

## Absolution

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## The Comfortable Words

## The Peace

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People:* *And with thy spirit.*

## Welcome & Announcements

## The Offertory

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.  
*People:* *And with thy spirit.*  
*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.  
*People:* *We lift them up unto the Lord.*  
*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.  
*People:* *It is meet and right so to do.*

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Because thou didst send thy beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we man without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

*Celebrant and People:*  
*Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:*  
*Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.*  
*Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.*  
*Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.*  
*Hosanna in the highest.*

*Then the celebrant continues:*

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *Amen.*

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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 Breaking of the Bread

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

## The Invitation

*Celebrant:* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your heart by faith with thanksgiving.

## The Administration of Communion

## Post Communion Prayer

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

*Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.*

## The Blessing

## Dismissal

*Celebrant:* Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord..

*People:* *Thanks be to God! Alleluia!*

# The Third Sunday of Advent

## December 12, 2010

### 8:00 am

*St. Timothy's Episcopal Church*  
*432 Van Buren Street, Herndon, VA 20170*  
*703-437-3790*  
*[www.saint-timothys.org](http://www.saint-timothys.org)*

## HOLY EUCHARIST - Rite I

## THE WORD OF GOD

## The Opening Acclamation *(standing)*

*Celebrant:* Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People:* *And blessed be God's kingdom now and forever. Amen.*

## The Collect for Purity

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## The Third Song of Isaiah

Arise, shine, for your light has come, \*  
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.  
For behold, darkness covers the land; \*  
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.  
But over you the Lord will rise, \*  
and his glory will appear upon you.  
Nations will stream to your light, \*  
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.  
Your gates will always be open; \*  
by day or night they will never be shut.  
They will call you, The City of the Lord, \*  
The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.  
Violence will no more be heard in your land, \*  
ruin or destruction within your borders.  
You will call your walls, Salvation, \*  
and all your portals, Praise.  
The sun will no more be your light by day; \*  
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.  
The Lord will be your everlasting light, \*  
and your God will be your glory.

## Collect of the Day

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.  
*People:* *And with thy spirit.*  
*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

## First Reading

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;  
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,

## Isaiah 35:1-10

and rejoice with joy and singing.  
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.  
They shall see the glory of the LORD,  
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble knees.  
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
"Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.  
He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.  
He will come and save you."  
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;  
the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,  
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,  
and it shall be called the Holy Way;  
the unclean shall not travel on it,  
but it shall be for God's people;  
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.  
No lion shall be there,  
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;  
they shall not be found there,  
but the redeemed shall walk there.  
And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,  
and come to Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
they shall obtain joy and gladness,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

### Psalm 146:4-9

4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help!\*  
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; \*  
who keeps his promise for ever;

6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \*  
and food to those who hunger.

7 The LORD sets the prisoners free;  
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind; \*  
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

8 The LORD loves the righteous;  
the LORD cares for the stranger; \*  
he sustains the orphan and widow,  
but frustrates the way of the wicked.

9 The LORD shall reign for ever, \*  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
Hallelujah!

### Second Reading

### James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late

rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

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

### Gospel

### Matthew 11:2-11

*Reader:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
*People:* ***Glory be to thee, O Lord.***

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People:* ***Praise be to thee, O Christ.***

### Sermon

The Rev. Bradford A. Rundlett, Rector

### 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.***

### Prayers for Advent

*Leader:* Sisters and Brothers in Christ, with faith in God's providence and promises, let us pray.

*(Pause)*

*Leader:* Blessed Savior, we pray for creation – for all people and every living creature, for landscapes of breathtaking beauty; for this good earth, clean air, and pure water. Help us revere and preserve what you have made.

*People:* ***Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done.***  
*(Pause)*

*Leader:* Merciful Messiah, we pray for the nations of the world, for our leaders and all whom they serve; fill us with humility and grant us mutual respect; give us wisdom, and help us make peace, that all your people may thrive and prosper.

*People:* ***Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done.***  
*(Pause)*

*Leader:* Gracious Christ, we pray for people in physical, mental, and spiritual distress. Increase our knowledge and compassion, advance our gifts for healing and wholeness; let none of your children suffer for want of good and loving care.

*People:* ***Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done.***  
*(Pause)*

*Leader:* Redeemer and Sanctifier, we pray for your Church: where we are in error, reform us; where we are divided, unite us; where we fail, give us new life; where we are faithful, perfect us. Make us shine with the light of your love, and draw all people to you.

*People:* ***Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done.***  
*(Pause)*

*Leader:* Sovereign of Heaven and earth, we pray for loved ones who have died, and for people who are dying now. We commend them to your perpetual care, and praise you for the resurrection of the dead, everlasting life, and the communion of saints.

*Leader:* ***Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done.***  
*(Pause)*

*Leader:* Holy and Eternal God, we offer ourselves to your service. Fill us with your Holy Spirit that we may think what you would have us think, do what you would have us do, and be the people you would have us be, that your perfect will may prevail.

*People:* ***Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done.***  
*(Pause)*

*Leader:* Divine Majesty, we praise you, and we thank you, for innumerable blessings, immeasurable love, and unrelenting grace.

*People:* ***On earth as it is in Heaven. Amen.***

### The Confession

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

***Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against thee  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved thee with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in thy will,  
and walk in thy ways,  
to the glory of thy Name. Amen.***