

December 5, 2021

Advent 2
Communion Service

For this service, Christ Church is using ACNA 1552 Order & BCP 2019.

Welcome!



Welcome to Advent 2021

Happy New Year! Once again it seems strange in our culture to wish one another Happy New Year on November 28th, but that is exactly what happens, all over the globe, as Christians enter the season of Advent. Advent means “coming”. It is a season of preparation and, as such, is the beginning of the Church’s year. We are preparing our hearts for the proper celebration of Christmas; that God has arrived as our “Rescuer” in the person of Jesus. We are at the same time simultaneously preparing for His second coming, another “Advent”, where He will complete the Kingdom that he inaugurated upon His first advent.

This year, we will spend the Advent season in the Year C Old Testament passages in the Lectionary. By looking into these Old Testament prophets, who were looking forward to our Lord’s first Advent, we can maintain an expectant perspective in our day, as well as a hopeful one.

Welcome to Advent 2021 dear Christ Church family. As we begin our journey, may this year be filled with authentic Holy Spirit transformation in each and every one of our lives.

Yours in Jesus alone,

Gene



The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Heavenly Father, you call us to repent of our sins: soften our proud and stubborn hearts.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you declared the forgiveness of God: teach us to forgive one another.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Holy Spirit, you search our hearts and show us the truth: direct us in your way of righteousness.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God, *who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive us our sins, open our eyes to God’s truth, strengthen us to do God’s will and give us the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make
 3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our
 4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -
 3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we
 4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy
 5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
 2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.
 3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.
 4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
 5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), after John Chandler (1806-1876); alt.
 Music: *Winchester New*, melody from *Musicalisches Hand-Buch*, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.

Surely the Lord is coming soon,
Amen. Come Lord Jesus!

Revelation 22:20

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.*

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

Matthew 22:37 – 40

Trisagion

solilo mp

Ho - ly God.

Ho - ly and might - y. Ho - ly im - mor - tal One, Have

mer - cy, have mer - cy, on us.

Ho - ly God. Ho - ly and might - y.

Ho - ly im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy, have mer - cy, on

us. *mf* Ho - ly God.

Ho - ly and might - y. Ho - ly im - mor - tal One, Have

mp mer - cy, have mer - cy, have mer - cy. Have

mer - cy, have mer - cy, on us.

Lyrics: Traditional; Music: Fernando Ortega; © 2011 Curb Songs (ASCAP/ Cerdo Verde Music (ASCAP), administered by Curb Songs. All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, *who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

The Children's Blessing & Prayer

The people sit.

The Old Testament Lesson

Malachi 3:1 – 5

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The people sit.

Psalm 126 (*Please pray in unison*)

- 1. When the Lord overturned the captivity 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. Indeed, the Lord has done great things for us already, whereof we rejoice.***
- 5. Overturn our captivity, O Lord, as when streams refresh the deserts of the south.***
- 6. Those who sow in tears shall reap with songs of joy.***
- 7. He who goes on his way weeping and bears good seed shall doubtless come again with joy and bring his sheaves with him.***

The Epistle

1 Corinthians 4:1 – 21

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, v. 3

Hymn 56

Verse 3

O come, O come, great Lord of might,
who to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times didst give the law,
in cloud, and majesty, and awe.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

The people remain standing.

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel

Luke 3:1 – 6

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sequence Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, v. 4

Hymn 56

Verse 4

O come, of Branch of Jesse's stem,
free them from Satan's tyranny,
that trust thy might power to save,
and give them victory o'er the grave.

Refrain

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal* 1940, alt.; Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937); Copyright: Words: © The Church Pension Fund

The people stand.

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible.

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 Lord’s Messenger”

The Prayers of the People

Watchful at all times, let us pray for strength to stand with confidence before our maker and redeemer.

The people sit or remain standing.

That God may bring in his kingdom with justice and mercy;

Let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That God may establish among the nations his scepter of righteousness;

Let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That we may seek Christ in the scriptures and recognize him in the breaking of the bread;

Let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That God may bind up the brokenhearted, restore the sick and raise up all who have fallen;

Let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That the light of God’s coming may dawn on all who live in darkness and the shadow of death;

Let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That, with all the saints in light, we may shine forth as lights for the world;

Let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

I invite you to add your own intercessions and thanksgivings at this time.

In communion with all the saints, let us commend the world to the mercy and protection of God. ***Amen.***

THE EXHORTATION

The Confession and Absolution

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Almighty and most merciful Father, *we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and apart from your grace, there is no health in us. O Lord have mercy upon us. Spare all those who confess their faults. Restore all those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear the words of assurance and encouragement our Savior Christ speaks to all who truly turn to him:

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. *1 Timothy 1:15 ESV*

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And with your spirit.

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

Announcements / Birthdays / Anniversaries

Birthdays:

RJ Middlemiss	11/29	Bea Shackelford	12/10
Bob Middlemiss	12/7	Carol Stefano	12/10
Rob Zawtock	12/7		

Anniversary:

Bob & Carroll Middlemiss	11/30 (47 years)
Josh & Megan Gilstrap	12/7 (7 years)

Question for Week 50

The New City Catechism

What does Christ's resurrection mean for us?

Christ triumphed over sin and death by being physically resurrected, so that all who trust in him are raised to new life in this world and to everlasting life in the world to come. Just as we will one day be resurrected, so this world will one day be restored. But those who do not trust in Christ will be raised to everlasting death.

(1 Thessalonians 4:13-14)

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

Offertory

Please stand.

Doxology

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Hymn 390, v. 4

Praise to the Lord!

O let all that is in me adore him!

All that has life and breath;

come now with praises before him!

Let the Amen sound from his people again;

Gladly forever adore him.

The people remain standing.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

We rejoice in him as is right and required.

Scripture teaches us always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. 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 glory to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore, with Angels and Archangels, and with all the saints in heaven, we praise and magnify your glorious name, forever praising you and saying:

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.

The people sit or stand.

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

All praise and glory belong to you, God our heavenly Father, because of your tender mercy you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, offering, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and instituted, and in his Holy Gospel commanded us to continue a perpetual memory of his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

Hear us, O merciful Father, and grant that we, receiving this bread and wine according to your Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me." **Amen.**

Communion Music

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Hymn 66

1 Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
 2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
 3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
 4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
 dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
 born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) | Music: *Stuttgart*, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andachtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715;
 adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

Here is Love

Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.
(1 John 4:10) that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (John 3:16)

1. Here is love, vast as the o - cean, Lov - ing - kind - ness as the flood,
 2. On the mount of cru - ci - fix - ion, Foun - tains o - pened deep and wide;
 3. Let me, all Thy love ac - cept - ing, Love Thee, ev - er all my days;
 4. In Thy truth Thou dost di - rect me By Thy Spir - it through Thy Word;

When the Prince of Life, our Ran - som, Shed for us His pre - cious blood.
 Through the flood - gates of God's mer - cy Flowed a vast and gra - cious tide.
 Let me seek Thy king - dom on - ly, And my life be to Thy praise;
 And Thy grace my need is meet - ing, As I trust in Thee, my Lord.

Who His love will not re - mem - ber? Who can cease to sing His praise?
 Grace and love, like might - y riv - ers, Poured in - ces - sant from a - bove,
 Thou a - lone shalt be my glo - ry, Noth - ing in the world I see;
 Of Thy full - ness Thou art pour - ing Thy great love and pow'r on me,

He can nev - er be for - got - ten, Through - out heav'n's e - ter - nal days.
 And heav'n's peace and per - fect jus - tice Kissed a guilt - y world in love.
 Thou hast cleansed and sanc - ti - fied me, Thou Thy - self hast set me free.
 With - out meas - ure, full and bound - less, Draw - ing out my heart to Thee.

Words: William Rees; v. 3-4 attr. to William Williams; tr. By William Edwards, pub. 1900. Music: "Cymraeg";
 Robert Lowry, 1876. Public Domain.

The people stand.

It is Well with My Soul

Spafford & Bliss

1. When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
 2. Tho' Sa - tan should buf - fet, tho' tri - als should come, let
 3. My sin- O, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous tho't- my
 4. And, Lord, haste the day when the faith - shall be sight, the

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll; What - ev - er my
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol; That Christ hath re -
 sin- not in part, but the whole; Is nailed to the
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll; The trump shall re -

lot, Thou hast taught me to say, "It is well, it is
 -gard - ed my help - less es - tate, and hath shed His own
 cross, and I bear it no more, praise the Lord, praise the
 -sound and the Lord shall de - scend, "E - ven so"- it is

well with my soul." It is well with my
 blood for my soul.
 Lord, O my soul!
 well with my soul.

soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

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Let us pray.

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, forever and ever. Amen.

O Lord and heavenly Father, we your humble servants entirely desire your fatherly goodness to mercifully accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; asking you to grant that by the merits and death of your Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all your whole Church may obtain forgiveness of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present to you, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice; humbly pleading, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may be filled with your grace and heavenly blessing.

And although we are unworthy, because of our many sins, to offer you any sacrifice, yet we pray that you will accept this, the duty and service we owe, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

By him, and with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory to you, Almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

The Blessing

The people respond: Amen.

The people stand.

Recessional Hymn

Blessed Be the King Whose Coming

Hymn 74

1 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of
 2 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of
 3 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of
 4 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of

God! For him let doors be opened, no hearts against him
 God! By those who truly listen his voice is truly
 God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of
 God! He of - fers to the bur - dened the rest and grace they

barred! Not robed in roy - al splen - dor, in
heard; pi - ty the proud and haugh - ty, who
God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All
need. Gen - tle is he and hum - ble! And

power and pomp, comes he; but clad as are the
have not learned to heed the Christ who is the
things are in his hand, all a - ges and all
light his yoke shall be, for he would have us

poor - est, such his hu - mil - i - ty!
Prom - ise, who has a - tone - ment made.
peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!
bear it so he can make us free!

Words: Frederico J. Pagura (b. 1923); tr. F. Pratt Green (b. 1903), alt. Copyright ©1974 by Hope Publishing Company. Music: *Valet will ich dir geben*, melody Melchior Teschner (1584-1635) alt.; harm. and desc. Ronald Arnatt (b. 1930) Copyright ©1984, Ronald Arnatt. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Text in Church – If you are a guest attending today, please text “welcome” to 440.517.4401 to keep up with Christ Church updates.

Let's Go Caroling Together – Please join us **today, December 5th** from 2:00-3:00 pm at the Avon Lake Public Library! Calling all volunteers who like to sing Christmas carols to meet us the library at 1:45 pm for an hour filled with joy! Please contact Gene with any questions.

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes – Thanks to everyone who donated to this ministry! A big shout out to Amy, Reesa & Evy Jackson for all your hard work managing this amazing outreach program!

Gifts for the Homebound – We are remembering our home bound parishioners this Christmas with a gift bag from our church family. If you wish to donate, please write “Homebound gifts” on memo line on your check. The bags will be ready on Sunday, December 12th and we would appreciate your help delivering them. For more information, please contact Iris at the church office, Jane Godfray (440) 476-8152, or Peggy Joyce (216) 225-8180. Thank you!

CRS Update – Your generosity provided (50) \$25 Giant Eagle gift cards to CRS for Thanksgiving. This month, we will focus our efforts on helping CRS provide food in the form of canned stew, chili, beef, chicken soups, or other canned / boxed items that will provide a meal to those in need. Specifically requested are canned foods with meat in them or canned meats such as chicken, ham, tuna, or Spam along with pasta or rice. Donations can be brought to church on Sundays. Our goal is to provide (50) \$25 Giant Eagle gift cards for Christmas as well! If you would prefer to make a monetary donation, please make your check out to CCW, and add CRS to the memo line.

Angel Tree – The deadline for receiving the gifts for the Angel Tree is Wednesday, December 8th! As always, thank you so much for your generosity!

Poinsettias for 2021 Christmas Services – The donation forms are available in the narthex and **the last day for signing up is Sunday, Dec. 19th**. The suggested offering is \$10 and may be given in memory of a loved one or as a thank offering. If you would like to order them online, please send an email to the office or contact Iris directly at 847-404-6335.

TrueNorth Chorale & Chamber Orchestra Concert

Saturday, December 17 7:00 p.m. Bay Presbyterian Church

Free-will offering, non-ticketed concert

Join us for an evening of familiar carols, masterworks, and a few surprises

Masks may be required for audience members

Needs & Blessings

Acoustic Guitar – If anyone is interested in an acoustic guitar, it is free for the taking. Please contact Laura Sant at 440-387-7968.

Full-time administrative staff position Howard Hanna Crocker Road, Westlake office.

Position requires attention to detail, computer skills, ability to monitor and meet deadlines, and work with a variety of personalities (i.e., patience a must!). For more information, contact Sybil Mundy (440-522-2504).



Sermon Text: Malachi 3:1 – 5

“Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. ²But 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 fullers' soap. ³He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

⁵“Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.



Giving

**The flowers at the Altar are given to the glory of God
By Bob & Carroll Middlemiss
In celebration of
RJ's birthday on 11/29, Bob & Carroll's anniversary on 11/30,
& Bob's birthday on 12/7!**

2021 Financials

Through Sunday	11/28/2021
Current Month Budget	\$29,600
Current Month Actual	\$22,217
YTD Budget	\$365,200
YTD Actual	\$359,157
Annual 2021 Budget	\$400,000

Attendance for 11/28/2021

8:00 a.m. — 20

10:30 a.m. — 70

Wednesday — 10

Online — 35