



# Sherwood Episcopal Church

Five Sherwood Road  
Cockeysville-Hunt Valley, MD 21030

410-666-2180

sherwoodcockeysville.org

First Sunday After Christmas  
10 AM

December 27, 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

Prelude

Mr. Greg Sesek, Music Director

Welcome and Announcements

The Reverend Nancy H. Hennessey, Rector

### 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.**

GLORIA - 96

*Angels we have heard on high*

1 Angels we have heard on high,  
singing sweetly through the night,  
and the mountains in reply  
echoing their brave delight  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo.*  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo*

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word:  
Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through  
Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.  
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
and her salvation like a burning torch.  
The nations shall see your vindication,  
and all the kings your glory;  
and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the LORD will give.  
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 147

*Said in unison*

1 Hallelujah!  
How good it is to sing praises to our God! \*  
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!  
2 The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem; \*  
he gathers the exiles of Israel.

- 3 He heals the brokenhearted \*  
and binds up their wounds.
- 4 He counts the number of the stars \*  
and calls them all by their names.
- 5 Great is our LORD and mighty in power; \*  
there is no limit to his wisdom.
- 6 The LORD lifts up the lowly, \*  
but casts the wicked to the ground.
- 7 Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; \*  
make music to our God upon the harp.
- 8 He covers the heavens with clouds \*  
and prepares rain for the earth;
- 9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains \*  
and green plants to serve mankind.
- 10 He provides food for flocks and herds \*  
and for the young ravens when they cry.
- 11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse; \*  
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;
- 12 But the LORD has pleasure in those who fear him, \*  
in those who await his gracious favor.
- 13 Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; \*  
praise your God, O Zion;
- 14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \*  
he has blessed your children within you.
- 15 He has established peace on your borders; \*  
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.
- 16 He sends out his command to the earth, \*  
and his word runs very swiftly.
- 17 He gives snow like wool; \*  
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
- 18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \*  
who can stand against his cold?
- 19 He sends forth his word and melts them; \*  
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
- 20 He declares his word to Jacob, \*  
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.

21 He has not done so to any other nation; \*  
to them he has not revealed his judgments.  
Hallelujah! *Amen.*

## ALLELUIA



## THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:1-8

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

THE SERMON

Kathleen Schotto  
Guest Preacher  
Second-Year Seminary Student  
Virginia Theological Seminary

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

HYMN - 101

*Joy to the world!*

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come:  
let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

4. He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.

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, 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., Patti and the Banister family, Danny, Allison, the Daniels family, and Linda and her family.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

We thank you for the blessings of this life; especially for those celebrating birthdays as well as anniversaries including Jane and Jack.

*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.

*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.*

*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.*

*([sherwoodcockeyville.org/give](http://sherwoodcockeyville.org/give)) Or if you would prefer, mail in your contribution to 5 Sherwood Road, Cockeyville, 21030. We are checking the mail regularly and depositing any checks. Thank you!*

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY HYMN - 82

*Of the Father's love begotten*

1 Of the Father's love begotten,  
ere the worlds began to be,  
he is Alpha and Omega,  
he the source, the ending he,  
of the things that are, that have been,  
and that future years shall see,  
evermore and evermore!

2 O that birth for ever blessèd,  
when the Virgin, full of grace,  
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,  
bore the Savior of our race;  
and the Babe, the world's Redeemer,  
first revealed his sacred face,  
evermore and evermore!

3 Let the heights of heaven adore him;  
angel hosts, his praises sing;  
powers, dominions, bow before him,  
and extol our God and King;  
let no tongue on earth be silent,  
every voice in concert ring,  
evermore and evermore!

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:*

**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 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 LORD'S PRAYER

BCP pg. 364

*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 - *Jesus, Lamb of God, S164*      *setting by Franz Schubert (Deutsche Messe)*

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world,

grant us peace, grant us peace.

## 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 - 87

*Hark! The herald angels sing*

1. Hark! the herald angels sing  
glory to the newborn King!  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic hosts proclaim  
Christ is born in Bethlehem!

Refrain:

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
glory to the newborn King!

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored;  
Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
Late in time behold him come,  
offspring of the virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
hail the incarnate Deity.  
Pleased as man with us to dwell;  
Jesus, our Immanuel! (Refrain)

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

Mr. Greg Seseck, Music Director

**Worship Participants from Studio Sherwood**

Officiant: The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey

Guest Preacher: Kathleen Schotto

Music Director & Organist: Greg Seseck

Lector: Greg Szymaszek

Broadcast Engineer: Anne Wismer

*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).*

**Announcements**

This morning, we are happy to welcome back Kathleen Schotto as our guest preacher. She is a second-year seminary student at the Virginia Theological Seminary and was a tremendous help to us over the summer, including taking the lead for our youth book study for *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe*. If you're watching on Facebook, be sure to say hi to her in the chat.