



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT EVENSONG

NOVEMBER 28, 2021 + 5:30 P.M.

Please sit only in pews where a cushion is present.

Keep your mask on at all times.

Come and See
the difference Christ makes



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 It may sound old fashioned but its meaning is not out of date.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.

VOLUNTARY *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*

Johann Gottfried Walther

INTROIT "Ad te levavi"

Franz Xavier Witt

*Ad te levavi animam meam:
Deus meus, in te confido,
non erubescam:
neque irideant me inimici mei
et enim universi,
qui te exspectant,
non confundentur.*

Unto thee have I lifted up my soul
O my God, I trust in thee,
let me not be put to shame;
neither allow mine enemies to laugh at me;
for all those
who are awaiting thee
will not be disappointed.

HYMN #60 Creator of the stars of night *Please stand, sung by all.*

Conditor alme siderum

OPENING SENTENCES

CONFSSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON After introduction, please kneel. 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, and there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders: Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults: Restore thou them that 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 EVENING PRECES *Please stand, sung by choir.*

Charles Winfred Douglas

Cantor: O Lord, open thou our lips;

Choir: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Cantor: O God, make speed to save us.

Choir: O Lord, make haste to help us.

Cantor: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

Choir: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Cantor: Praise ye the Lord.

Choir: The Lord's Name be praised.

PHOS HILARON #25 O gracious light

Sung by all.

The Eighth Tune/Tallis

(Third verse sung as a canon)

THE PSALTER Please be seated.

Matthew Camidge

(Psalm 111) I will give thanks unto the Lord with my whole heart, secretly among the faithful, and in the congregation. The works of the Lord are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein. His work is worthy to be praised and had in honour, and his righteousness endureth for ever. The merciful and gracious Lord hath so done his marvellous works, that they ought to be had in remembrance. He hath given meat unto them that fear him; he shall ever be mindful of his covenant. He hath showed his people the power of his works, that he may give them the heritage of the heathen. The works of his hands are verity and judgement; all his commandments are true. They stand fast for ever and ever, and are done in truth and equity. He sent redemption unto his people; he hath commanded his covenant for ever. Holy and reverend is his Name. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all they that do thereafter. The praise of it endureth for ever.

(Psalm 112) 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 82 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 stablished, 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

(Psalm 113) 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 liftest 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.

(Please stand.) 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 READING *Please be seated.***1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, ‘There is peace and security’, then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

THE MAGNIFICAT

Tone II.1 with Fauxbourdons by Carolus Andreas

*Please stand. Text of canticle is on page 65 of the Book of Common Prayer.***THE SECOND READING***Please be seated.***Luke 21:5-19**

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, ‘As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.’

They asked him, ‘Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?’ And he said, ‘Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, “I am he!”* and, “The time is near!”* Do not go after them.

‘When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.’ Then he said to them, ‘Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

‘But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defence in advance; for I will give you words* and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated

by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.

THE NUNC DIMITTIS

Tone VIII.1 with Fauxbourdons by Carolus Andreas

Please stand. Text of canticle is on page 66 of the Book of Common Prayer.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Sung by all, monotone.

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

Charles Winfred Douglas

Cantor: The Lord be with you.

Choir: And with thy spirit.

Cantor: Let us pray. *Please kneel.*

Choir: 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

Charles Winfred Douglas

Cantor: O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

Choir: And grant us thy salvation.

Cantor: O Lord, save the State.

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

Cantor: Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

Choir: And make thy chosen people joyful.

Cantor: O Lord, save thy people.

Choir: And bless thine inheritance.

Cantor: Give peace in our time, O Lord.

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

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

Choir: And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

THE SUNG COLLECTS

ANTHEM *Please be seated, sung by choir.*

“When Jesus left his Father’s throne”

Text at hymn #480

Kingsfold/adapt. Vaughn Williams

THE SPOKEN COLLECTS *Please kneel.*

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

HYMN #640 Watchmen, tell us of the night Please stand. Sung by all.

Aberystwyth

THE FINAL RESPONSES

E.W. Naylor

Cantor: The Lord be with you.

Choir: And with thy spirit.

Cantor: The Lord give us his peace

Choir: And life eternal. Amen.

VOLUNTARY Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

Andreas Nikolas Vetter

Your generous support for the ministries of St. Luke's is appreciated. You can place donations in the offering box at the nave crossing in the rear of the church or give online at www.SLS.church/give.

TONIGHT'S SERVERS:

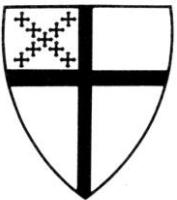
Organist/Choirmaster: Davis Cooke

Officiant: Reg Boland

Lector: Gary Thornburg

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If you learn that you are COVID positive after attending worship, please contact Father Robert immediately (rblack@SLS.church). We will notify the parish of the possible exposure (without sharing your identity) via parish-wide email and on our Facebook page



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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ST. LUKE'S STAFF

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THE PARISH OFFICERS AND VESTRY

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

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

2023: Tory Curran, Kathleen Dunn, Mike Mills, Matt Storey

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.

At St. Luke's we seek to be good stewards of the Earth. This service order is printed on 100% recycled paper, and we invite you to leave it at the end of each pew after the service for recycling.