ADVENT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

3760 Dover Center Road Westlake, OH 44145 440-871-6685

December 31, 2023

10:00 a.m.

The First Sunday after Christmas
Service of Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist

PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL Hymn #102 Once In Royal David's City

Celebrant Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Thanks be to God

Celebrant Jesus said, "You are the light of the world. A city

built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." *Amen*.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 21.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The people sit

LESSONS & CAROLS

Scripture Exodus 34:1-8

Hymn #81 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Scripture Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Hymn # 79 O Little Town of Bethlehem (Verses 1, 3 & 5)

.Scripture Matthew 1:18-25

Hymn # 109 The First Nowell (Verses 1-2, 4 & 6)

Scripture Galatians 3:23-26

Hymn # 96 Angels We Have Heard On High (Verses 1-4)

Scripture Galatians 4:4-7

Hymn # 107 Good Christian Friends Rejoice!

Scripture John 1:1-18

Hymn # 100 Joy to the World! (Verses 1, 2 & 4)

SERMON Pastor Paul Laursen

NICENE CREED (all standing) BCP 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BCP 392, Form 6

The Leader and People pray responsively#

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Archbishop Welby; our Presiding Bishop Curry; our own Bishop Jolly; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Let us pray together:

Our Father in heaven,

We pray with open hearts and minds to know your will for us.

Reveal to us the initiatives we should take:

For nourishing ourselves with your Word; for supporting each other in Christian fellowship; for taking the Gospel to outside communities; and for loving and serving others in the power of your Spirit. We are grateful for the pastoral encouragement you have provided us in this season. We are grateful for our lay leadership in their shouldering of extra burdens. Lord, we ask that you lay bare the hearts of this congregation, and open each one of us to every new day. Open us to what you have for our future as a new church family in Christ. Amen.

O Lord, God of our fathers, your Advent people have stood steadfast in the truth of Your Word. We have strived to be the beacon of light in our corner of this world, guiding others to you. We search for the means to stay on this path together. We stand before you crying out to you. We know this battle belongs to You Lord. We cannot do this ourselves. As we walk on the path you have set before us, we sing your praises and give you thanks Lord! We know that you will show us the way. Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

BCP 360

Leader Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Leader 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

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Celebrant and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY

PRESENTATION OF ALMS & OBLATIONS

PREPARATION OF ELEMENTS

DOXOLOGY

The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

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. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

The people remain standing. The Celebrant says

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.

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 thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children.

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:

Celebrant and People

The Sanctus (sing) Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,

God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. (2Xs) Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. (2Xs)

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

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.

The Memorial Acclamation (sing)

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again (2Xs)

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.

The Great Amen (sing) Amen. Amen. (2Xs)

Celebrant 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

BCP 364

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

PeopleTherefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.CelebrantThe Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

- * All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion. For those not yet baptized (or for baptized visitors who do not wish to receive the Sacrament), you may come to the altar rail and cross your arms; the priest will be happy to pray a prayer of blessings.* Administration of Communion:
 - Please follow usher's directions to altar rail.
 - The consecrated bread is offered with the words,
 - "The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven." (Amen).
- The chalice and intinction cup are offered with the words,
 - "The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation," (Amen).

COMMUNION Hymn #99 Go Tell It On A Mountain

The Celebrant says Let us pray.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (said by all)

BCP 365

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior, Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

RECESSIONAL Hymn #87 Hark! The Herald Angles Sing

THE DISMISSAL BCP 366

POSTLUDE

^{*} You may dip your bread in the intinction cup * Intercessory Prayer is available at the back of the Sanctuary.