

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

432 Van Buren Street

Herndon, VA 20170

www.saint-timothys.org

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2011

8:00 a.m.

The Holy Eucharist: Rite I

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

Please stand.

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

The Celebrant continues

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.***

Venite

Celebrant and People

***O come, let us sing unto the Lord; *
let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, *
and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are all the corners of the earth, *
and the strength of the hills is his also.
The sea is his and he made it, *
and his hands prepared the dry land.
O come, let us worship and fall down *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is the Lord our God, *
and we are the people of his pasture
and the sheep of his hand.
O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth stand in awe of him.
For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth, *
and with righteousness to judge the world
and the peoples with his truth.***

The Collect of the Day

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

We beseech thee, Almighty God, to purify our consciences by thy daily visitation, that when thy Son our Lord cometh he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

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,

Celebrant and People

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.***
Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

We welcome all who come with faith and reverence to receive communion. If you would like to come forward for a blessing, please kneel placing your arms across your chest and the priest will bless you. Receive the bread in the palm of your hand and eat the bread or wait until the cup comes and dip the bread in the wine. If you prefer to drink the wine from the cup, please guide the cup to your lips.

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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 Comfortable Words

The Peace

Please stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People ***And with thy spirit.***

Welcome & Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

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

The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand.

Eucharistic Prayer II

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.***

The Celebrant continues

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 may 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.

Please remain standing or kneel as you are able.

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.

First Reading

2 Samuel 7:1-11,16

Please be seated.

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, “See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.” Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you.” But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?” Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Canticle 3

The Song of Mary *Magnificat*

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.

Second Reading

Romans 16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Gospel

Please stand.

Celebrant

People

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

Celebrant

People

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

Please be seated.

Ms. Terry R. Edwards

Seminarian

The Nicene Creed

Please stand.

Celebrant and People

***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.

Luke 1:26-38

The Prayers of the People

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

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. Grant us the knowledge, wisdom, and compassion to heal people who are sick and injured, and to restore people who are broken; 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.***

Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Celebrant and People

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.

Absolution

The Celebrant continues

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.***