



CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT

JANUARY 17, 2021

9:15 a.m.

VOLUNTARY & OPENING SENTENCES

HYMN

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise;  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes.  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days;  
Almighty, victorious, thy great Name we praise.

2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light;  
Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might.  
Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above;  
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

3. To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;  
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.  
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,  
And wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.

4. Great Father of glory, pure Father of light;  
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.  
All praise we would render; O help us to see,  
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

Words: Walter C. Smith, 1876 Music: John Roberts, 1839

CONFESSION OF SIN

**Almighty and most merciful Father; We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; And we have done those things which we ought not to have done; And there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those who are penitent; According to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake; That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.**

THE DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

## A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. JOHN.

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me."<sup>44</sup> Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. <sup>45</sup> Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." <sup>46</sup> Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." <sup>47</sup> Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" <sup>48</sup> Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." <sup>49</sup> Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" <sup>50</sup> Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." <sup>51</sup> And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man." (1:43-51)

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And with thy spirit.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

### SUFFRAGES

Officiant: O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

**People: And grant us thy salvation.**

Officiant: Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

**People: And make thy chosen people joyful.**

Officiant: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

**People: For only in thee can we live in safety.**

Officiant: Lord, keep this nation under thy care;

**People: And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

Officiant: Let thy way be known upon earth;

**People: Thy saving health among all nations.**

Officiant: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

**People: Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Officiant: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

**People: And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.**

## COLLECT AND PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

## THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we may show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## THE GRACE AND THE WELCOME

### HYMN

*Light After Darkness*

1. Light after darkness, gain after loss,  
Strength after weakness, crown after cross;  
Sweet after bitter, hope after fears,  
Home after wandering, praise after tears.

*Weeping may remain for a night  
But joy arrives in morning's new light  
I'll praise the God of merciful plight  
Still I will praise him, still I will praise him, my God.*

2. Sheaves after sowing, sun after rain,  
Sight after mystery, peace after pain;  
Joy after sorrow, calm after blast,  
Rest after weariness, sweet rest at last.

3. Near after distant, gleam after gloom,  
Love after loneliness, life after tomb;  
After long agony, rapture of bliss,  
Right was the pathway, leading to this.

You give and you take away  
In darkness still I will say:  
"A good God I serve this day."  
Still I will praise you, still I will praise you.

Words: Frances Ridley Havergal, 1879 (verses); Zac Hicks, 2008 (chorus & bridge) Bridge based on Psalm 30:5 & Job 1:21 ©2009 Unbudding Fig Music (ASCAP)

## THE SERMON

Dean Pearson

## AT THE OFFERTORY

*God With Us*

Oh you've come to bring peace, to be Love,  
To be nearer to us.  
You've come to bring life, to be light,  
To shine brighter in us.  
O Emmanuel, God with us.

*Our Deliverer, you are Savior;  
In your presence we find our strength.  
Over ev'rything, our Redemption;  
God with us, you are God with us.*

Oh you've come to be hope to this world,  
For your honor and name.  
And you've come to take sin to bear shame,  
And to conquer the grave.  
O Emmanuel, God with us.

You are here;  
You are holy;  
We are standing in your glory.

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## THE DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## THE CLOSING PRAYERS AND BLESSING

### HYMN

*His Mercy Is More*

1. What love could remember no wrongs we have done?  
Omniscient, all-knowing, he counts not their sum;  
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,  
Our sins, they are many, his mercy is more.

2. What patience would wait as we constantly roam?  
What Father, so tender, is calling us home!  
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor;  
Our sins, they are many, his mercy is more.

3. What riches of kindness he lavished on us;  
His blood was the payment, his life was the cost;  
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford;  
Our sins, they are many, his mercy is more.

*Praise the Lord, his mercy is more.  
Stronger than darkness, new every morn;  
Our sins, they are many, his mercy is more.*

4. What heaven so certain, what promise secure!  
In Jesus, our present and future are sure.  
Forgiveness will hold, as it held us before;  
Our sins, they are many, his mercy is more.

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## THE DISMISSAL AND VOLUNTARY

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