SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
DECEMBER 6, 2015 — SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I — 8:00 AND 10:00 A.M.

THE WORD OF GOD
The opening music offers a time for prayer and meditation. Please silence all devices.

GATHERING MUSIC Wachet auf (Wake, Awake) J. S. Bach

INTROIT, COLLECT AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Rorate Coeli  (Drop down, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain justice. Let the earth awake and bring forth the Savior. We have sinned and are unclean, and we fade like a leaf: our sins, like the wind, have taken us away; thou hast hidden thy face from us and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities.) (Please stand, as able, at the sound of the chimes following the lighting.)

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

HYMNAL 859 Hark, a Thrilling Voice Is Sounding MERTON

COLLECT FOR PURITY
Book of Common Prayer (BCP), p. 323

KYRIE ELEISON £ 91 (front section of hymnal) Healey Willan Lord, have mercy upon us (3 times). Christ have mercy upon us (3x). Lord have mercy... (3x)

COLLECT OF THE DAY
Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.
Celebrant Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and for-sake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeem-er: who liveth and reigneth with thee, and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for-ever.
People Amen.

FIRST READING Baruch 5:1-9 (read or seated)
Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

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

CANTICLE 4: The Song of Zechariah (Benedictus Dominus Deus)

1. Solo Blessed be the Lord God of / Is-ra-el, * 
   All for he hath visited and redeemed / his peo-ple, 
   and hath raised up a mighty salvation / for us,* 
   in the house of his ser- vant David. 
2. As he spake by the mouth of his holy / pré-phets,* 
   which have since been the / world be-gan. 
3. That we should be saved from our / én-e-mies,* 
   and from the hand of all / that hate us: 
4. to perform the mercy promised to our fore- / fá-thers,* 
   and to remember his ho-ly cov-e(n)-ant; 
5. To perform the oath which he swore to our / for- / éd-er,* 
   that he / would give us, 
6. that we being delivered out of the hand of our / én-e-mies,* 
   might serve him / with-out fear, 
7. In holiness and righteousness be- / fam, him,* 
   all the days / of our life. 
8. And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of / High-est,* 
   for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to pre- / páré his ways; 
9. to give knowledge of salvation unto his / pós-pé,* 
   for the remission / of their sins, 
10. Through the tender mercy of our / God,* 
   whereby the dayspring from on high hath vis- / íd-ed us; 
12. To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of / déath,* 
   and to guide our feet into the / way of peace.

ANTHEM King Jesus Hath a Garden Dutch carol

SECOND READING Philippians 1:3-11 (remaining seated)
I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of right-eousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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

GOSPEL Luke 3: 1-6 (standing, if able)
In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, pro-claiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

SERMON
A period of silence is observed following the sermon.

NICENE CREED (standing, if able) Book of Common Prayer (BCP), p. 326

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (standing or kneeling) BCP p. 328

Reader . . . let us pray to the Lord.
People Lord, have mercy.

Reader Gracious God:
All By your love you have called us to proclaim with joy the good news of your Son: So build us up in the knowledge and love of Him, that we may welcome all people into this community of faith, and show forth our service to you in our service to others; through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen. (Collect for St. John's)

Thanks be to God.

(Verse appointed for the day)

Prepare ye ye the way of the / Lord: * Make straight a highway / for our God.

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

1
2
3

(please stand, as able, for the gospel sequence.)
**CONFINEMENT**  (kneeling or standing) BCP p. 330

**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 PEACE**  (standing if able)

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

**People** And with thy spirit.

You are invited to share a sign of God’s peace with those around you.

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**  (Please be seated.)

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

All are invited to share at the Lord’s table. At the altar railing you may stand or kneel to receive the bread and wine. You may drink from the cup or touch the bread to the wine. If you prefer to receive a blessing you may indicate so by crossing your arms. The common bread is gluten-free.

**OFFERED SENTENCE**

**ANTHEM** Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord Michael Wise

(The text may be found at Isaiah 40:3-5 on p. 626 of the pew Bible.)

**PRESENTATION**  (sung by all, standing if able)

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

**BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

**Celebrant** Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**People** Therefore let us keep the feast.

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

**DISTRIBUTION**

**COMMUNION MUSIC**

**AGNUS DEI** S 158 (front of hymnal) H. Willan

**HYMNAL #75** There's a Voice in the Wilderness ASCENSION

**ADVENT CHANT** Prepare the Way Jayson R. Enquist

(Congregation please sing with choir: “A voice is calling from the wilderness, voice calling…”)

**HYMNAL #54** Savior of the Nations, Come! NUN KOMM

**HYMNAL #53** Once He Came in Blessing GOTTES SOHN IST KOMMEN

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**  (said by all, kneeling or standing)

Almighty and everlasting 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 incorporated 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.

**PROCESSION OF THE CRÈCHE FIGURES**  (sung)

**CAROL** Joseph lieber, Joseph mein German carol

(Each week the figures will move closer to the manger in anticipation of Christmas.)

**HYMNAL #67** Comfort, Comfort Ye My People FREU DICH SEHR

**BLESSING AND DISMISSAL**

Deacon Our worship here is ended; now let our service begin.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.

**VOLUNTARY** Wachet auf  (Wake, Awake) arr. John Ferguson

(You are invited to move forward to the choir stalls for the final music.)

**TODAY WE PRAY WITH**

Don, Star, Bert, Wimpy, Mac, Kathleen, Linda, Glen, Laurieanne, Ann, Mildred, Joan, Patricia, Thelma, Norma, Pat, Steve, Ginny, Jack, Camille, Susan, Pat, Christopher, Amy, Annie, and those who would add.

**ASSISTING IN BOTH SERVICES TODAY**

**PRESIDER** The Reverend Kate Bradtmiller

**DEACON** The Reverend Margaret Thor

**ALTAR GUILD** Dusty Mair, Shirley Cooper, Phyllis Frisky, Patty Byrne Pfalz, Phillip Baird, Bill Sherfey

**ASSISTING IN THE RAMP SERVICE TODAY**

**VERGER** Phillip Baird

**READER** Craig Lindeke

**ASSISTING IN THE 10AM SERVICE TODAY**

**ADULT CHOIR** Jayson R. Enquist, Director of Music & Organist

**CHILDREN’S & YOUTH CHOIRS** Heather Hunt, Director

**INSTRUMENTALISTS** Chime ringers, Recorder Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble

**ACOUSTICS** Matt Brooks, Charlie Docherty, Will Rinkoff, Thea Bishop

**READERS** Judy Southwick, Don Postema

**USHERS & GATERS** Barbara Lindeke, Suzanne McIntyre, Judy Southwick, Bob Bauman, Mary & Peter Gilbertson, Kathleen Hanson

**COFFEE HOUR** Godly Play Families

Please visit the St. John’s website - stjohnsstpaul.org - for more information.