

November 27, 2022

**Christ Episcopal Church of Guilford**  
**First Sunday of Advent**  
**Holy Eucharist Rite II**

10 a.m.

Prelude: *Wachet auf, ruft uns die stimme* BWV 645 ... J. S. Bach

**Opening Hymn: #61** Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us

*Wachet auf*

**"Sleepers, wake!"**

**A voice astounds us, the shout of rampart guards surrounds us:**

**"Awake, Jerusalem, arise!"**

**Midnight's peace their cry has broken, their urgent summons clearly spoken:**

**"The time has come, O maidens wise!**

**Rise up, and give us light; the Bridegroom is in sight.**

**Alleluia!**

**Your lamps prepare and hasten there, that you the wedding feast may share."**

**Zion hears the watchmen singing; her heart with joyful hope is springing,  
she wakes and hurries through the night.**

**Forth he comes, her Bridegroom glorious in strength of grace,  
in truth victorious: her star is risen, her light grows bright.**

**Now come, most worthy Lord, God's Son, Incarnate Word,**

**Alleluia!**

**We follow all and heed your call to come into the banquet hall.**

**Lamb of God, the heavens adore you; let saints and angels sing before you,  
as harps and cymbals swell the sound.**

**Twelve great pearls, the city's portals:**

**through them we stream to join the immortals as we with joy your throne surround.**

**No eye has known the sight, no ear hear such delight:**

**Alleluia!**

**Therefore we sing to greet our King; for ever let our praises ring.**

**Opening Acclamation:**

*Celebrant:* Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**People:** **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

**Advent Wreath Prayers** - *Hope, Peace, Joy, Love, Christ*

Reader: "Today we light the first candle of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning.  
This first candle is HOPE."

*The candle is lit.*

Scripture: "Psalm 33:20 – We wait in hope for the LORD, who is our help and our shield."

Prayer: "Eternal God, as we await the coming of our savior, give us the courage to hope. Give us grace to see your plans of redemption for our lives, for this community, and for the world. Through Jesus Christ, the source of our redemption and hope. Amen."

Hymn of Praise – “Once more the Advent candles burn” vs. 1,2

Wm. Flanders

**Once more the Advent candles burn.  
For new, for fuller life we yearn.  
Let music cast a hopeful spell:  
“O Come, O Come Emmanuel.” We sing. We sing.  
A verse that once Isaiah wrote.  
Saint Matthew in his time would quote:  
“A child shall be conceived and birthed,  
a blessing giv’n to all the earth.” We hear. We hear.**

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

**Collect of the Day**

*Prayed together:*

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*The Word of God*

**First Reading:**

Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come the mountain of the LORD’s house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say, ‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.’

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

*The Lector concludes:* The Word of the Lord. *People respond:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 122** *Laetatus sum* *prayed responsively*

BCP, p. 779-780

1. I was glad when they said to me, \*  
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."
2. Now our feet are standing \*  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
3. Jerusalem is built as a city \*  
that is at unity with itself;

4. To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, \*  
the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the LORD.
5. For there are the thrones of judgment, \*  
the thrones of the house of David.
6. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: \*  
"May they prosper who love you.
7. Peace be within your walls \*  
and quietness within your towers.
8. For my brethren and companions' sake, \*  
I pray for your prosperity.
9. Because of the house of the LORD our God, \*  
I will seek to do you good."

Epistle

Romans 13:11-14

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

*The Lector concludes:* The Word of the Lord. *People respond:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence Hymn # 74** Blest be the king whose coming vss.1,3,4

*Valet will ich dir geben*

**Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!  
For him let doors be opened, no hearts against him barred!  
Not robed in royal splendor, in power and pomp, comes he;  
but clad as are the poorest, such his humility!**

**Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!  
He only to the humble reveals the face of God.  
All power is his, all glory! All things are in his hand,  
all ages and all peoples, till time itself shall end!**

**Blest be the King! Whose coming is in the name of God!  
He offers to the burdened the rest and grace they need.  
Gentle is he and humble! And light his yoke shall be,  
for he would have us bear it so he can make us free!**

The Gospel:

*The Gospeller:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew

24:36-44

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

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake

therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

*The Gospeller concludes:* The Gospel of the Lord. *People respond:* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Mary Anne Osborn

### 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 OF THE PEOPLE FOR ADVENT

**Intercessor:** As we anticipate the glorious birth of the Messiah, let us gather our prayers as an offering of faith, responding, "O come, O come, Emmanuel."

**Intercessor:** For the Church that watches and waits for you, O Lord, for those who seek, or lead or follow, that the path be made straight for your coming. We pray for Michael our Presiding Bishop, Jeffrey and Laura, our Bishops, Mary Anne, our priest today, and for our staff and Vestry.

In our Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for Christ Church, Ansonia; St. Paul's, Bantam, Christ Church, Bethany and for The church of The Nippon ei Ko Kai;  
Let us pray

**People:** *O come, O come, Emmanuel*

**Intercessor:** For our nation and its people, that a spirit of mutual respect may inform and instruct those in positions of power and that together with them we may form a just and righteous society. Let us pray.

**People:** *O come, O come, Emmanuel*

**Intercessor:** For the welfare and peace of the world. That there may be freedom from the oppression and violence that imprison humankind and that swords of destruction may become tools of the light of hope. Let us pray.

**People:** *O come, O come, Emmanuel*

**Intercessor:** For the care and protection of this good earth which you have given us, that we may prepare for your coming again by fostering respect for all of creation. Let us pray.

**People:** *O come, O come, Emmanuel*

**Intercessor:** For all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit, and for those who care for them, that they may be given strength to endure and patience to carry on in the midst of trials. We pray especially for your healing touch in the lives of...[parish prayer list...]

and for those on our hearts....

*(silence as people offer prayers either silently or aloud)*

Let us pray.

**People:** *O come, O come, Emmanuel*

**Intercessor:** For all who have died, with thanksgiving for the fullness of their joy in you and their place in the company of heaven, that they too, may be present while we wait.

*[insert names of people who died here]*

Silence as the people add their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

Let us pray.

**People:** *O come, O come, Emmanuel*

**Intercessor:** O come, Emmanuel, do not tarry; to the dead bring life, to the living hope, and to all creation the renewal of your first gifts. Let us pray.

**People:** *O come, O come, Emmanuel*

Let us pray together for our Search Process:

*Dear Lord, in this season of change, we pray for our parish of Christ Church and our vestry. Guide us that we may be patient in our discernment, steadfast in our commitment, and imaginative about our future. We look to your wisdom and companionship in our journey to find a rector who will enlighten and inspire us through preaching, who will engage us through teaching, who will encourage us to serve others, and who will motivate us to celebrate the gospel in word and deed. All this we ask so that we may all come to know the love of Christ more deeply. Amen.*

**Celebrant:** Creator God, we praise you for your love in coming to us. Give us grace to accept the Christ who comes in your name, and the courage to be Christ for others. Amen.

*Silence*

*Celebrant:*

For yours is the majesty, O God, and  
yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and  
for ever. *Amen.*

### **Confession of Sin**

*Celebrant:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Celebrant* and people:

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

*Celebrant:*

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 Peace

*Celebrant:* The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **People: And also with you.**

Announcements and Greetings

## *The Holy Communion*

The Offertory

Offertory anthem: Offertory anthem: Advent Carol ...

A. V. Fedak

**The Doxology: Hymn 380** (vs. 3)

Presentation of Gifts

*Celebrant:* All things come of thee, O Lord.

*People:* **And of thine own have we given thee. Amen.**

**The Great Thanksgiving** Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP, p.

361

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your 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 we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Sanctus Hymnal #S-130* Holy, holy, holy

F. Schubert

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of power and might,**

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:  
*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

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

**Fraction Anthem – S-164** Jesus, Lamb of God *Agnus Dei* F. Schubert  
Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:  
give us your peace, give us your peace.

### Invitation to Communion

#### Prayer for Spiritual Communion\*

God of love and grace, of justice and peace, we give you thanks that in the Sacrament of the altar you assure us of your presence within us and within the body of Christ, the faithful through all the generations; grant that we who have witnessed anew these holy mysteries, though unable to receive the physical elements of the Sacrament, may be moved by your indwelling Spirit ever more fully to embody your holy and life-giving presence, reshaping in your likeness the world around us, until we are gathered at last into the fullness of your glorious and eternal presence; through Christ our Risen Lord. Amen.

### Communion

Communion solo: Come to us Lord Jesus P. Ambrose  
Leila Mustakos, soprano

### Advent Post-communion Prayer\*

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; That, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping, but active in his service and joyful in his praise; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Advent Blessing

**Closing Hymn: #57** Lo, he comes, with clouds descending *Helmsey*

Lo! He comes, with clouds descending, once for our salvation slain;  
thousand thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ the Lord returns to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him, robed in dreadful majesty;  
those who set at nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the tree,  
deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion still his dazzling body bears,  
cause of endless exultation to his ransomed worshipers;  
with what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, amen! Let all adore thee, high on thine eternal throne;  
Savior, take the power and glory; claim the kingdom for thine own:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

Dismissal: "Let us go forth in the name of Christ." **People: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: *Valet will ich dir geben* BWV 735 ...

J. S. Bach

*Today's altar flowers are in loving memory of  
all of our loved ones  
by Bob and Nancy Cairns.*

Officiant: The Rev. Mary Anne Osborn  
Music Director: Mark Sullivan  
Usher: Mardee Moore  
1<sup>st</sup> Reading & Psalm: Rob Hutchison  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Gabrielle Johnson  
Prayers of the People & communion prayer: Caroline Herrick  
Chalice Bearers: David Kish and Bob Donahue  
Lighting of the Advent Wreath – Rose and Chris Robinson  
Soloist: Leila Mustakos

\*Church of England, Book of Common Worship

## Upcoming Calendar Events



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**Sunday, November 27** – First Sunday of Advent

**Morning Prayer** – 9:00AM in the Parish Hall

**Holy Eucharist** – 10AM (streamed and in-person) with organ, hymns, and choir

**Sunday School & Youth Group** - on holiday

**Coffee hour** – following 11:00AM service

**Monday, November 28** – **Bible Study, 5PM – 6PM (see below)**

**Thursday, December 1** – Choir Rehearsal, 7PM – 9PM, Parish Hall **CC BY-NC**

**Friday, December 2** – Chili-to-Go, Wreath Sale, Cookie Sale, Outside Christmas Market – in the Parish Driveway beginning at 5PM

## Announcements & Upcoming Events

A note from Cecelia Bellomy Parker - Bible Study Day/time change - Monday from 5-6 PM. This will begin on Monday, 11/28. Anyone who is interested is welcome to join us! We are a casual bunch, and you will be able to jump right in. All you will need is the Zoom link, which does change weekly. I send it out in an email each Monday. **If you are interested in joining us, you can reach me at [cbellomy15@gmail.com](mailto:cbellomy15@gmail.com)** and I will make sure you get the link! We will be getting back together on **Monday 11/28 at 5 PM** when we will be starting our study of characters found in our Advent Scriptures.

### OUTREACH

Wondering how you can support our neighbors during the holidays? Most immediately, **Gift Cards** are needed for groceries from Big Y or Stop and Shop. You have several ways to donate: 1-purchase a gift card and put it, *along with the activation receipt*, in the offering plate; 2-write a check to CEC with "Gift Card" in the notation, or 3-put money in the box in the rectory hallway. All the Gift Cards will go to provide food for our neighbors through Guilford Social Services.

## OBSERVING ADVENT

This year we are trying something new as an opportunity to observe this season of Advent; we will be gathering in small groups for Advent Eucharists and a simple soup supper around tables in parishioners' homes. These will be at 6:30 on each Wednesday in Advent: Nov. 30th, Dec. 7th, Dec. 14th, and Dec. 21st. We have hosts for all 4 evenings and tables are filling up. These simple eucharists and suppers are an opportunity to gather and center on our life and fellowship in Christ during what is an otherwise crazy busy season with way too many distractions. Because our hosts have limited seats at their tables, please be sure to sign up. Sign up sheets are in the back of the church and you can email Rev. Mary Anne ([revmao28@gmail.com](mailto:revmao28@gmail.com)) if you want to reserve a spot. You are welcome to come to one or all!

**Also**, to assist you in your prayer at home during Advent, there are devotional booklets, a home Advent wreath lighting ritual, and votive candles on a table at the back of the church. You are invited to use these in whatever way will help you to stay connected with God during this busy time. Have a blessed Advent. -Rev. Mary Anne

**Annual Christmas Wreath sale:** Wreaths may be picked up by appointment on Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. Contact Sue Shackford if you have any questions.

### Friday, December 2 – Guilford Tree Lighting and so much more:

**?** Our annual **Chili Supper** (to-go) beginning at 5PM. Chair this year is Susan Tillier. Volunteers needed! Chili and vegetarian chili, cornbread and warm cider. Adults \$8, \$5 children at the door.

The ECW ladies (Diane Link, Chair) will be selling their cookie boxes ( Please plan to bake your favorite cookies and bring them to the Guild Room, Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> or Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup> by 10:30 am. Assorted cookies will be packaged and decorated with a bow and gift card and sold for \$10.00 per box.

Your Tag Sale Team is trying something new before the Town Tree Lighting! Come see our **outdoor** Christmas Market held at the same time as the Chili-to-Go and youth Wreath Sale. The Market will feature holiday entertaining and decorating items, as well as NEW gifts and holiday baskets. Proceeds will fund needed building improvements. Get in the holiday spirit and support Christ Church! Thank you!

**Sunday, December 11** – An Evening of Advent Music beginning at 4:00PM followed by a soup supper in the Parish Hall.

**Newcomers** – If you are visiting Christ Church for the first time (or perhaps have been coming regularly) please fill out the Welcome form in the pew holder. We would also ask that you sign the guest book in the rear of the church before you leave.

**Prayers of the People:** As a reminder from last week, we have many who have been on the list for a very long time, however going forward we will keep the names for a month. Please call the office if you would like a name to continue or have a name removed.

### ECW News:

On display in the Parish Hall is our fall Brownie Hostess kit. The kit is cellophane wrapped and a fall ribbon and bow with gift card completes the kit, \$10.00 each. Order forms are located on our table in the hall. We will be offering them during December with Christmas ribbon and gift card. For further information contact Diane W. Link at (203) 458-1806.

**Today is your last chance to purchase** Mr & Mrs Turkey Pops, "We Gather together" Hershey milk

chocolate w/almond bars, M&M filled cornucopias, and Pilgrim popcorn all for sale in the Parish Hall for the month of November.

**Seeking new members!** ECW is a Christ Church organization who's mission is to bring together the women in our parish to join in faith, compassion and companionship. We share common goals of love and support for all in need, within our parish, our community, or beyond. All Christ Church women are members, no dues, commitment or talent - just your presence.

**The Guilford Food Bank requests help with the following items:** Oatmeal, Tea, coffee, hot chocolate, sugar, canned tomatoes, pasta sauce, peanut butter, 100% fruit juice, Gluten free products, paper towels, laundry detergent, household cleaner, dish detergent and shampoo. Please leave your donations in the bin by the north (Town Hall-side) door to the Narthex or feel free to drop off any donations during the week when the Parish Office is open (Tues-Thurs, 9AM – 2PM). Thank you Tony Piscitelli for delivering the donations!