

Second Sunday of Advent

Bishop's Visitation

Sunday, December 6, 2020

10:00 a.m.

Christ Episcopal Church

Binghamton, New York

The Episcopal Diocese of Central New York



Leading us in worship today:

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Rt. Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe
<i>Clergy</i>	The Rev. Elizabeth Ewing The Rev. Deacon Kay Drebert
<i>Designated Congregation Responder</i>	Marlene Lausen
<i>Lector</i>	Lettie Trevarthan
<i>Prayers of the People</i>	Nancy McGorry and Diane Button
<i>Soloists</i>	Bill Snyder, Susan MacLennan
<i>Organist</i>	Bobbie Steflik

Christ Church welcomes Bishop DeDe Duncan-Probe for her visitation today. You are invited to make an offering to the Bishop's Discretionary Fund at cnyepiscopal.org/give.

*As we worship together on Zoom and by telephone, please remain muted unless you are speaking. If you're on the phone, you can press *6 to mute or unmute.*

Organ Prelude

"Time Dimanche de l'Avent"

Charles Alexia Chauvet

Welcome

The Rev. Elizabeth Ewing

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Reader One Let the light from this candle say to all that God's hope is coming on earth as it already is in heaven.

Light the first candle in your Advent wreath.

Reader Two Friends, be not afraid, God's hope is at hand!

Reader One Because of war, because of violence in our communities, because there is still so much unrest in Jerusalem, we light a candle of peace...

Reader Two Because hatred is still so strong, because so many swords have not yet been beaten into ploughshares, we light a candle of peace.

Light the second candle in your Advent wreath.

Reader One May the light from this candle overwhelm the world.

Reader Two May the light from this candle say to all that God's peace is coming on earth as it already is in heaven.

Reader One Friends, be not afraid, God's peace is at hand!

Opening Hymn

"Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding"

The Hymnal 1982, #59, v. 1, 3, 5

Sung by Wm. Clark Snyder

1 Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding.
"Christ is nigh," it seems to say;

“Cast away the works of darkness,
O ye children of the day.”

3 Lo! The Lamb, so long expected,
comes with pardon down from heaven;
let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
one and all to be forgiven;

5 Honor, glory, might and blessing
to the Father and the Son,
with the everlasting Spirit
while unending ages run.

Opening Acclamation

Bishop Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and for ever. 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.**

Trisagion

Said three times

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

The Collect of the Day

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

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way
for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet
with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

Reader A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that
she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord’s hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.” A voice says, “Cry out!” And I said, “What shall I cry?” All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

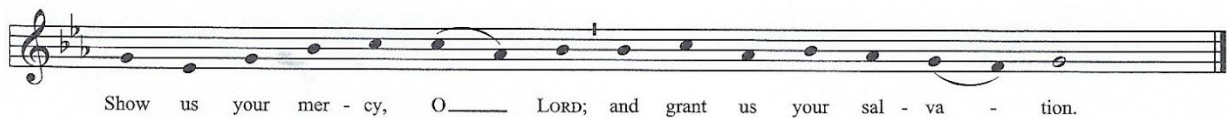
Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, “Here is your God!” See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

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

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Based on “*Conditor alme siderum*” (*The Hymnal 1872* #60)

Sung by the Cantor *Wm. Clark Snyder*, with congregational antiphon



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- 1 You have been gracious to your land, O **Lord**, *
 you have restored the good fortune of **Jacob**.
- 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your **people** *
 and blotted out all their **sins**. [ANT]
- 8 I will listen to what the Lord God is **saying**, *
 for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
 and to those who turn their **hearts to him**.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who **fear him**, *
 that his glory may dwell in our **land**. [ANT]
- 10 Mercy and truth have met to-**gether**; *
 righteousness and peace have **kissed each other**.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the **earth**, *
 and righteousness shall look down from **heaven**. [ANT]
- 12 The Lord will indeed grant pros-**perity**, *
 and our land will yield its **increase**.
- 13 Righteousness shall go be-**fore him**, *
 and peace shall be a pathway for his **feet**. [ANT]

The Second Reading

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Reader A Reading from the Second Letter of Peter.

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day.

The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

“Oh heavenly word, eternal light”

The Hymnal 1982, #64, v. 1, 2

Sung by Wm. Clark Snyder

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

- 1 O heavenly Word, eternal Light,
begotten of the Father's might,
who in these latter days was born
for blessing to a world forlorn;
- 2 pour light upon us from above,
and fire our hearts with ardent love,
that, as we hear thy truth today,
all wrong desires may burn away.

The Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight”’, John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, ‘The one who is more powerful than I is

coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’

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

The Sermon

Bishop DeDe Duncan-Probe

The Nicene Creed

**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

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and DeDe our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in God's Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We pray especially for Alli, Anne, Bob, Carolyn, Connor, George, Sharon, Rose, Millie, Joell, Mario, and Connie.

Silence

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

Deacon We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

All **Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Bishop 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 Offertory

Christ Church welcomes Bishop DeDe Duncan-Probe for her visitation today. You are invited to make an offering to the Bishop's Discretionary Fund at enyepiscopal.org/give.

Offertory

“Comfort, Comfort Ye, My People”

Arr. Dennis Johnson

Soloist—Wm. Clark Snyder

The Peace

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

The Lord's Prayer

Priest 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 Blessing

Bishop Our help is in the Name of the Lord;
People **The maker of heaven and earth.**

Bishop Blessed be the Name of the Lord;
People **From this time forth for evermore.**

Bishop The blessing, mercy, and grace of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

Announcements

Please stick around for a conversation with Bishop DeDe following the service.

Closing Hymn

“Gaelic Blessing”

John Rutter

Soloist—Susan MacLennan

The Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**