

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2018 AT 8:00 AM

THE WORD OF GOD

✠ *Please stand as you are able.*

*The people's responses are in bold.*

ORGAN PRELUDE

✠ **OPENING HYMN** *Hark! the glad sound!*

Hymnal 73

✠ **OPENING ACCLAMATION**

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

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

✠ **THE COLLECT FOR PURITY**

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✠ **SUMMARY OF THE LAW**

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✠ **KYRIE**

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✠ **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Merciful God, who sent thy 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 liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**THE LESSON**

BARUCH 5: 1-9

*Lector* A Reading from the Book of the prophet Baruch.

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem,  
and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God.

Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God;  
put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting;  
for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven.

For God will give you evermore the name,  
"Righteous Peace, Godly Glory."

Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height;  
look toward the east,

and see your children gathered from west and east  
at the word of the Holy One,  
rejoicing that God has remembered them.

For they went out from you on foot,  
led away by their enemies;

but God will bring them back to you,  
carried in glory, as on a royal throne.

For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low  
and the valleys filled up, to make level ground,  
so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.

The woods and every fragrant tree  
have shaded Israel at God's command.

For God will lead Israel with joy,  
in the light of his glory,  
with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

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

**THE GRADUAL:** Canticle: The Song of Zechariah *Benedictus Dominus Israel*

*The canticle is said responsively.*

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.**

*Lector* A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians.

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, 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 compassion 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 is best, 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.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

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

✠THE GOSPEL

LUKE 3: 1-16

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

*People* **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, 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."

*Deacon* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Reverend Anthony Estes.

✠THE NICENE CREED

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✠THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE	BCP page 328
✠CONFESSION OF SIN	BCP page 330
✠THE PEACE	BCP page 332
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OFFERTORY	
✠HYMN <i>Let all mortal flesh keep silence</i>	Hymnal 324
✠THE DOXOLOGY	<i>Old Hundredth</i>

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

✠THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: PRAYER II	BCP page 333
✠THE LORD'S PRAYER	BCP page 336
✠THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD	BCP page 337
THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER	BCP page 339
THE BLESSING	
✠HYMN <i>Prepare the way, O Zion</i>	Hymnal 65
✠THE DISMISSAL	
<i>Deacon</i> Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.	
<i>People</i> <b>Thanks be to God.</b>	

## PARTICIPANTS IN THIS LITURGY

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Reverend Manisha Dostert, <i>Senior Associate Rector</i>
<i>Deacon &amp; Preacher</i>	The Reverend Anthony Estes
<i>Lector and Intercessor</i>	Dick Beaubien
<i>Organists</i>	Christopher Wells, <i>Director of Music and Organist</i> Nathan Costa, <i>Assistant Director of Music</i>



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