

# WEDNESDAYS IN ADVENT 2021

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

*Celebrant and People*

*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.*

**Gloria** *Spoken in unison.*

*Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heav'nly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

**The 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 Lesson**

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.

*At the conclusion of the reading, the following is said:*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. ***Thanks be to God.***

**Canticle 9** *Prayed in unison*

The First Song of Isaiah

Isaiah 12:2-6

***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, \*  
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.***

***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**

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.

*At the conclusion of the reading, the following is said:*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. ***Thanks be to God.***

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

**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.

*At the conclusion of the reading of the Gospel, the following is said.*

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

### **The Prayers of the People**

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for the Anglican Church of Canada; and in our own diocese we pray for All Saints' Church, Rehoboth Beach and St. George's Chapel, Harbeson. We pray also for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for Kevin, our bishop, and for all bishops and other ministers.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, especially those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries next week: Katie, Alyse, Leslie, Dulce, Michael, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially Adam, Ed, Susan, Ann, Joe, Kim, Anne, Stephanie, Paul, Vasilina, Damaris, Kevin, Margaret, Marleen, Steve, Carson, and all those suffering from the coronavirus; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Sally Montigney, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

### **The Concluding Collect**

Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. ***Amen.***

*Celebrant*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Celebrant 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.***



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,

***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 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.***

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

***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**

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!***

The gifts of God for the people of God.

## **Post Communion Prayer**

*Celebrant and People*

*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**

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.*

## **The Dismissal**

Let us bless the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God.*

## **Christmas at Trinity and Old Swedes**

### **December 24 – Christmas Eve**

- 3:45 pm      Worship service of Holy Eucharist with Pageant at Trinity Church  
*Pre-Service Music Recital will begin at 3:45 pm*
- 7 pm          Celebración de Las Posadas y Noche Buena en Español en la Iglesia de la  
Trinidad
- 10:15 pm     Candlelight Service with Holy Eucharist at Old Swedes Church  
*Pre-Service Music Recital will begin at 10:15 pm*

### **December 25 – Christmas Day**

- 12 pm        Holy Eucharist Worship Service at Trinity Church

### **December 26—Christmas I**

- 8 am, 10 am   Holy Eucharist Worship Service in English at Trinity Church
- 12 pm        Celebración de la Santa Misa.

### **January 2—Christmas II**

- 8 & 10 am    Lessons and Carols



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