



FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT – MARCH 30, 2025

8:00 & 10:00 AM

Holy Eucharist – Rite II

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN H 470

All standing, the Celebrant says BCP 351

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

Celebrant Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."

The Deacon or Celebrant then says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept. Minister 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 priest stands and pronounces an absolution

TRISAGION (*8am said, 10am sung, 3 times*) S-102

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF JOSHUA [5:9-12]

The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

R: The Word of the Lord. P: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 32 (*8 AM said in unison, 10 AM sung*)

- ¹ Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, *
and whose sin is put away!
- ² Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, *
and in whose spirit there is no guile!
- ³ While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, *
because of my groaning all day long.
- ⁴ For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; *
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.
- ⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *
and did not conceal my guilt.
- ⁶ I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." *
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

- ⁷ Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; *
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- ⁸ You are my hiding-place;
you preserve me from trouble; *
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- ⁹ "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; *
I will guide you with my eye.
- ¹⁰ Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; *
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."
- ¹¹ Great are the tribulations of the wicked; *
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.
- ¹² Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; *
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

A READING FROM THE SECOND LETTER OF ST. PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS [5:16-21]

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

R: The Word of the Lord. *P:* Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN

H 641

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke [15:1-3, 11b-32]
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So Jesus told them this parable:

"There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe--the best one--and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

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

SERMON

Beyond the Rules
The Rev. Dr. Gary Nicolosi

NICENE CREED

BCP 358

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, Jennifer our Bishop, for the clergy of this parish, and for all church leaders, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the President of the United States, the Governor of Arizona, and for all elected and appointed officials in our nation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and refugees, and for all nurses, teachers and social providers, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for widows and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Defend us, deliver us, and in your compassion protect us, O Lord, that we may faithfully serve you in this life and rejoice with you in the life to come.

To you, O Lord our God.

Celebrant Almighty God, by the power and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, follow in his way, and come to share in his glory; in the name of Jesus, we pray. 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.

BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY & TRAVELERS BLESSING

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE *Said by the Celebrant*

Walk in love, as Christ loved us, and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

The people stand as able while the offerings of bread, wine, and money are presented and placed on the Altar.

THE PRESENTATION AND BLESSING OF THE GIFTS

(8 AM) All things come of thee, O Lord.

And of thine own have we given thee.

(10 AM sung)

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God as our Father, brothers all are we.

Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.

With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow;

To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A

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.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

SANCTUS

(8am spoken, 10am sung)

S124

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.

Celebrant: 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. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

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.*

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

(A period of silence is kept)

FRACTION ANTHEM *(omit 'Alleluias' in Lent)*

8AM *(said)* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast.

10AM *(sung)* S-158

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

All persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please come to the altar rail when directed by an usher.

COMMUNION HYMN H 343

After communion the Celebrant says

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.

THE BLESSING

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

CLOSING HYMN H 690

DISMISSAL

Priest Let us bless the Lord.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

POSTLUDE



Advent Episcopal Church
13150 W. Spanish Garden Drive
Sun City West, Arizona 85375
(623) 584-0350

