

Welcome to Advent Episcopal Church, providing worship to the Northwest Valley. Our service follows the Episcopal *Book of Common Prayer* and includes lessons from scripture, intercessory prayer, hymns, a sermon, and the administration of Holy Communion, outlined in this bulletin. Hymn numbers preceded by the letter "H" are found in the blue *Hymnal 1982*; hymn numbers preceded by the letter "L" are found in the red and black hymnal *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*.

*THANK YOU FOR JOINING US FOR WORSHIP TODAY!*

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN

H 324

*All standing, the Celebrant says*

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

*And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.*

*Amen.*

*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.*

GLORIA *(8 AM said in unison, 10 AM sung to S-280)*

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.*

COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* *And also with you.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ISAIAH [60:1-6]**

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;

but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14** *(said in unison)*

<sup>1</sup> Give the King your justice, O God, \*

and your righteousness to the King's Son;

<sup>2</sup> That he may rule your people righteously \*

and the poor with justice;

<sup>3</sup> That the mountains may bring prosperity to

the people, \*

and the little hills bring righteousness.

<sup>4</sup> He shall defend the needy among the people; \*

he shall rescue the poor and crush the

oppressor.

<sup>5</sup> He shall live as long as the sun and moon

endure, \*

from one generation to another.

<sup>6</sup> He shall come down like rain upon the mown

field, \*

like showers that water the earth.

<sup>7</sup> In his time shall the righteous flourish; \*

there shall be abundance of peace till the

moon shall be no more.

<sup>10</sup> The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay

tribute, \*

and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.

- <sup>11</sup> All kings shall bow down before him, \*  
and all the nations do him service.
- <sup>12</sup> For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in  
distress, \*  
and the oppressed who has no helper.
- <sup>13</sup> He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; \*  
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
- <sup>14</sup> He shall redeem their lives from oppression  
and violence, \*  
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

**A READING FROM THE LETTER TO THE EPHESIANS [3:1-12]**

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

SEQUENCE HYMN H 124

*Deacon* **THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST  
ACCORDING TO MATTHEW [2:1-12]**

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

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King

Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: `And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

SERMON Epiphany – God's Word Revealed  
*The Rev. Canon Bruce Jackson*

NICENE CREED *Said by all* BCP, 358

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Celebrant: Humbled by the bounty and grace of our lives, let us pray without ceasing, saying Spirit of truth, set us free!

Lector: For all the followers of Jesus around the world, that we may be united in sharing God's unfailing love and forgiveness.

**People: Spirit of truth, set us free!**

Lector: For the priesthood of all believers, and the ministry of all lay people who are the cornerstone of your holy Church; for all bishops, priests and deacons; that our hearts be opened to God's desire for our future.

**People: Spirit of truth, set us free!**

Lector: For our world and our nation, that all who govern and lead, may tend to peace in the land and work for the common good.

**People: Spirit of truth, set us free!**

Lector: For our neighbors who live with hunger and without shelter, and for all who feel alone, that we may bear witness to God's love for them.

**People: Spirit of truth, set us free!**

Lector: For all who suffer violence at the hands of others and for those who live with addiction and mental illness... may we ourselves, our voices, and our community provide safety, hope, and compassion for all people.

**People: Spirit of truth, set us free!**

Lector: For all the who have died and who we remember today, that they may be welcomed into glory with all the saints.

**People: Spirit of truth, set us free!**

Lector: Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

God who sets our hearts on fire, we offer these prayers to you. Accept them as our offering of love and the pledge of our hearts to seek and serve you in all that we do. Through Christ, who is all and in all. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN *The Deacon or Celebrant then says*  
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.  
*Silence may be kept.*

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 priest stands and pronounces an absolution*

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.*

PEACE *All standing, as able.*

*The Celebrant then says*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People And also with you.*

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

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE *Said by all (2 Cor. 9:7)*

All that we are and all that we have comes from God. Let us offer our best to God in thanksgiving, remembering that God loves a cheerful giver.

OFFERTORY

THE PRESENTATION AND BLESSING OF THE GIFTS

WREN DOXOLOGY *(10 AM sung)*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures high and low;  
alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God in Jesus fully known:

Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia,

alleluia, alleluia!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *Eucharistic Prayer B*

*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.*

*Celebrant* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

*Sanctus (8 AM said; 10 AM S-125)*

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.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

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.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

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;

*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 the ever-blessed Virgin Mary and all the 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,

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

*A period of silence is kept*

FRACTION ANTHEM (S 164)

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer, of our sins: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world: give us your peace, give us your peace.

*All are welcome to come forward for Holy Communion. Please come to the altar rail when directed by an usher.*

*The People come forward single file, one at a time to a communion station to receive the bread, and may intinct the bread in the chalice at the gate, returning to their seat after consuming it.*

COMMUNION HYMN

H 277

*After communion the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN

H 383

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.

*People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.*

POSTLUDE



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