

**ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**Shawnee, Kansas**



**A SERVICE OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

December 13, 2020

## The Opening Hymn

*Days of Elijah*

### Verse 1

These are the days of Elijah  
Declaring the Word of the Lord  
And these are the days  
Of Your servant Moses  
Righteousness being restored  
And though these are days  
Of great trials  
Of famine and darkness and sword  
Still we are the voice  
In the desert crying  
Prepare ye the way of the Lord  
*[Chorus]*

### Chorus

Behold He comes  
Riding on the clouds  
Shining like the sun  
At the trumpet call  
So lift your voice  
It's the year of Jubilee  
And out of Zion's hill  
Salvation comes

### Verse 2

And these are the days of Ezekiel  
The dry bones becoming as flesh  
And these are the days  
Of Your servant David  
Rebuilding a temple of praise  
And these are the days of the harvest  
The fields are as white in the world  
And we are the labourers  
In Your vineyard  
Declaring the Word of the Lord  
*[Chorus]*

CCLI Song # 1537904

Robin Mark

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## THE WORD OF GOD

### The Opening Acclamation

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

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

### The 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 the Advent Wreath



Today we relight the first two candles of the Advent wreath, the candles of Hope and Peace. [The first two purple candles are lit.] Now we light the third candle of Advent, the candle of Joy. As the coming of Jesus, our Savior, draws nearer, our joy builds with our anticipation of his birth. [The single rose candle is lit.]

From the book of the prophet Isaiah, we hear: “But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight.” (65:18)

Let us pray: We joyfully praise you, O Lord, for the fulfillment of your promise of a Savior and what that means in our lives. Thank you for the gift of salvation through the birth of your son, Jesus. Create us anew as we wait, and help us to see your glory as you fill our lives with your living Spirit. **Amen.**

*Celebrant and People*

***Lord, have Mercy.***

***Christ, have Mercy.***

***Lord, have Mercy.***

### **Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant*      The Lord 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.**

**The Old Testament      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*  
*People*

The Word of the Lord.  
***Thanks be to God.***

**The Response    Psalm 126**

*In convertendo*

**1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, \*  
then were we like those who dream.**

**2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \*  
and our tongue with shouts of joy.**

**3 Then they said among the nations, \*  
"The LORD has done great things for them."**

**4 The LORD has done great things for us, \*  
and we are glad indeed.**

**5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, \*  
like the watercourses of the Negev.**

**6 Those who sowed with tears \*  
will reap with songs of joy.**

**7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \*  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

**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 Epistle    1 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.**

**Gospel Anthem**

*There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying*  
*The Hymnal 1982    #75*

1 There's a voice in the wilderness crying,  
a call from the ways untrod:  
Prepare in the desert a highway,  
a highway for our God!  
The valleys shall be exalted,  
the lofty hills brought low;  
make straight all the crooked places,  
where the Lord our God may go!

2 O Zion, that bringest good tidings,  
get thee up to the heights and sing!  
Proclaim to a desolate people  
the coming of their King.  
Like the flowers of the field they perish,  
like grass our works decay,  
the power and pomp of nations  
shall pass like a dream away;

3 but the word of our God endureth,  
the arm of the Lord is strong;  
he stands in the midst of nations,  
and he will right the wrong.  
He shall feed His flock like a shepherd,  
the lambs he'll gently hold;  
to pastures of peace he'll lead them,  
and bring them safe to his fold

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### **The Gospel            John 1: 6-8,19-28**

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

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.

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

Sermon      The Reverend Jonathan Brice



*This window is a detail from the church of St Etheldreda, Ely Place in London. Photo by Lawrence OP. [Flickr](#)*

**The Nicene Creed**

*All stand and say together.*

**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 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**



## **Prayers of the People**

**December 13, 2020**

### **The Third Sunday of Advent**

*Pleading for God's gift of a renewing Spirit, let us offer our prayers to God, saying:*  
***Lord, hear our prayer.***

That our lives may be songs of praise and thanksgiving rising from joyful hearts and proclaiming in every word we speak and gesture we make that God fills us with holy presence, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

That all those in our world held in captivity or any form of slavery may find liberation from the chains that bind them and new freedom for their hearts, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

That we may accept with courage God's anointing of our lives to share in the divine mission of rescue for the world, bringing justice and joy to all peoples, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

That we may reverently offer in service to the world the ministry of light which we hold in fragile human hands, this sharing in the saving work of Christ the Light, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

That the mercy of God which lasts from age to age may wash over us and bless us and stir up in us the bold courage to be its faithful prophets in our world, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

#### **In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for Full Communion Partner, the Old Catholic Churches of the Union of Utrecht

#### **In the World Council of Churches Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for the people of Cape Verde, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau and Senegal

#### **In the Kansas Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for St. Stephen's, Wichita

Let us pray to the Lord, ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

**For Those Serving in the Armed Forces:** Devon Allen; Murphy Bright; Ben Dible; Coy Goodman; Michael Green; Harvey Hayselden; Drew Hunnicutt; Benjamin Karpinski; Patrick McAnerney; Alex Shaw; Jose Te'o; Brian Wichaël; Collin Kelly; Macauley Garton; Frank Bednar; Grant Bednar

Let us pray to the Lord, ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

**For Health & Strength:** Jeanne and Bruce Miller; Keala Kauanui; Wayne White; Steve Osborne; Karen Mitchell; Tom Woodman and Frankie Woodman; Jerome; Christy and Family; Jim, Danny and Michelle; John Howell; Dixie Moss; Doug and Arlene Finney; Judy Ball; Charlene Lassiter; Charlie Luetje ; Barbara Alexander; Janet Kay; Dakota and Cyd Pfeiffer; Mililani Hayselden; Courtney Canova; Curtis Smith; Sandy Blascyk; James Johann; Maxine Liebst; Elizabeth Appleyard; Adam Griest; Roger Aton; Craig & Jeanette Burris; Anthony Straker; Jack Harris; “Spike” Speicher; the Hoffmann family, especially John Hoffman; Florence Kirkland; Michael Siragusa; Jeanne McDowell; Ken Hoag; Matt Hunnicut; Joanne Diviney; Geraldine; Richard Mann; Don Hoffman; Ginger Waters; Maxine Jones; Jonell Knodel; Athyana McElwee; Lana Rae, Evan Higgins; Homer Nash; Kristy Maendele; Deb Calloway, Jim Darnell, Stephanie Robertson and family; Budd Hughes;

Let us pray to the Lord, ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Dear Friends: It was our Lord Jesus himself who said, “Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.” Let us pray, then, for our brother Jon Hall, that he may rest from his labors, and enter into the light of God’s eternal sabbath rest.

**For Birthdays:** Brenda Carl; Lily Riddle; Ashley Wymer; Jason Wymer Jr.

Let us pray to the Lord, ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

*Send the spirit of Jesus upon us, O God, that we may be your songs of peace and joy in this world. We pray in the name of the one who is our peace and joy, Christ the Lord. Amen*

### **Birthday Prayer**

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **The Confession of Sin**

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

*Priest and People*

**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.**

*Priest*

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 Exchange of Peace**

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

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



### **The Offertory Sentence**

*Celebrant*

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

### **Offertory Anthem**

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

*Bell Choir Anthem*

### **The Presentation of Bread**



# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

## Eucharistic Prayer A

*Standing as you are able.*

*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.***

*Celebrant*

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 say this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*Celebrant*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*Celebrant*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.

**AMEN.**

*Celebrant*

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

**The Lord's Prayer**

*(All together)*

**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

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

### Post Communion Hymn

*I've Got Peace Like a River*

#### Verse 1

I've got peace like a river  
I've got peace like a river  
I've got peace like a river in my soul  
I've got peace like a river  
I've got peace like a river  
I've got peace like a river in my soul

#### Verse 2

I've got joy like a fountain  
I've got joy like a fountain  
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul  
I've got joy like a fountain  
I've got joy like a fountain  
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul

#### Verse 3

I've got love like an ocean  
I've got love like an ocean  
I've got love like an ocean in my soul  
I've got love like an ocean  
I've got love like an ocean  
I've got love like an ocean in my soul

CCLI Song # 2154963

Jeffrey Rickard

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*A spiritual communion is a devotional action that anyone can pray. It expresses the desire to receive Holy Communion at a moment where circumstances impede them from actually receiving the consecrated bread and wine.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim your resurrection. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.**

*Celebrant* 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.**

### **The Blessing**

*Priest*

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### **Announcements**

#### **The Closing Hymn**

*Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart  
The Hymnal 1982 #556*

Refrain:  
Rejoice, rejoice,  
rejoice, give thanks, and sing

1 Rejoice, ye pure in heart!  
Rejoice, give thanks and sing!  
Your glorious banner wave on high,  
the cross of Christ your King.  
(Refrain)

2 With all the angel choirs,  
with all the saints of earth,  
pour out the strains of joy and bliss,  
true rapture, noblest mirth.  
(Refrain)

3 Your clear hosannas raise.  
and alleluias loud;  
while answering echoes upward float,  
like wreaths of incense cloud.  
(Refrain)

4 Yes, on through life's long path,  
still chanting as ye go;  
from youth to age, by night and  
day,  
in gladness and in woe.  
(Refrain)

5 Still lift your standard high,  
still march in firm array,  
as warriors through the darkness  
toil,  
till dawns the golden day.  
(Refrain)

Words: Edward Hayes Plumptre (1821 – 1891)

Music: *Marion*, Arthur Henry Messiter (1834-1916)

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## The Dismissal

*Deacon* Alleluia. Alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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



Rector: The Rev. Jonathan Brice

Deacon: Karen Wichael

Director of Music Ministry: Jacob Hofeling

Technical Team: Dennis Phillips, Tom Schrempp, Wayne Fowler

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