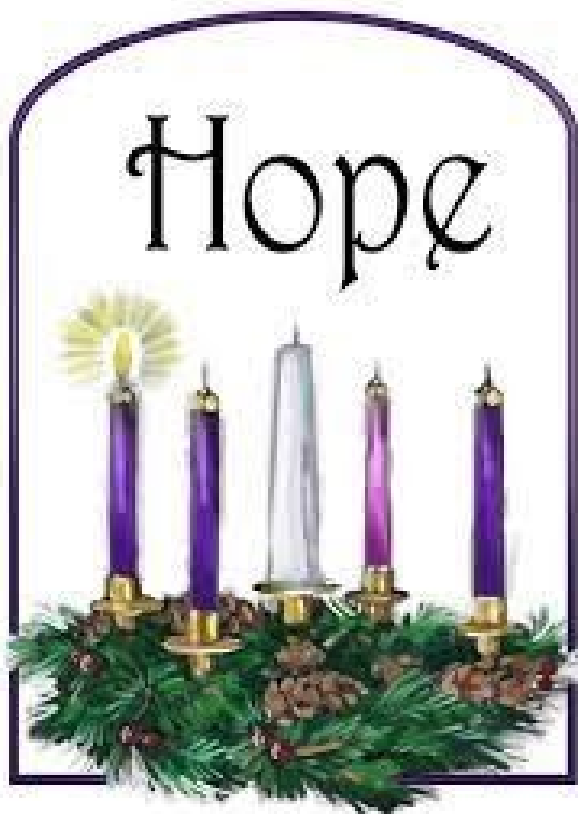


# *The First Sunday of Advent*

*Holy Eucharist Rite II - 10:00 a.m.*

*November 29, 2020*



*Saint Theodore's Episcopal Church*

*Bella Vista, Arkansas*

*The Right Reverend Larry R. Benfield,*

*Bishop of Arkansas*

# Saint Theodore's Episcopal Church

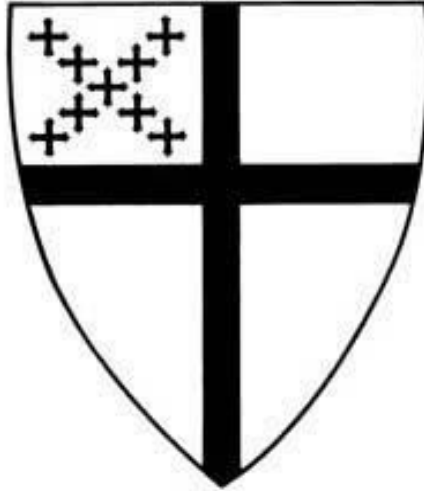
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## 2020 Vestry

Sharon Moravits, Sr. Warden

Al Addington & Colleen Whitney, Co-Jr. Wardens

Blair Cromwell • David Wade • Joyce Winter

Jerry Schaefer • Bill Schernikau • Carolan Weaver

Diane Landmesser, Clerk

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All of the following service can be found in the

1979 Book of Common Prayer

Scripture lessons are taken from the

Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) for Year B and are from the

New Revised Standard Version of the Bible

**Organ Prelude** *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* Bach, Buxtehude

## Lighting of the Advent Candle

*Celebrant* Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.

*People* **Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.**

*Celebrant* Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved .

*People* **O Lord God of hosts.**

*Celebrant* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

*People* **Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.**

*Celebrant* Show us your mercy, O Lord.

*People* **And grant us your salvation.**

*Celebrant* Christ the Lord, Son of the living God, light from light, leads us into the light and reveal his holiness. With confidence let us make our prayer:

*People* **Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Celebrant* Light that never fades, dispel the mists about us.

*People* **Awaken our faith from sleep.**

*Celebrant* Guard us from all harm today.

*People*      **May your glory fill us with joy.**

*Celebrant*    Give us unfailing gentleness at all times,  
*People*      **toward everyone we meet.**

*Celebrant*    Come to create a new earth for us,  
*People*      **where there will be justice and peace. Amen.**

*The people standing, the celebrant says*

                    Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.  
*People*      **His mercy endures for ever.**

## **Collect for Purity**

*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.*

## **Glory to God**

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly 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.**

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* *And also with you.*

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

## **Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* **ALMIGHTY GOD**, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit among the People of God**

*Celebrant* **GOD OF ALL POWER AND LOVE**, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss. Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire. Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world: a people who pray,

worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit. Wherever and however we gather, unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission, that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons** *(Sit)*

### **First Reading:** Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18**

*Sung by the cantor*

- 1    Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*  
      shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the  
      cherubim.
- 2    In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, \*  
      stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3    Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
      show the light of your countenance, and we shall be  
      saved.
- 4    O LORD God of hosts, \*  
      how long will you be angered despite the prayers of  
      your people?
- 5    You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*  
      you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6    You have made us the derision of our neighbors, \*  
      and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7    Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
      show the light of your countenance, and we shall be  
      saved.
- 16    Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, \*  
      the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17    And so will we never turn away from you; \*  
      give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18    Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; \*

show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

## **Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Reader*    The Word of the Lord.

*People*    **Thanks be to God.**

*Organ interlude before the Gospel reading*

## **The Holy Gospel** (*Stand*) Mark 13:24-37

*Celebrant*    The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ  
   according to Mark.

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

Jesus said, “In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its



lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

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

Sermon (*Sit*)

Fr. Grisham

**The Nicene Creed** (*Stand*)

(BCP 358)

**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.

## Prayers of the People

*Celebrant:*     The Lord be with you.

*People:*        *And also with you.*

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

***Celebrant:** Faithful God, stir up your strength and come to help us as we look for the revealing of our Savior Jesus Christ; hear our prayers and strengthen us to the end as we pray: Restore us, O God of hosts; show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.*

**Litanist:** We give thanks to you, our Loving God, for the grace you have given to us in Christ Jesus: Enrich your Church in speech and knowledge of every kind that she may not be lacking in any spiritual gift and may be awake, alert and blameless.

Restore us, O God of hosts;

**People: show us the light of your countenance,  
and we shall be saved.**

**Litanist:** Make your name known, Infinite One, so that the nations might tremble at your presence: Gather the elect from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven, and let everyone know that humanity is the work of your hand and the sheep of your flock.

Restore us, O God of hosts;

**People: show us the light of your countenance,  
and we shall be saved.**

**Litanist:** Come among us with great power and glory, O Shepherd of your people, shine forth and give to all the earth the light of your presence.

Restore us, O God of hosts;

**People: show us the light of your countenance,  
and we shall be saved.**

**Litanist:** Be near to this community, at our very gates and within our hearts, and do not hide your face from us, that we may know your glory in the evening and at midnight and at

cockcrow and at dawn, and not be found asleep at the day of your coming.

Restore us, O God of hosts;

**People: show us the light of your countenance,  
and we shall be saved.**

**Litanist:** Compassionate One, open the heavens and come down with your healing grace for those for whom we pray, especially Don, Rose, Julia, Amanda, Ben, Becky, Karen Kay, Mary, Valerie, Mary, the Rector Search Committee and all those who have contracted Covid-19 and all who care for them..

*(Pause)*

We give thanks for the grace and peace that come from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, offering our special gratitude for Michael, our presiding bishop; Larry, our bishop; Lowell, our interim supply priest; and Chris, our Candidate for Holy Orders. In the diocesan cycle of prayer for St. John's, Camden; St. Nicholas', Maumelle; and retired bishop, Larry Maze. And we give thanks for all those in our parish family celebrating birthdays or anniversaries this week.

May your angels gather your beloved into the day of your triumph as we remember those who have died, especially all those who have succumbed to the Corona virus. *(Pause)*

Restore us, O God of hosts;

**People: show us the light of your countenance,  
and we shall be saved.**

**Celebrant:** *No one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, O Holy One; you are the potter and we are the clay, the work of your hand: Shine forth upon your creation, stir up your strength, and come to help us, as we put our trust in you, O Father, through our Savior Jesus Christ in the power of your Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.*

*Celebrant:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Leader 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.**

*The Celebrant says*

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.*

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

*People* **And also with you.**

## **Holy Eucharist Rite II**

### **The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer B**

*Organ music is played and the People remain standing as the Celebrant prepares the Table.*

*After the Table has been prepared, the Celebrant says:*

All things come of thee, O Lord

**People: And of thine own have we given thee.**

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give him 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.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel.*

*The Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

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





**People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*Communion is received by the Celebrant*

*A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.*

*Celebrant and People*

**Beloved Jesus,  
I believe that you are present  
in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.  
I love you above all things,  
and I desire to receive you into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment receive you  
in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood,  
come spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you.  
Let me never be separated from you  
in this life or in the life to come. Amen.**

## Closing Prayer

*Celebrant and People*

(BCP 366)

**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

Feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, care for the sick, and visit the imprisoned, for you are children of God and inheritors of eternal life.

With the eyes of your heart enlightened, know the hope to which Christ has called you and the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints.

Receive the spirit of wisdom and revelation, and follow the Holy Spirit to good pasture where you may lie down in peace and reconciliation forever.

And the blessing of our royal God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you and empower you, now and for ever. Amen.

## Dismissal

*The Celebrant says the words of dismissal*

*People respond:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Organ Postlude** *Wake, awake, for night is coming* Walther

## Participants in the Service

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Reverend Lowell Grisham
<i>Organist</i>	Annette Zehring
<i>Acolyte</i>	Wayne Whitney
<i>Cantor</i>	Mary Addington
<i>Readers</i>	Mary Addington, Lana McDonald

