The Holy Eucharist
The First Sunday of Advent

December 2, 2018

9:00 AM
Newcomers and visitors, the community of Saint Mark’s welcomes you. We hope that you will feel at home in this place and in this liturgy. Ushers are available during the liturgy as well as greeters and clergy following, should you have any questions or concerns. Mothers are most welcome to breastfeed their infants during the service. Children of any age are always welcome at Saint Mark’s liturgies. In addition, child care during services is available in the Child Care Center, located in the west end of the cathedral building. You may reach the Child Care Center through the southwest doors of the nave, or by taking the elevator to the 5th floor. Ushers will guide you.

During the season of Advent, the 9 a.m. Sunday Eucharist will be employing liturgical texts adapted from Prayers for an Inclusive Church, a work published in 2008 by Dr. Steven Shakespeare, Senior Lecturer in Philosophy at Liverpool Hope University in the U.K. In this work, Dr. Shakespeare has written a complete sequence of idiosyncratic and poetic collects which respond to the appointed readings for the entire three-year lectionary cycle. The book also contains Eucharistic prayers, confessions, prayers after Communion, and other liturgical texts intended for the Anglican liturgy.

His goal, according to the book’s introduction, was to “revitalize the art of formal prayer,” by “bringing the experiences of exclusion and liberation into dialogue with the [Lectionary’s] scriptural texts, always ready to be surprised by the power of both to reveal new dimensions of salvation.” To this end, Shakespeare frequently employs unfamiliar images and concepts, seeking to “jar us out of preconceived and limiting images” of the Divine. Some of his most unsettling images, however, are those that are drawn most directly from the Biblical texts. “Prayer should not be alienating,” he says, “nor should it be too comfortable.”

Out of respect for the liturgy we are about to celebrate, please turn off all cell phones and audible devices. Please, no photography during the liturgy.

The Reverend Cristi Chapman, Curate, Presider
The Very Reverend Steven L. Thomason, Dean and Rector of Saint Mark’s Cathedral, Preacher
A brief organ voluntary offered a few minutes before the hour bids all to keep silence for prayer and preparation.

Prelude Meditation on “My Lord, what a morning” Richard Billingham (b. 1934)

Please stand when the bells begin ringing.

Procession The Choir and ministers enter to the sound of bells.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Presider Behold, the Lord will come, and all his saints with him,
Assembly and on that day there will be a great light. Alleluia.

Opening Acclamation

Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
Assembly Glory to God for ever and ever.

Trisagion Sung by all, three times. Alexander Arkhangelsky (1846–1924)

COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Presider God be with you.
Assembly And also with you.
Presider Let us pray.

Urgent God,
breaking through the static to speak to our hearts:
disarm our love of control
and reveal your glory in the light of love;
through Jesus Christ,
the one who is to come.

All Amen.
Psalm 25:1, 3–8

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; * let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me. ANTIPHON

3 Show me your ways, O Lord, * and teach me your paths.

4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, * for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long. ANTIPHON

5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, * for they are from everlasting.

6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; * remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord. ANTIPHON

7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; * therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

8 He guides the humble in doing right * and teaches his way to the lowly. ANTIPHON
READING  
1 Thessalonians 3:9–13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Reader  Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
Assembly  Thanks be to God.

After a brief silence the Presider stands; all rise as able for the proclamation of the Gospel.

GOSPEL PROCESSION
Children are invited to join the Gospel Procession, and gather around as the Gospel is proclaimed.
Children in preschool through second grade are then invited to Children’s Chapel in Thomsen Chapel.
They will return at the Peace. Parents are welcome to join their children.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Sung by all three times. (The verse below is sung over the refrain.)

music from the Taizé community

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord; be strong, take heart!

℣. The glory of the Lord shall be revealed. All the earth will see the Lord.
Jesus said, “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
Assembly Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Very Reverend Steven L. Thomason

All rise as able.

THE NICENE CREED

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

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, 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 ASSEMBLY

After each petition:

Intercessor  We look to you in hope,
Assembly  Come, Lord Jesus, come.

The Presider concludes the prayers with a collect. All respond: Amen.

CONFESSION

Deacon  Let us confess our brokenness to God.
You are invited to stand or kneel for the confession.

Deacon  Gracious God,
All  We prefer to hide in the shadows of fear;
You beckon us into the light of your love.
Silence

Deacon  Lord, have mercy.
Assembly  Lord, have mercy.

Deacon  Patient God,
All  We turn our backs on the needs of our common world;
You promise mercy and healing for the whole earth.
Silence

Deacon  Christ, have mercy.
Assembly  Christ, have mercy.

Deacon  Loving God,
All  We worship elusive idols of prestige and power;
You come near in the vulnerable Word made flesh.
Silence

Deacon  Lord, have mercy.
Assembly  Lord, have mercy.

The Presider pronounces God’s forgiveness of our sins. All respond: Amen.

THE PEACE

Presider  Christ’s judgment is not vengeance: an eye for an eye;
his peace is not a veil for injustice:
he holds the suffering with us;
he comes to break the spear, to silence the guns, and still our warring souls.
May the peace of Christ rule our world and heal our hearts.
The peace of Christ be with you always.

Assembly  And also with you.
All greet one another in the name of Christ.
THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

OFFERTORY
An offering of money is received. Everyone worshipping this morning is invited to make an offering as an expression of gratitude for God’s generosity. Many support Saint Mark’s through pledged offerings made by credit card or via mail. Together our gifts make possible this community of welcome, reconciliation and service.

CAROL  People, look East

WORDS: Besançon Carol, harm. Michael Kleinschmidt
MUSIC: Eleanor Farjeon (1881–1965)

People, look East. The time is near
Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the guest, is on the way.
Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
One more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
That in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the rose, is on the way.

People, look East. The time is near
Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the guest, is on the way.
Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
One more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
That in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the rose, is on the way.

The bread, wine and money we offer to God are brought forward and presented at the altar table.
When the Presider stands, all rise as able.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider  The Lord be with you.
Assembly  And also with you.

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

Presider  Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
Assembly  It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Presider  Eternal God, Mystery of winter skies, we thank you in the darkening hour for opening our eyes to your starlit beauty; for parting the wide heavens with your persistent light; for offering your Word to take our mortal flesh.
In the fullness of time, a child was promised by those who shared your dream of peace; John the Baptist cleared his way with words of desert fire; Mary and Joseph welcomed his coming with tenderness and faith; we trust that he draws near again to show us our true selves.
Now we take up the song of hope, with angels and saints and all the company of heaven, that the world might awaken to his coming and be touched by his glory:

**SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS**  New Plainsong

Daivd Hurd (b. 1950)

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### Presider

We ask that your Holy Spirit fall upon us and upon these gifts, that these fragile, earthly things may be to us the body and blood of our Lord and brother, Jesus Christ.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom. He took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: ‘This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’

In the same way after supper, he took the cup of wine, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.’

As on that night, so here and now he offers himself in touch and taste beyond all that words can hold. And so we proclaim the great mystery of faith, saying:

**All**  Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

### Presider

With these gifts we are filled with the life-giving presence of Christ; we proclaim him as creation’s host, transforming poverty into plenty with his generous love.

Inspire us with the hope that one day death and greed will be no more, and people will come from east and west, north and south to share a feast of abundance.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be yours, Mother of blessings, for ever and ever.

**All**  AMEN.
THE LORD’S PRAYER

In silence, the Presider breaks the consecrated bread.

FRACTION ANTHEM  New Plainsong

The Hymnal 1982 #5-149, from Music For the Lord’s Supper. ©1984 Theodore Presser Company

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Presider  The gifts of God for the people of God.
All seeking God are welcome at Christ’s Table.

Communion is distributed at standing stations at the head of each aisle.
If you need communion brought to your seat, please let an usher know.
Rice wafers for those who do not eat wheat are available at the Presider’s communion station at the center aisle.

- Hold out your hand to receive the bread and then eat. Guide the chalice of wine to your mouth and then drink.
- Or you may leave the bread in your hand for the chalice bearer to dip in the wine and feed you.
- To receive a blessing instead of communion, simply cross your arms over your chest.

COMMUNION VOLUNTARY  Organ Improvisation

HYMN  Signs of endings all around us  

WORDS: Dean W. Nelson (b. 1944)  
MUSIC: Ton-y-Botel, Thomas John Williams (1869–1944)

1. Signs of end-ings all a-round us: dark-ness, death, and win-ter days
2. Can it be that from our end-ings, new be-gin-nings you cre-ate?
3. Speak, O God, your Word a-mong us; bar-ren lives your pre-sence fill.

shroud our lives in fear and sad-ness, numb-ing mouths that long to praise.
Life from death, and from our rend-ings, realms of whole-ness ge-ne-rate?
Swell our hearts with songs of glad-ness, ter-rors calm, fore-bod-ings still.

Come, O Christ, and dwell a-mong us! Hear our cries, come set us free.
Take our fears, then, Lord, and turn them in-to hopes for life a-new:
Let your pro-mised realm of jus-tice blos-som now through-out the earth;

Give us hope and faith and glad-ness, Show us what there yet can be.
Fad-ing light and dy-ing sea-son sing their Glo-ri-as to you.
your do-min-ion bring now near us; we a-wait the sav-ing birth.

Wonder, Love, and Praise #721, words: © 1988 Dean W. Nelson; music: public domain
All rise as able.

SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Presider  One body are we.
Assembly  For, though many, we share one bread and one cup.
Deacon  Go in peace, bearing holy gifts for holy people.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Presider  Eternal God,
All  we thank you that in Christ
you have fed us with the bread of life:
may we who have tasted your bounteous gifts
proclaim this good news to the ends of the earth,
that all people might come to know
that you dwell in our midst,
eager to greet your creation
with abounding love and mercy;
we ask this in the name of Christ. Amen.

BLESSING

Presider  May the God who brings heaven close to earth give you true wisdom,
a fierce longing,
and a pregnant hope,
that your hearts may be prepared to be born again in love,
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Assembly  Amen.

HYMN 72  Hark! the glad sound! ◆ The Hymnal 1982 #72
stanzas 1, 3 & 4

DISMISSAL

Deacon  Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
Assembly  Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY  Chorale Prelude on Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, bwv 599
J.S. Bach (1685–1750)
[tune of Hymn #54 “Savior of the nations, come!”]

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