



*Christ Episcopal Church
1521 N. Patterson St.
Valdosta, GA*



December 13, 2020

10:00 AM

Third Sunday of Advent

Rite II

Welcome to Christ Church!

.....
For this Service we will use the Red Book of Common Prayer (BCP) and the Blue Hymnal

THE WORD

Opening Hymn – *Hark! A thrilling Voice is Sounding*

Hymnal 59

Opening Salutation:

BCP 355

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

Response: ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.***

Collect for Purity

BCP 355

Trisagion

Hymnal S102

Collect of the Day

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.***

Lesson

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.

Psalm 126 (Unison)

BCP 782

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.**

Second Lesson

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.

Gospel Hymn – *On Jordon's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

Hymnal 76

The Gospel

John 1:6-8, 19-28

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.

The Sermon – The Rev. Dave Johnson

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

The Prayers of the People, Form IV

BCP 388

Please join in saying the Prayer attributed to St. Francis

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Confession of Sin

BCP 360

The Peace

BCP 360

Announcements

Doxology

Hymnal 380 vs. 3

THE EUCHARIST

Eucharistic Prayer A	BCP 361
Sanctus (spoken)	BCP 362
The Lord's Prayer	BCP 364
Fraction Anthem (spoken)	BCP 364
The Communion	BCP 338

Spiritual Communion

When we are unable to receive the Bread and Wine of the Holy Sacrament because of extreme sickness, physical disability, or, as in our present cause, the cancelation of public service to prevent the spread of infection, we can be assured that all the benefits of Communion are received. The follow prayer from the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament, or some other prayer, may be said.

In union, dear Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from you. Let me live and die in your love. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving	BCP 365
Hymn – <i>Watchman Tell Us of the Night</i>	Hymnal 640
Dismissal	
Response: <i>Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!</i>	
Postlude – <i>E'en So Lord Jesus Quickly Come</i>	Paul Manz