

## Second Sunday of Advent

**Prelude**

*Savior of the Nations, Come*

J. S. Bach

### **Opening Hymn 76** “On Jordan’s bank, the baptist’s cry”

*The people standing, the Celebrant and says*

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*People* And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

*The Celebrant may say*

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 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.*

### **A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah 40:1-11**

Comfort, O comfort my people,  
says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her

that she has served her term,  
that her penalty is paid,

that she has received from the LORD's hand  
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

A voice says, “Cry out!”

And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All people are grass,  
    their constancy is like the flower of the field.  
The grass withers, the flower fades,  
    when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;  
    surely the people are grass.  
The grass withers, the flower fades;  
    but the word of our God will stand for ever.  
Get you up to a high mountain,  
    O Zion, herald of good tidings;  
lift up your voice with strength,  
    O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,  
    lift it up, do not fear;  
say to the cities of Judah,  
    “Here is your God!”  
See, the Lord GOD comes with might,  
    and his arm rules for him;  
his reward is with him,  
    and his recompense before him.  
He will feed his flock like a shepherd;  
    he will gather the lambs in his arms,  
and carry them in his bosom,  
    and gently lead the mother sheep.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

*People* Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13**

- 1 You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, \*  
    you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people \*  
    and blotted out all their sins.
- 8 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.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, \*  
    that his glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; \*  
    righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, \*  
    and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, \*  
    and our land will yield its increase.

13 Righteousness shall go before him, \*  
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

**A reading from second letter of Peter 3:8-15a**

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People* Thanks be to God.

**Gradual Hymn 54** "Savior of the nations, come"

**The Gospel: Mark 1:1-8** (*All stand.*)

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;  
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

*Deacon* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**Children's Sermon**

## **Sermon**

### **The Nicene Creed**

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,  
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, Form III**

*The Leader and People pray responsively.*

Father, we pray for your holy catholic church;  
*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the church may truly and humbly serve you;  
*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for our Presiding Bishop, Michael, for our bishops, Wayne and Kenneth, our bishop-elect, Kristin, for our clergy, Jason and Vahagn, and for all bishops, priests and deacons;  
*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacrament.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
*That there may be justice and peace on the earth*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest;  
*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for Patrick and all your saints who have entered into joy;  
*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

We give thanks for the lives of others whom you have shared with us; especially those celebrating their birthdays this week.  
*Let us be a blessing for them as they have been your blessing in our lives.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, especially those suffering from tragic events both natural and at human hands.

*Silence (during the silence the people may add their own petitions)*

And we give thanks for the benefits we and those around us have received.  
*Silence (during the silence the people may add their own petitions)*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

### **Confession**

*Deacon or Priest*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Minister 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.

### **Absolution**

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

*Priest* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* And also with you.

## Announcements

## The Offertory

**Offertory Anthem** *The Lord will Come and Not Be Slow* Zebulon Highben  
*The people's gifts of bread and wine, along with the collection, are brought to the Altar. (Please stand.)*

### Doxology

\*3 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise  
him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye  
heaven-ly host: praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### *Eucharistic Prayer B*

The Lord be with you.

*And also with you.*

Lift up your hearts.

*We lift them to the Lord.*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant 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. *Here a proper preface is said.*

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:

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, —

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Bless-ed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. —

Ho-san - na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.

*The Celebrant continues*

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,

*Celebrant and People*

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

*The Celebrant continues*

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. Patrick 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. AMEN.

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.

**The Breaking of the Bread**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

**Fraction Hymn**

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with some notes in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take away the". There are long horizontal lines under "Lamb", "of", "you", "take", and "away" to indicate that the notes are held for a longer duration. The piece ends with a double bar line.

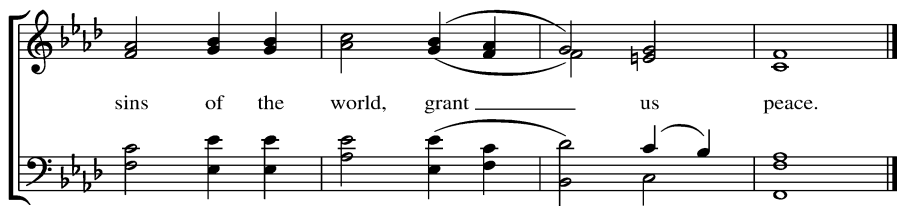




sins of the world, have — mer - cy on us.



Lamb — of God, you take — a - way the



sins of the world, grant — us peace.

### **The Invitation**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*All persons are invited to the Altar. If you choose to receive communion, you may do so in one of the following ways:*

- *Consume the bread first and then sip from the cup.*
- *Intinction is strongly discouraged however if you choose to intinct, please simply leave the wafer in your hands. The chalice bearer will dip the wafer for you then hand it back to you.*
- *Communion in one kind, or both, is acceptable. If you prefer to not receive the wine, you may proceed to your seat after receiving the bread.*
- *If you would like to receive a blessing only, please cross your hands over your chest as a signal to the ministers.*
- *If you want a gluten free wafer, please place your palms down when you approach the ministers.*

### **Communion Hymn 67 “Comfort, comfort ye my people”**

#### **Post Communion Prayer**

*After Communion, the Presider says*

Let us pray.

*Presider and People*

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**The Blessing**

**Closing Hymn 65** “Prepare the way, O Zion”

**Dismissal**

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

*People* Thanks be to God.

**Postlude**

*Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*

Johann Pachelbel