



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
NOVEMBER 29, 2020 + 5:30 P.M.

EVENSONG

BULLETIN FOR ONLINE WORSHIP

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You are invited and encouraged to participate fully in this liturgy by praying with us and singing hymns.

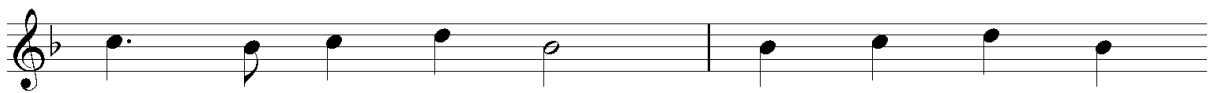
VOLUNTARY Improvisation

HYMN 54 Savior of the nations, come!

Nun komm der Heiden Heiland



1 Sa - vior of the na - tions, come! Vir - gin's
2 Won - drous birth! Oh, won - drous child of the
3 Thus on earth the Word ap - pears, grac - ing
4 Come, O Fa - ther's sav - ing Son, who o'er



Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, both
Vir - gin un - de - filed! Might - y God and
his cre - a - ted spheres; hence to death and
sin the vic - tory won. Bound - less shall your



heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.
Ma - ry's son, ea - ger now his race to run!
hell de - scends, then the heaven - ly throne a - scends.
king - dom be; grant that we its glo - ries see.

Words: Martin Luther (1483-1546) after Ambrose of Milan (340-397); tr. William M. Reynolds (1812-1876) and James Waring McCrady (b. 1938)
St. 3-4, Copyright ©1982, James Waring McCrady. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music: *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*, melody from
Erfurt Enchiridia, 1524; harm. Melchoir Vulpius (1560?-1616)

OPENING SENTENCES

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

After introduction, said by all.

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

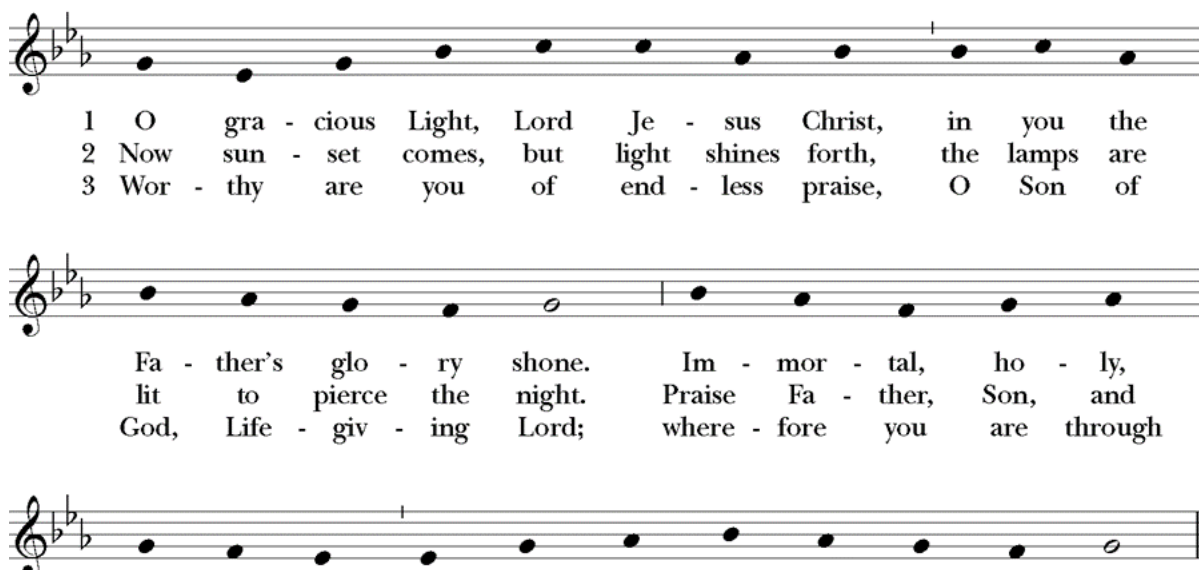
things which we ought not to have done. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

EVENING PRECES

Cantor: O Lord, open thou our lips
 Response: And our mouths shall show forth they praise.
 Cantor: O God, make speed to save us.
 Response: O Lord, make haste to help us.
 Cantor: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
 Response: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
 Cantor: Praise ye the Lord.
 Response: The Lord's Name be praised.

PHOS HILARON #26 O gracious light


Conditor alme siderum



1 O gra - cious Light, Lord Je - sus Christ, in you the
 2 Now sun - set comes, but light shines forth, the lamps are
 3 Wor - thy are you of end - less praise, O Son of

Fa - ther's glo - ry shone. Im - mor - tal, ho - ly,
 lit to pierce the night. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and
 God, Life - giv - ing Lord; where - fore you are through

blest is he, and blest are you, his ho - ly Son.
 Spi - rit: God who dwells in the e - ter - nal light.
 all the earth and in the high - est heaven a - dored.

This melody may be sung in rhythmic form: 

Words: Greek, 3rd cent.; tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984); para. of *O Gracious Light* Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.
 Music: *Conditor alme siderum*, Mode 4; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956) Copyright © Bruce Neswick. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

PSALM 112 & 113

Sung by cantor.

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord he hath great delight in his commandments. His seed shall be mighty upon earth the generation of the faithful shall be blessed. Riches and plenteousness shall be in his house and his righteousness endureth for ever. Unto the godly there ariseth up light in the darkness he is merciful, loving, and righteous. A good man is merciful, and lendeth and will guide

his words with discretion. For he shall never be moved and the righteous shall be had in everlasting remembrance.

He will not be afraid of any evil tidings for his heart standeth fast, and believeth in the Lord. His heart is established, and will not shrink until he see his desire upon his enemies. He hath dispersed abroad, and given to the poor and his righteousness remaineth for ever; his horn shall be exalted with honour.

The ungodly shall see it, and it shall grieve him he shall gnash with his teeth, and consume away; the desire of the ungodly shall perish.

Praise the Lord, ye servants O praise the Name of the Lord. Blessed be the Name of the Lord from this time forth for evermore. The Lord's Name is praised from the rising up of the sun unto the going down of the same. The Lord is high above all heathen and his glory above the heavens. Who is like unto the Lord our God that hath his dwelling so high and yet humbleth himself to behold the things that are in heaven and earth. He taketh up the simple out of the dust and lifteth the poor out of the mire. That he may set him with the princes even with the princes of his people. He maketh the barren woman to keep house and to be a joyful mother of children.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE FIRST LESSON

2 Peter 3: 1-10

This is now, beloved, the second letter I am writing to you; in them I am trying to arouse your sincere intention by reminding you that you should remember the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets, and the commandment of the Lord and Saviour spoken through your apostles. First of all you must understand this, that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and indulging their own lusts and saying, 'Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since our ancestors died, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation!' They deliberately ignore this fact, that by the word of God heavens existed long ago and an earth was formed out of water and by means of water, through which the world of that time was deluged with water and perished. But by the same word the present heavens and earth have been reserved for fire, being kept until the day of judgement and destruction of the godless. 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.

MAGNIFICAT *Sung by cantor.*

Medieval Church melody, adapted by MMW

My soul doth magnify the Lord, *

and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

For he hath regarded *

the lowliness of his handmaiden.

For behold from henceforth *

all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me, *
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him *
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm; *
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, *
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, *
as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed for ever.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE SECOND LESSON

Matthew 25:1-13

‘Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, “Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.” Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, “Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.” But the wise replied, “No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.” And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, “Lord, lord, open to us.” But he replied, “Truly I tell you, I do not know you.” Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

NUNC DIMITTIS *Sung by cantor.*

John Naylor

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, *
according to thy word;
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, *
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, *
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE APOSTLES’ CREED *Said by all.*

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.

THE PRAYERS

Cantor: The Lord be with you.

Response: And with thy spirit.

Cantor: Let us pray.

Response: Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Sung by all, monotone:

Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

THE SUFFRAGES

Cantor: O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

Response: And grant us thy salvation.

Cantor: O Lord, save the State

People: And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Cantor: Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

People: And make thy chosen people joyful.

Cantor: O Lord, save thy people.

People: And bless thine inheritance.

Cantor: Give peace in our time, O Lord.

People: For it thou, Lord, only, that makest us dwell in safety.

Cantor: O God, make clean our hearts within us.

People: And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

THE SUNG COLLECTS

ANTHEM "The Lord will come and not be slow"

Charles Callahan

*The Lord will come and not be slow, His footsteps cannot err;
Before Him righteousness shall go, His royal harbinger.*

*Truth from the earth, like to a flower, shall bud and blossom then;
And justice, from her heavenly bower, look down on mortal men.*

*Rise, God, judge Thou the earth in might, this wicked earth redress;
For Thou art He who shalt by right the nations all possess.*

*The nations all whom Thou hast made shall come, and all shall frame
To bow them low before Thee, Lord, and glorify thy Name.*

(John Milton, 1608-1674)

THE SPOKEN COLLECTS

ADVENT RESPONSORY

Giovanni da Palestrina

I look from afar:

*And lo, I see the pow'r of God coming,
and a cloud cov'ring the whole earth.*

Go ye out to meet him and say:

*Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over 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:
Tell us, art thou he that should come?*

*Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come:
to reign over thy people Israel.*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost.*

I look from afar:

*And lo, I see the pow'r of God coming,
and a cloud cov'ring the whole earth.*

Go ye out to meet him and say:

Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?

(First Responsory of Advent Sunday, from the medieval Matins rite)

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING *Said by all.*

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 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.

PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM *Said by all.*

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE GRACE

FINAL RESPONSES

Cantor: The Lord be with you.

Singer: And with thy spirit.

Cantor: The Lord give us his peace.

Singer: And life eternal. Amen.

VOLUNTARY Improvisation

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Your generous support is greatly appreciated. There are several ways to contribute to St. Luke's:

- 1) Set up an auto-draft with your financial institution.
- 2) Mail a check to 131 West Council Street, Salisbury, NC 28144.
Please do not bring checks to the office at this time.
- 3) Give online at www.SLS.church/give
- 4) Text 73256 with the message: Stlukes # (# is the amount you want to give)

Thank you for your support, as always. Contact Tracey (tracey@sls.church) if you have any questions.

ABOUT THE LITURGY OF EVENSONG

Evensong is a tiny fragment of something else; it is a part of the worship which is offered to God by Christian people every hour of the day and night, in every part of the world. This tradition comes down to us through the centuries in a form unique to the Anglican Communion.

When you come to Evensong, it is as if you were dropping in on a conversation already in progress – a conversation between God and his people which began long before you were born and will continue long after you are dead. So, do not be surprised or disturbed if there are some things which you do not understand straight away. For a brief moment, you step into the continual stream of worship which is being offered today and will be offered to the end of time. You are one with those who worship here on earth and in heaven.

Evensong is drawn almost entirely from the Bible. Its primary purpose is to proclaim the wonderful works of God in history and in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Its secondary purpose is to evoke from the worshipper a response of praise, penitence, prayer, and obedience. To this end, most of the service is sung by the choir. The people participate by reflecting on the parts of the service sung on their behalf, by joining in the portions that are said, and in some cases sung by them as well, and by standing, sitting, or kneeling at the appropriate times during the service.

As a part of maintaining this rich tradition, much of the English of the service is the language spoken and written by our ancestors more than four hundred years ago. It may sound old fashioned but its meaning is not out of date. The service is in three parts:

The first part, which is quite brief, prepares the worshipper for the story which is to follow. The second part is the story of God's redeeming love, beginning with the Old Testament (the psalms and the first reading), proceeding to the New Testament (the Magnificat or Song of Mary, the second reading, and the Nunc Dimittis or Song of Simeon), and reaching its climax in the affirmation of what Christians believe (the Creed). Finally, the third part is our prayerful response to God who has revealed himself in history, in Jesus Christ, and in the Church.

Today's liturgy is taken from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer, Hymnal 1982, and other approved Episcopal resources.

TONIGHT'S SERVERS:

Cantors: Mark Bias, Davis Cooke, Hunter Safrit, Matthew Woods, Beth Bentley, Caroline Stephenson

Organist: Matthew Woods

Lector: Gary Thornburg

Officiant: The Rev. Dr. Robert Black

Camera & Production: Caroline Stephenson

Today, we especially pray for:

Those in crisis of health or circumstance: Chip Carter, Brenda Forbis, Chris McLane, Andrea Misenheimer, Betty Dan Spencer, Mickey York

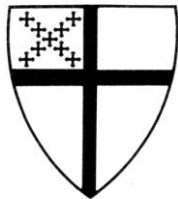
Those who are away at school: Nellie Brown, Ruth Clement, Aidan DeHaas, Heather Duncan, Jason Earnhardt, Caroline Forbis, Zach Huddleston, Mary Kaufmann, Abigail Lund, Cassandra Phoenix, Hans Roemer, Ellen Simons, Boyd Temple, Isabel Temple

Those with ongoing needs due to health, circumstance, or civic service: Henry Brown, Dick Brownell, Patrick Carter, David Cline, Lillie Cowan, Donna Gravely, Emily Hain, David Hamaty, Betty Hedrick, Will Holladay, Blair Joyner, David Kemp, Jason Koontz, Walker Latimer, Don Lyerly, Jane Maxwell, Nan Medley, Joanne Nichols, Jim Phillips, Ian Schulte, Oliver Scott, Dirk Steenwyk, Ray Stoddard, Ruth Trollinger, Barbara Upright

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Candles in memory or honor of: James Allan Dunn, Sr., Lois Sanford Dunn, Mary Dunn Goodman, Lois Dunn Lore, Grover Watson Allen, Carrie Bailey Allen, Dolores Allen Swaim

Altar flowers in memory or honor of: Arthur David Davis, Mary Apperson Davis



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Established 1753

A Parish of the Diocese of North Carolina

The Rt. Rev. Samuel Rodman, Bishop

The Rt. Rev. Anne Hodges-Copple, Bishop Suffragan

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Come and See
the *difference* Christ makes



ST. LUKE'S STAFF

Rector: The Rev. Dr. Robert Black, rblack@sls.church

Deacon: The Rev. Bonnie Duckworth, bduckworth@sls.church

Director of Music Ministry: Matthew Woods, mwoods@sls.church

Director of Children's and Youth Ministry & Communications: Caroline Stephenson, cstephenson@sls.church

Office Manager: Tracey Vail, tracey@sls.church

Sexton: Marcus Corry, mccorry@sls.church

THE PARISH OFFICERS AND VESTRY

2020: Darlene Ball, Amy Goodnight, Drew Griffith, Dora Mbuwayesango (Sr. Warden)

2021: Chip Carter, Michael Greene (Jr. Warden), Fle Griffith, Chris McKinney

2022: Pati Carter, Anne Scott Clement, George Jones, Stephanie Phoenix

Parish Officers: Mark Bias (Secretary); Kathy Carter (Treasurer); Chip Short (Chancellor)

PARISH PRAYER

O God, in your abundant grace you sent your Son to be the light of the world: Grant that we may come and see the difference that Christ makes in each of us as we seek to become your beloved community; and as we gather in intentional worship, may we ever be reminded of your transformative love which is the foundation of our faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.