

Historic Grace Episcopal Church

A Parish Church in the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta

Est. 1828



First Sunday of Advent Year A

November 27, 2022

Holy Eucharist Rite I 8:15AM

The 8:15 early service is a simple, contemplative service that offers you a time and space for prayer. It uses the more traditional language that can be found within the Anglican Tradition and primarily comes from the earlier 1928 Book of Common Prayer. Please feel free to take advantage of the quiet space before the service begins for your personal devotions.

Community Minute

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Leaflet page 2

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant You are coming among us, O Lord.

People *Open our eyes and hearts to see you. Amen.*

Collect for Purity

BCP 323

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Summary of Law and Trisagion

BCP 324

The Collect of the Day

BCP 159

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy 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 quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

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The Gradual: Psalm 122

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The Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

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The Gospel Reading: Matthew 24:36-44

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The Homily: The Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham

The Nicene Creed

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The Peace

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The Offertory

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer I

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The Lord's Prayer

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The Breaking of the Bread

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Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

BCP 339

The Blessing

The Dismissal

BCP 339

Holy Eucharist Rite II 10:45AM

Prelude

Pastorale

George Friderick Handel

Community Minute

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Reader: Come now, O God of Hope. *All: We are your people.*

Reader: We ask that you pour out your Spirit on all who long for your gift of Hope, naming silently or aloud those in our lives who especially need your Hope at this time. *(Silence)* We give you thanks God for the gift of Hope. *All: Amen!*

Lighting of the First Advent Candle

Choral Introit

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

melody from Erfurt Enchiridia

Savior of the nations, come! Virgin's Son, make here your home.
Marvel now, both heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.
Thus on earth the Word appears, gracing his created spheres;
hence to death and hell descends, then the heavenly throne ascends.
Come, O Father's saving Son, who o'er sin the victory won.
Boundless shall your kingdom be; grant that we its glories see.

At the Entrance: Hymn 66

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Stuttgart, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder andächtige und Schöne Gesangre*, 1715;
adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant You are coming among us, O Lord.

People Open our eyes and hearts to see you. Amen.

Collect for Purity

BCP 355

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.*

Trisagion: Hymnal S102

Setting: Ver. *Hymnal 1982*, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924)

The musical score is written for two voices (Soprano and Bass) in a two-part setting. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The first system of music covers the lyrics: "Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,". The second system covers: "Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us." The score uses a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests and ties. The lyrics are placed below the vocal lines.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift that your faithful people offer you true and laudable service: Grant that we may run without stumbling to obtain your heavenly promises; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Our attention now turns to the assigned texts for the day, as we listen for the Spirit's guidance through ancient texts that connect with our present circumstances. We remember that it is not so much that "we read the texts," as it is that "the Spirit reads us through the texts." Following the readings and hymn, the preacher will offer a sermon that seeks to help nurture our personal and communal reflection.

The First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Gradual: Psalm 122

Chanted by Parish Choir

- 1 I was glad when they said to me, *
"Let us go to the house of the Lord."
- 2 Now our feet are standing *
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
- 3 Jerusalem is built as a city *
that is at unity with itself;
- 4 To which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord, *
the assembly of Israel,
to praise the Name of the Lord.
- 5 For there are the thrones of judgment, *
the thrones of the house of David.
- 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *
"May they prosper who love you.
- 7 Peace be within your walls *
and quietness within your towers.
- 8 For my brethren and companions' sake, *
I pray for your prosperity.
- 9 Because of the house of the Lord our God, *
I will seek to do you good."

The Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

At the Sequence: Hymn 454 verses 1, 4

Words: Godfrey Thring (1823-1903)

Music: *Λοιπυ*; Gerald Near (b. 1942)

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 24:36-44

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said to his disciples "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Homily: The Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham

Following the readings and sermon, we continue our worship by reciting the Nicene Creed, first adopted after Emperor Constantine called the Council of Nicaea in the year 325. It was further developed in the year 381 at the Council of Constantinople. The Creed is the collective Church's way of capturing a glimpse of the foundational elements of the Christian faith. Following the Creed, the community shares the Prayers of the People and the Confession of Sin and Absolution, with the pause just prior to the Confession being a crucial moment to remember our own growing edges.

The Nicene Creed *said by all*

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.

The Prayers of the People Form VI *Please continue standing or kneel as you are able.*

BCP 392

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

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

For 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; Rob, our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially Bill Armour, brother of parishioner Nancy Frankhouser; Dudley & Roz Hughes, Jane Hughes Gignoux, family of parishioners Jay and Linden Gaspar; Ellie Hannon, friend of parishioner Jeff Brown; Mary Harris, sister of parishioner Ginger Mallis; Tom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

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

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;

Celebrant

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.**

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

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.

Celebrant Behold who you are: The Body of Christ.

People *May we become what we receive.*

Please be seated.

Communion Music

Hymn 314

Words: Att. Thomas Aquinas (1225?-1274); st. 1-3, tr. *Hymnal 1940*; st. 4, tr. *Hymnal 1982*
Music: *Adoro devote*, French church melody, Mode 5, *Processionale*, 1697

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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.*

We remember now that we have not left the world; rather, we have brought our entire selves into this time and space to be transformed by the Spirit's presence in our hearts. Now, we give thanks for this time of shared prayer, and we look toward the ways we can embody the Light of Christ in the world.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn 57

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)
Music: Helmsley, melody Augustine Arne (1710-1778)

The Dismissal

Postlude

Toccata in F Major

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

We invite visitors and newcomers to fill out a Welcome Card, online at www.gracechurchgainesville.org/welcome or in the pew, so we can share additional information about Grace Church and answer any questions you may have.

Services at Grace Church are live-streamed/recorded so that we may include those who cannot be with us physically. www.gracechurchgainesville.org/photo-video-policy

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Hymn 48 Words: sts.1-2, Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885), alt.; st. 3, Charles P. Price (b.1920) St. 4., Hymnal 1982
Music: *Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein*, German folk song; harm, George Radcliffe Woodward (1848-1934)
Hymn 48 Words: St. 3 © 1982, Charles P. Price

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ATLANTA

The Right Rev. Robert C. Wright, Bishop

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VESTRY & OFFICERS

*To contact vestry members please go to the
parish website to the "about" tab.*

Class of 2023

Newsom Cummings—Administration, Participation

Chaudron Gille—Junior Warden

Tom Rossi—Administration, Liturgy & Creative Expression

Christy Wagner—Compassion, Participation

Class of 2024

Barbara Batog—Administration, Participation

Vance Holifield—Liturgy & Creative Expression, Participation

Daniel Grizzle—Administration, Liturgy & Creative Expression

Sonja McLendon—Senior Warden

Class of 2025

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Beth Neidenbach—Compassion, Formation

Sally Pittman—Formation, Participation

Callie Flack—Treasurer

Doug McDuff—Assistant Treasurer

Susan Lahey—Clerk of the Vestry

Jason Voyles—Chancellor

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