



we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## THE LESSONS

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:1-11

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

“Comfort, O comfort my people,” says your God. “Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins.”

A voice cries out: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.” A voice says, “Cry out!” And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, “Here is your God!”

See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.

*People*            *Thanks be to God.*

### PSALM 85:1-2, 8-13 (BCP p. 708)

<sup>1</sup>*You have been gracious to your land, O Lord; \*  
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.*

<sup>2</sup>*You have forgiven the iniquity of your people \*  
and blotted out all their sins.*

<sup>8</sup>*I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, \*  
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people  
and to those who turn their hearts to him.*

<sup>9</sup>*Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, \*  
that his glory may dwell in our land.*

<sup>10</sup>*Mercy and truth have met together; \*  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.*

<sup>11</sup>*Truth shall spring up from the earth, \*  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.*

<sup>12</sup>*The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, \*  
and our land will yield its increase.*

<sup>13</sup>*Righteousness shall go before him, \*  
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.*

**SECOND READING: 2 Peter 3:8-15a**

A Reading from the Second letter of Peter.

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.

*People*           *Thanks be to God.*

**GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8**

*Deacon*           The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'"

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

*Deacon*           The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*           *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE** by a special guest, St. Nicholas

**MUSIC OFFERING** "My Soul Waits for the Lord" (refrain)

Hymn by Michael Bauer

Bev Benso, Margie Lawrence, Emma Silvestri, Cheryl Wagner - singers

**THE SERMON**

**THE NICENE CREED (BCP p. 358)**

*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.*

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (BCP p. 385) Form II**

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop Bascom; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for our Full Communion Partner, the Moravian Church, Northern and Southern Provinces

**In the World Council of Churches Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for the people of Liberia and Sierra Leone

## **In the Kansas Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for St. John's, Wichita

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Pray for those who need healing: D.J., Sigrid, Eleanor, Glenna, Kristin, Max, Clair, Doug, Robyn, Becky, Will, Brenda, Al, Sam.

Pray for those with special circumstance: Jose, Ellyn, Nellie, Mary, Bill.

Pray for those in the hospital: Holly, Barbara, Sam, Dennis.

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

Pray that they may find and be found by him.

I ask your prayers for the departed: Steve Roberts, Bill Theisen, Frank Kramer Jr., Ralph Walker.

Pray for those who have died.

*Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present*

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

## **CONFESSION OF SIN (BCP p. 360)**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

### *Minister 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.*

### *The Priest says*

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 (BCP p. 360)**

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

*People*            *And also with you.*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### **BIRTHDAY PRAYER** (“For a Birthday,” BCP p. 830)

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s), as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **ANNIVERSARY PRAYER** (“Anniversary of a Marriage,” Book of Occasional Services p. 164)

Grant, O God, in your compassion, that these two people, having taken each other in marriage, and affirming again the covenant which they have made, may grow in forgiveness, loyalty, and love; and come at last to the eternal joys which you have promised through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **ANNIVERSARY OF A BAPTISM** (“For those about...to renew their Baptismal Covenant,” BCP p. 819)

O God, you prepared your disciples for the coming of the Spirit through the teaching of your Son Jesus Christ: Make the hearts and minds of your servants ready to receive the blessing of the Holy Spirit, that they may be filled with the strength of his presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE** (BCP p. 376)

*The Celebrant says*

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.  
*Psalm 50:14*

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

**“People, Look East”**

**Dale Wood**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

### **SURSUM CORDA** (BCP p. 367)

*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 him thanks and praise.*

### **PROPER PREFACE** (BCP p. 378)

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 (BCP p. 367)**

*Celebrant and People*

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

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

*Hosanna in the highest*

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION (BCP p. 362)**

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.*

**EPICLESIS (BCP p. 363)**

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.*

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 364)**

And now, as our Savior Christ has 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, forever and ever. Amen.*

#### **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

#### **FRACTION ANTHEM (BCP p. 364)**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

#### **INVITATION (BCP p. 364)**

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

#### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray.

*In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, (and remembering particularly my own parish and those worshiping there) I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory.*

*And particularly for the blessings given me.... I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.*

**BLESSING (BCP p. 339)**

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

**DISMISSAL (BCP p. 366)**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People Thanks be to God.*

**POSTLUDE**

**Congregational Hymn #67**

**Comfort, comfort ye my people two settings by John Ferguson and Michael Burkhardt**

**A carol from home**

**“Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella”**

**Dance Prelude on “Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella”**

**Christopher Uehlein**

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