

THE FALLS CHURCH EPISCOPAL

FOUNDED 1732

*A welcoming community called to be an enduring
beacon of faith, hope, and love to all.*



The Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021

Prelude

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Hymn 68

Rejoice! Rejoice, believers

Llangloffan

Opening Acclamation

(EOW I, p. 50)

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People **You come to set your people free. Amen.**

Celebrant 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.**

Kyrie S-91

Lord, have mercy

Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena

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

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

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

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

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

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant

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 First Lesson (*seated*)

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

The Lord has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.

The Lord, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing
as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.
And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.
At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

The First Song of Isaiah

Isaiah 12:2-6

Ecce Deus

**Surely, it is God who saves me; *
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.
And on that day you shall say, *
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
or the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.**

The Epistle (*seated; 11:15 service only*)

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

Sequence Hymn 61

"Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us

Wachet auf

The Gospel (*all standing*)

Luke 3:7-18

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev'd. Burl Salmon

A period of silence follows the homily. Please stand when the Celebrant stands for the Creed.

The Nicene Creed (*all standing*)

(BCP p. 358)

Celebrant and People

**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:**

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 Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively while standing.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

A brief silence.

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For Joe, our President; Ralph, our Governor; David, our Mayor; and this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Susan, Jennifer, and Porter our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in God's Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We offer prayers for those on our parish prayer list, especially Detura and Rita.

Silence

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence. The People may add their own thanksgivings.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

Celebrant We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant 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

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

Welcome & Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory

9:00 a.m.

“Rejoice, Rejoice Believers”

Swedish Folk Tune

Gideon’s Trumpet

11:15 a.m.

“There shall a star come out of Jacob”

Felix Mendelssohn

(1809-1847)

The Historic Church Choir

During the offertory anthem you are invited to make a gift to God’s mission at the Falls Church Episcopal through Realm (see QR code), on the website, by Texting TFCE at 73256, or by using the plate.



Give Now Online!

You may “Give Now” electronically in one of the three ways
(1) Scanning the QR code with your smartphone; (2) Visiting
<https://onrealm.org/thefallschurch/-/give/now> or (3)
Texting TFCE at 73256 to give using text messaging.

Presentation Hymn 56

O come, o come Emmanuel

Veni, Veni Emmanuel

(vs. 6)

O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death’s dark shadow put to flight.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Sursum Corda S-120

Lift up your hearts

Presider *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Presider *People*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Presider

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give God 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 sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

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 power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

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

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

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

Then 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;

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 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.**

The Celebrant then continues

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

A period of silence is kept.

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

The Invitation to Communion

All baptized Christians are welcome and invited to receive Holy Communion at this time. Should you desire to receive, the ushers will direct you to one of the stations where the clergy will offer you the host (Communion in one kind only) by gently dropping the wafer in your

cupped hands while avoiding touching your hands. Please then step aside and consume the host, then quietly return to your seat.

Communion Hymn 490 I want to walk as a child of the light *Houston*

Postcommunion Prayer (BCP, p. 366)

Celebrant Let us pray.

People and Celebrant

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Blessing (BOS, p. 9)

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn 59

Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding

Merton

Dismissal

(BCP, p. 366)

Gospeler

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

+ + + + +

Celebrant

The Rev'd. Matthew Dumont-Machowski

Preacher

The Rev'd. Burl Salmon

+ + + + +

The Parish Prayer List

For Healing in Body, Mind, and Spirit

Immediate Needs

Detura, Rita

Long Term Prayers

Robert, Megan, Peter, Tom, Sam, Susan,
George, Michael, Eduardo, Robin, Nessa

Family and Friends

Michael, Chris, Claire, Claire, Sue, the James family

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THE FALLS CHURCH
EPISCOPAL
FOUNDED 1732

The Falls Church is a parish of The Episcopal Church, a member of the worldwide Anglican Communion.
We share ministry with Christians in the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia.

The Most Rev'd. and Rt. Hon. Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury
The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop and Primate, The Episcopal Church
The Rt. Rev. Susan Goff, Bishop Suffragan and Ecclesiastical Authority, Diocese of Virginia
The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, Assistant Bishop
The Rt. Rev. Porter Taylor, Assisting Bishop

Vestry

vestry@thefallschurch.org

Paul Rosbolt (Senior Warden), Margaret Stromecki (Junior Warden), Erin Cline (Stewardship Warden), Roger Cline (Building & Grounds), Scott Cole (Invite-Welcome-Connect, Hospitality), Nick Donlan (Finance), Amanda Dupree (Communications, Personnel, Vestry Liaison), Krista Gauthier (Children & Families), Christine Gilbert (Communications, Stewardship, Vestry Liaison), Geoff Kannan (Pastoral Care, Worship & Music), Jill Kettler (Outreach), Barb Mantegani (Racial Justice), Tom Disantis, Treasurer (Finance), Megan Patrick, Registrar (Youth)

Clergy and Staff

The Rev'd. Burl Salmon, Rector
The Rev'd. Matthew Dumont-Machowski, Associate Rector
Julie Huang Tucker, Director of Music
D'Oniece Shaw Dillard, Parish Administrator
The Rev'd. Ellie Bangay, Director of Communication and Digital Ministries
Lauren Breeden, Director of Children's and Family Ministries
John Wunderlich IV, Director of Youth Ministries
Lynden James, Building & Grounds Supervisor
Claire Hardie, Financial Assistant

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