



CHRIST CHURCH  
VERO BEACH

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

**December 14, 2025 | 10:30AM**

*Third Sunday in Advent*



*Please observe a prayerful silence before the service.*

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The liturgy provided here is from the *ACNA Book of Common Prayer* 2019.

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## CALL TO WORSHIP

### **O Come Let Us Adore Him**

1. O come let us adore Him  
O come let us adore Him  
O come let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord
2. For You alone are worthy  
For You alone are worthy  
For You alone are worthy  
Christ the Lord
3. We'll give You all the glory  
We'll give You all the glory  
We'll give You all the glory  
Christ the Lord

Authors: C. Frederick Oakeley; John; Francis Wade; Matt Redman; Teri Bryant;  
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## LIGHTING OF ADVENT 3 CANDLE

# PROCESSIONAL HYMN

## Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

3. Come to earth to taste our sadness  
He whose glories knew no end  
By his life he brings us gladness  
Our Redeemer Shepherd Friend  
Leaving riches without number  
Born within a cattle stall  
This the everlasting wonder  
Christ was born the Lord of all

Authors: Charles Wesley; Rowland Hugh Prichard;  
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## THE ACCLAMATION

*The **People** standing:*

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

PEOPLE And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

## THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

**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 SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Jesus said: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a 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)

## THE KYRIE

CELEBRANT        Lord, have mercy upon us.  
PEOPLE            **Christ, have mercy upon us.**  
CELEBRANT        Lord, have mercy upon us.

## SONG OF EXPECTATION

### O Come, O Come Emmanuel

5. O come, thou Key of David,  
come, and open wide our heavenly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery. (*Refrain*)

*Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel!*

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. (*Refrain*)

words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. Hymnal 1940, alt.  
music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890)

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

CELEBRANT      The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE          **And with your spirit.**

CELEBRANT      Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise make ready your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient toward the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world, we may be found a people acceptable in your sight; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## THE LESSONS

A Reading from **Isaiah 35:1-10**

Pew Bible pg. 595-596

<sup>1</sup> The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;

<sup>2</sup> it shall blossom abundantly  
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the Lord,  
the majesty of our God.

<sup>3</sup> Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble knees.

<sup>4</sup> Say to those who have an anxious heart,  
"Be strong; fear not!

Behold, your God  
will come with vengeance,  
with the recompense of God.  
He will come and save you."

<sup>5</sup> Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
<sup>6</sup> then shall the lame man leap like a deer,  
 and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.  
 For waters break forth in the wilderness,  
 and streams in the desert;  
<sup>7</sup> the burning sand shall become a pool,  
 and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
 in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,  
 the grass shall become reeds and rushes.  
<sup>8</sup> And a highway shall be there,  
 and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;  
 the unclean shall not pass over it.  
 It shall belong to those who walk on the way;  
 even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.  
<sup>9</sup> No lion shall be there,  
 nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;  
 they shall not be found there,  
 but the redeemed shall walk there.  
<sup>10</sup> And the ransomed of the Lord shall return  
 and come to Zion with singing;  
 everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
 they shall obtain gladness and joy,  
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. (ESV)

READER            The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE            **Thanks be to God.**

A responsive reading of **Psalm 146**

BCP pg 463-464

<sup>1</sup> Praise the Lord, O my soul; \*  
 while I live I will praise the Lord.

<sup>2</sup> **Indeed, as long as I have my being, \***  
**I will sing praises unto my God.**

<sup>3</sup> Put not your trust in princes, nor in any child of man, \*

for there is no help in them.  
<sup>4</sup> **For when one breathes his last, he shall return again  
to the earth, \***  
**and in that day all his thoughts perish.**  
<sup>5</sup> Blessed is the one who has the God of Jacob for his help \*  
and whose hope is in the Lord his God,  
<sup>6</sup> **Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is therein; \***  
**who keeps his promise for ever;**  
<sup>7</sup> Who does right to those who suffer wrong; \*  
and who feeds the hungry.  
<sup>8</sup> **The Lord sets prisoners free; \***  
**the Lord gives sight to the blind.**  
<sup>9</sup> The Lord helps those who have fallen; \*  
the Lord loves the righteous..  
<sup>10</sup> **The Lord cares for the strangers in the land; he defends  
the fatherless and widow; \***  
**but the way of the ungodly he makes crooked.**  
<sup>11</sup> The Lord shall be King for evermore, \*  
even your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Praise the Lord.

## A Reading from **James 5:7-20**

Pew Bible pg. 1013

<sup>7</sup> Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup> You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. <sup>9</sup> Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. <sup>10</sup> As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

<sup>12</sup> But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your “yes” be yes and your “no” be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

<sup>13</sup> Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. <sup>14</sup> Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup> And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup> Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. <sup>17</sup> Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. <sup>18</sup> Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

<sup>19</sup> My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, <sup>20</sup> let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins. (ESV)

READER            The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE            **Thanks be to God.**

## SEQUENCE HYMN

### **The Light of Christ**

*Refrain: The light of Christ has come into the world,  
the light of Christ, has come into the world.*

1. We must all be born again to see the Kingdom of God,  
the water and the Spirit bring new life in God's love. (*Refrain*)
2. God gave up His only Son out of love for the world,  
so that all who believe in Him will live forever. (*Refrain*)



# THE GOSPEL

DEACON        The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
PEOPLE        **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

## Matthew 11:2-19

Pew Bible pg. 816

<sup>2</sup> Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup> and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" <sup>4</sup> And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup> the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>6</sup> And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

<sup>7</sup> As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup> What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. <sup>9</sup> What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup> This is he of whom it is written,

"Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way before you.'

<sup>11</sup> Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. <sup>12</sup> From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. <sup>13</sup> For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, <sup>14</sup> and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. <sup>15</sup> He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

<sup>16</sup> "But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

<sup>17</sup> "We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;  
we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.'

<sup>18</sup> For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ <sup>19</sup> The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.” (ESV)

DEACON            The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Sequence Hymn continues*

*Refrain:    The light of Christ has come into the world,  
              the light of Christ, has come into the world.*

3. The light of God has come to us so that we might have salvation;  
from the darkness of our sins we walk into glory with Christ Jesus. (*Refrain*)

Words and music by Donald E. Fishel; © 1974 International Liturgy Publications  
CCLI 3001024

SERMON

CANON KEITH ALLEN

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 begotten 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 from the Holy Spirit and 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 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, 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

*Let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying “hear our prayer” following each petition read aloud.*

LITANIST            Lord, in your mercy,  
PEOPLE            **hear our prayer.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

**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.**

*The Celebrant pronounces the Absolution over the People*

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.**

## THE PEACE

CELEBRANT      The peace of the Lord be always with you.

PEOPLE          **And with your spirit.**

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

# THE MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT

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OFFERTORY

*Creator of the Stars of Night*

John Mason Neale

**Doxology** (*Old Hundredth*)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below.  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

CELEBRANT All things come from you, O Lord,  
PEOPLE **And of your own have we given you.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

CELEBRANT The Lord be with you.  
PEOPLE **And with your spirit.**  
CELEBRANT Lift up your hearts.  
PEOPLE **We lift them up to the Lord.**  
CELEBRANT Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
PEOPLE **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant continues*

It is right, our duty and our joy, 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 we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Celebrant and **People** sing*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of power and might, (repeat)**  
**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest. (repeat)**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest (repeat).**

*The Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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 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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## THE FRACTION

CELEBRANT      Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

PEOPLE          Therefore let us keep the feast.

## THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

**We do not presume to come to this your table, O 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.**

## AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
**have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
**have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
**grant us your peace.**

## THE MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion.*

## COMMUNION MUSIC

### 1. He Will Come and Save You

Say to those who are fearful hearted,  
"Do not be afraid"; The Lord,  
Your God, is strong with His mighty arms.  
When you call on His Name; He will come and save.



*Refrain: He will come and save you; (repeat)*  
*Say to the weary one, "Your God will surely come,"*  
*He will come and save you.*  
*He will come and save you. (repeat)*  
*Lift up your eyes to Him, you will arise again,*  
*He will come and save you.*

Say to those who are broken hearted,  
"Do not lose your faith"; The Lord,  
Your God, is strong with his loving arms.  
When you call on His Name; He will come and save.

He is our refuge in the day of trouble,  
He is our shelter in the time of storm;  
He is our tower in the day of sorrow,  
our fortress in the time of war. *(Refrain)*

words: Bob Fitts/Gary Sadler; ©1995 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; CCLI 3001024

## **2. Let's Just Praise the Lord**

We thank You for Your kindness  
We thank You for Your love  
We've been in heav'nly places  
Felt blessings from above  
We've been sharing all the good things  
The fam'ly can afford  
Let's just turn our praise t'ward heaven  
And praise the Lord

*Refrain: Let's just praise the Lord  
Praise the Lord  
Let's just lift our hands t'ward heaven  
And praise the Lord  
Let's just praise the Lord  
Praise the Lord  
Let's just lift our hands t'ward heaven  
And praise the Lord*

Just the precious name of Jesus  
Is worthy of our praise  
Let us bow our knee before Him  
Our hands to heaven raise  
When He comes in clouds of glory  
With Him to ever reign  
Let's lift our happy voices  
And praise His dear name

Song: Gloria Gaither; William J. Gaither  
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## THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

CELEBRANT

Let us pray.

**Heavenly Father, 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.**

## BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN

### **Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee**

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,  
God of glory, Lord of love;  
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,  
praising thee, their sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;  
drive the dark of doubt away;  
giver of immortal gladness,  
fill us with the light of day.
2. All thy works with joy surround thee,  
earth and heaven reflect thy rays,  
stars and angels sing around thee,  
center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
blooming meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird and flowing fountain,  
call us to rejoice in thee.

3. Thou art giving and forgiving,  
ever blessing, ever blest,  
well-spring of the joy of living,  
ocean-depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother:  
all who live in love are thine;  
teach us how to love each other,  
lift us to the joy divine.

words: Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933)  
music: Hymn to Joy, Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827); adapt. Edward Hodges (1796-1867), alt.

## DISMISSAL

DEACON	Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.
PEOPLE	<b>Thanks be to God.</b>

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## NOTES









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