28.

Godly Play (Sunday School): The Godly Play program is for children and offered each Sunday morning at 10:00 am. All children are invited to participate in this special form of spiritual development.

Winter Coat Donations: The Rotary Club of Corbin is collecting 500 new winter coats, especially for boys and girls ages 3-9. Coats will be distributed at the Empty Stocking Fund party on December 22. If you'd like to donate a coat, bring it to church and give it to Rebecca. You can also make a financial contribution to Empty Stocking Fund and give it to Rebecca.

Donations for Christmas Flowers are being accepted until December 14. Donations can be made in Honor of, in Memory of or in Thanksgiving for a person or blessing. Envelopes are available in the parlor or put your offering in the plate marked, "Christmas Flowers."

Daughters of the King meets the third Wednesday of each month at 4:30pm. The next meeting is December 17. If you have special prayer requests or would like to join this prayer ministry, please contact Shelia Phillips.

Decorate the church, Sunday, December 21, after church. Bring your lunch and stay after church on December 21 to help us decorate for Christmas.

Youth grades 7-12 are invited to a retreat, "A New Year in the Spirit" at Cathedral Domain, Saturday, December 27 – until Tuesday, December 30. See Rebecca for more information.

Hymn Selection Group If you'd like to choose hymns for services, join this group. You will choose hymns for an upcoming service and then meet with the entire group to confirm the final selections. See Billy Hibbitts if you are interested.

Would you like to write Prayers of the People? If you are interested in writing these prayers (there are resources that can help with this task), please let Rebecca know by phone or email priest-in-charge@stjohnscorbin.org.

United Thank Offering. Remember to get your box for your thank offerings for this ministry of The Episcopal Church. The next collection will be in the spring.

Are you interested in assisting with the Sunday service? Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Crucifers, Altar Guild Members and choir members are all important for each Sunday service. If you're interested in serving, please let Rebecca know by phone 859-429-1659 or priest-in-charge@stjohnscorbin.org.

Serving Our Neighbors – See baskets in the parlor.

- Everlasting Arms, Corbin's shelter for people who are homeless, is in need of men's and women's razors, gloves, deodorant and socks.
- The Food Pantry at Corbin Presbyterian Church is always in need of nonperishable food items. Vegetables are especially appreciated.

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