



# Sherwood Episcopal Church

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**First Sunday of Advent**  
**10 AM**

**November 29, 2020**  
**Holy Eucharist, Rite II**

*Watch live on our Facebook page and our website at 10 am, and on our YouTube channel after 2 pm*

## THE WORD OF GOD

Introit

*Advent Matin Responsory (I look from afar) - Palestrina*

I look from afar: and lo, I see the power of God coming,  
and a cloud covering the whole earth.

Go ye out to meet him and say: Art thou he that should come to rule  
thy people Israel?

High and low, rich and poor, one with another: go ye out to meet him and say:  
Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep:  
art thou he that should come?

Stir up thy strength and come to rule thy people Israel.

All glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. Alleluia.

Welcome and Announcements

The Reverend Nancy H. Hennessey, Rector

## THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Lighten our darkness, we beseech you, O Lord: and by your great mercy defend us  
from all perils and dangers of this life; for the love of your only Son, our Savior, Jesus  
Christ. **Amen.**

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

## THE OPENING SENTENCES

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**And blessed be his kingdom now and forever. Amen.**

## THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

## KYRIE

*Arranged by Edmund Brownless*

*p* Lord, have mer-cy u - pon us. Christ, have mer-cy u - pon us.

*Slow*

The musical score for the beginning of the Kyrie consists of a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and a *Slow* tempo. The lyrics are "Lord, have mer-cy u - pon us. Christ, have mer-cy u - pon us." The piano accompaniment features a steady, rhythmic pattern in the right hand and a more active bass line in the left hand.

Lord, have mer-cy u - pon us. *f*

The musical score for the end of the Kyrie continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line concludes with a fermata over the final note, "us.", and a forte (*f*) dynamic. The piano accompaniment provides a harmonic foundation for the vocal line.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

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.**

THE 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 forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.

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

PSALM 80:1-7, 16-18

*Said in unison*

- 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.

ALLELUIA



The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.  
**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."

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

THE SERMON

The Reverend Nancy H. Hennessey

*Following the sermon, let us pause for a period of silent reflection on God's holy word.*

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel!

THE NICENE CREED

BCP pg. 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 IV, BCP, p. 388

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy.  
**Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy.  
**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy.  
**Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy.  
**Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We pray for all those impacted by COVID-19, and especially for those on our parish prayer list: Sally, Debbie, Shannon, Jeff & Kim, Norma, Sharon, Margaret, Ed, Laura, Joyce, Christine, Mike and his family, Kendall, Jean, Marge, Sarah, Joe, Gail, Mark, Steve W., Pam, Michelle, Joe G., Jay, Stan, Rick; David C., Ella Mae, Steve & Debbie, Jeanetta, Christina, Khalil, Charles, Samantha, Courtney, Bud, Steve S., Debbie H., Chris D., Boots, and Patti.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy.  
**Hear our prayer.**

We thank you for the blessings of this life; especially for those celebrating birthdays including Henry and Christina.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy.  
**Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. We especially remember and give thanks for the life of Woody Banister.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy.  
**Hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant concludes*

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP pg. 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence is 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.**

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.**

## THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

*The people greet one another virtually with a sign of God's peace.*

## **A Special Note: Stewardship 2020-2021**

Our annual Stewardship Campaign has begun. The theme this year is "Faith-Filled Generosity." Through prayer and reflection, how will you use the gifts you have been given to help our church this coming year? How will you hear the Gospel call to seek and serve Christ in all people, and respond with generosity?

You may now [make your pledge online](https://sherwoodcokeysville.org/2021-stewardship-pledge-form/). <https://sherwoodcokeysville.org/2021-stewardship-pledge-form/>

If you are not on our mailing list and would like to pledge support to Sherwood for 2021—in time, talent and treasure, please contact Carey Mednick at [sherwoodparish@gmail.com](mailto:sherwoodparish@gmail.com). Thank you.

*We continue to do God's work and your contributions of any size make a huge difference. You may now contribute online via our website. Go [here](#) to check it out. ([sherwoodcokeysville.org/give](https://sherwoodcokeysville.org/give)) Or if you would prefer, mail in your contribution to 5 Sherwood Road, Cokeysville, 21030. We are checking the mail regularly and depositing any checks. Thank you!*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY HYMN - 74

*Blest be the King whose coming*

1 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!  
For him let doors be opened, no hearts against him barred!  
Not robed in royal splendor, in power and pomp, comes he;  
but clad as are the poorest, such his humility!

2 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!  
By those who truly listen his voice is truly heard;  
pity the proud and haughty, who have not learned to heed  
the Christ who is the Promise, who has atonement made.

3 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!  
He only to the humble reveals the face of God.  
All power is his, all glory! All things are in his hand,  
all ages and all peoples, till time itself shall end!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A - BCP pg. 361

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant offers thanks to God for the grace and mercy made available in Christ, and in response the people sing:*

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS - S123

*Setting by Howard E. Galley*

*The Celebrant gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ's passion and resurrection and prayers over the bread and wine.*

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic prayer and at the conclusion says*

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 forever. **Amen.**

*The Celebrant says*

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,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

AGNUS DEI – S157      *Lamb of God*

John Merbecke

A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*Episcopal Prayer Book for the Armed Forces (1988)*

*Celebrant:*

Let us say together the prayer for spiritual communion.

**In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. And since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come**

**spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.**

*The Celebrant pronounces a blessing over the People, and the People respond, Amen.*

HYMN - 57

*Lo! he comes with clouds descending*

1 Lo! he comes with clouds descending,  
once for our salvation slain;  
thousand, thousand saints attending  
swell the triumph of his train:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Christ the Lord returns to reign.

2 Every eye shall now behold him,  
robed in dreadful majesty;  
those who set at nought and sold him,  
pierced, and nailed him to the tree,  
deeply wailing, deeply wailing,  
deeply wailing,  
shall the true Messiah see.

4 Yea, amen! let all adore thee,  
high on thine eternal throne;  
Savior, take the power and glory;  
claim the kingdom for thine own:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

DISMISSAL

As we go forth into the world, refreshed and renewed, we reaffirm our commitment to our mission as a congregation:

**God commands us to enthusiastically cast open our doors to embrace all, impacting lives through bold service, no exceptions!**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Postlude

*Postludium zum Advent –*

*Based on H64 O heavenly Word (O Heiland, reiß die Himmel auf) – Paul Kickstarter*

This hymn text reflects today's Old Testament 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--*

### **Worship Participants from Studio Sherwood**

Officiant: The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey

Music Director & Organist: Greg Seseck

Cantor: Cassidy Dixon

Lector: Greg Szymaszek

Broadcast Engineer: Stephanie Everts

*Thank you for joining us for our virtual worship this morning. Please be sure to check out our Facebook page for updates and also remember to subscribe to our YouTube channel. If you are interested in receiving our e-newsletter, please contact Carey Mednick at [sherwoodparish@gmail.com](mailto:sherwoodparish@gmail.com).*

### **This Week @ Sherwood**

**Monday**

Office closed

**Tuesday**

Bible Study via Zoom @ 2 pm

### **Announcements**

# INCARNATION

REDISCOVERING THE SIGNIFICANCE  
OF CHRISTMAS

#### **Food Distribution Busiest Yet:**

As expected, the November 20 Student Support Network event at Cockeysville Middle School was the busiest yet. With the rise in coronavirus and increased unemployment, demand is up at food banks and distribution sites across the nation. Cockeysville Middle School was no exception. People lined up early to receive produce boxes, food bags, essential items, bread, diapers, and Giant gift cards.

- 120 cars served

- 9 home deliveries
- 8 “walk-ups”

Many thanks to all who made this possible:

- The volunteers, including Sherwood’s Suzie Merryman and Kathleen Stewart.
- The Girl Scouts who provided 122 bags of essential items
- The CMS PTA who donated gift cards and 147 filled grocery tote bags
- The Student Support Network who provides the CMS team with constant support ([studentsupportnetwork.org](http://studentsupportnetwork.org))

The next event is scheduled for December 18. We anticipate serving an even greater number of students and their families. Please check future Sherwood newsletters for information on how to help. -- *Joyce Mann, Outreach Coordinator*

### **Walking Through Advent:**

I hope you will join us for the Advent Series, *Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas*. Perhaps more than ever before we need to keep our focus on the true meaning of Christmas, and we are given the four weeks in Advent to do so. Here are the details:

- There are four sessions, and each session will last an hour over Zoom. Don’t let Zoom deter you. We can help get you set up!
- A book accompanies the series, and we have 10 books purchased. If you would like a book [email Carey Mednick](mailto:sherwoodparish@gmail.com) sherwoodparish@gmail.com and she will place one in the blue bin on the Parish Office porch for you to pick up. The cost of the book is \$12, and checks can be made out to Sherwood Episcopal Church.
- We will offer two meeting times each week. One will take place on the weekend and the other a weekday. Date and time to be determined by those signed up.
- You may also [purchase an e-book](#). (Visit [cokesbury.com](http://cokesbury.com) and search for *Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas*)
- This is open to everyone—friends and family alike.

### **Did You Know?**

Each Sunday in Advent, we will be adding figures to the manger. Advent is a time for preparation and waiting. Because of this, churches aren’t decked out in their Christmas finery until Christmas Eve and not every figure is placed in the manger on Advent I—only the animals will be present *not* including the sheep, donkey or camels, they come later in the story. Stay awake!

**A Note from our Diocese:**

Yesterday the churches in our dioceses received a letter from the Bishops and Regathering Team. The letter informed us that, “given the projected further increase due to the Thanksgiving holiday and the lag in infection symptoms and reporting time, we have made the difficult decision to **suspend all indoor worship through January 1, 2021**, unless there are significant changes. Your vestry has been apprised of this. Let me assure you that the worship team is working hard and creatively to provide a joyful Advent and Christmas season.