

**Saint Luke's Episcopal Church
Tulsa, Oklahoma**

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two



Saint John the Baptist
Giuseppe Leonardo (1635-1640)

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025

10:30 a.m.

All stand as able as the ministers process into the church

The Opening Hymn: H640, *Watchman, tell us of the night*

1 Watch-man, tell us of the night, what its signs of prom - ise
2 Watch-man, tell us of the night; high - er yet that star a -
3 Watch-man, tell us of the night, for the morn - ing seems to

are. Trav - eler, o'er yon moun - tain's height, see that glo - ry -
scends. Trav - eler, bless - ed - ness and light, peace and truth its
dawn. Trav - eler, dark - ness takes its flight, doubt and ter - ror

beam - ing star. Watch-man, does its beau - teous ray
course por - tends. Watch-man, will its beams a - lone
are with - drawn. Watch-man, let thy wan - derings cease;

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features three systems of music. Each system consists of a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are arranged in three systems, with the first system containing three numbered lines of text. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines in the bass.

aught of joy or hope fore - tell? Trav-eler, yes; it
 gild the spot that gave them birth? Trav-eler, a - ges
 hie thee to thy qui - et home. Trav-eler, lo! the

brings the day, prom - ised day of Is - ra - el.
 are its own; see, it bursts o'er all the earth.
 Prince of Peace, lo! the Son of God is come!

Two groups may sing antiphonally, alternating by sentences.
 Words: John Bowring (1792-1872). Music: *Aberystwyth*, Joseph Parry (1841-1903).

The Word of God

The People standing as able, the Celebrant says

Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

The Celebrant may say

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

The following hymn is sung or said, all standing as able

Gloria in excelsis, S-280

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.*

*Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,*

*we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,*

you take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father:

receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,

you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ,

with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the People

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to

whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever.

People ***Amen.***

The People sit.

The First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10

Reader A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

After the Reading, the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

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

Silence may follow.

Psalm 146:4-9

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! *
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; *
who keeps his promise for ever;

Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
and food to those who hunger.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind; *
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

The LORD loves the righteous; the LORD cares for the stranger; *
he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the wicked.

The LORD shall reign for ever, *
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Hallelujah!

The Second Reading: James 5:7-10

Reader A reading from the Letter of James.

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the LORD is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an

example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

After the Reading, the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

The Sequence Hymn: H67, *Comfort, comfort ye my people*



1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus
2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert
3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er



saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -
since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry



ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;

continued on next page

tell her that her sins I cov - er,
 let the val - leys rise to meet him
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken

 and her war - fare now is o - ver.
 and the hills bow down to greet him.
 that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

Words: Johann G. Olearius (1611-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: *Psalm 42*, melody and bass Claude Goudimel (1514-1572); harm. *Hymnal 1982*.

The Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

Then, all standing as able, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew.

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

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.” As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before

you.’ “Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon: The Rev. John Rule

The Nicene Creed

On Sundays and other Major Feasts there follows, all standing as able

*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 (Form IV)

Let us pray for the Church and the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory to the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and all of the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Give us all the reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to honor your glory.

Silence

Lord in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as He loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died; that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Lord Jesus Christ, true light of the world, you guide all mankind to salvation. Give us the courage, strength, and grace to build a kingdom of justice and peace ready for the coming of that kingdom, where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. ***Amen***

The Confession of Sin

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

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 Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and 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

All stand as able. The Celebrant says to the People

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

The Offertory Sentence

The Offertory Hymn: H72, *Hark! The glad sound, the Savior comes*

1 Hark! the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior
 2 He comes, the pri - soners to re - lease in Sa - tan's
 3 He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

prom - ised long: let ev - ery heart pre -
 bond - age held; the gates of brass be -
 soul to cure; and with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

pare a throne, and ev - ery voice a song.
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B

The Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below,
Praise him above ye heavenly hosts,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.*

The People remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

People The Lord be with you.
Celebrant **And also with you.**
People Lift up your hearts.
Celebrant **We lift them to the Lord.**
People Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
Celebrant **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Then, 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:

S-128 Sanctus

***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.

The People stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

***We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;***

The Celebrant continues

And we offer this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Luke and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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,

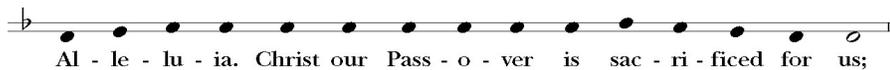
***Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.***

The Breaking of the Bread

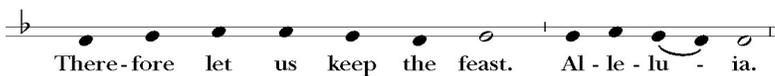
The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Then the Celebrant sings or says



The People sing or say in response



The Fraction Anthem: S164, *Jesus, Lamb of God*

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.

Facing the People, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The 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.

The Distribution of Communion

All baptized Christians are invited and encouraged to receive the Body and Blood of Christ at the altar of this parish church. Gluten-free wafers are available.

The Communion Hymn: H65, *Prepare the way, O Zion*



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847); tr. composite; adapt. Charles P. Price (b. 1920) Copyright ©1982, Charles P. Price. Music: *Bereden väg för Svenska Kyrkan*, 1939, alt. Copyright ©1930 by permission of Augsburg Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

The Postcommunion Prayer

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

*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.*

Birthday & Anniversary Blessings

The Blessing of the Children

The Final Blessing

 <i>Birthdays & Anniversaries We Celebrate</i>  Fr. John Rule's Birthday.....December 15 <i>You are invited to come forward, at the invitation of the priest, to receive a birthday or anniversary blessing.</i>

The Closing Hymn: H444, *Blessed be the God of Israel*



1 Blessed be the God of Is - rael, who comes to set us free;
 2 He from the house of Da - vid a child of grace has given;
 3 On pri - son - ers of dark-ness the sun be - gins to rise,



he vis - its and re - deems us, he grants us lib - er - ty.
 a Sa - vior comes a - mong us to raise us up to heaven.
 the dawn - ing of for - give - ness up - on the sin - ner's eyes.



The pro - phets spoke of mer - cy, of free - dom and re - lease;
 Be - fore him goes his her - ald, fore - run - ner in the way,
 He guides the feet of pil - grims a - long the paths of peace.



God shall ful - fill his prom - ise and bring his peo - ple peace.____
 the pro - phet of sal - va - tion, the har - bin - ger of Day.____
 O bless our God and Sa - vior, with songs that nev - er cease.____

Words: Michael A. Perry (b. 1942), alt.; para. of *The Song of Zechariah*, Copyright ©1973, Michael A. Perry. Music: *Thornbury*, Basil Harwood (1859-1949)
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The Dismissal

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses the People, who respond

People Thanks be to God.

Announcements

Our Lord Jesus Christ
Head of the Church

The Right Reverend
Poulson Reed
Bishop of Oklahoma

The Rev. John Rule
Vicar

Jack Kelly
Senior Warden

Craig Cottrell
Junior Warden

Lee Ann Henley
Treasurer

Melissa Mullen
Secretary/Clerk

Yvonne Baker
Altar Guild Directress

+THE MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY+

Ministers:.....The Congregation of St. Luke's
Celebrant: & Preacher:..... The Rev. John Rule
Eucharistic Ministers:..... Anne GhostBear
Lectors:.....Melissa Mullen, Jack Kelly
Intercessor:Betty Scott
Acolytes:..... Bill Hiddle
Oblationers: Dedee Cottrell, Craig Cottrell
Organist:..... Drew Ashley
Ushers:..... Harold Eason, Sue Dishong
Counters:..... Melissa Mullen, Carle Robbins

Father John's Prayer

Help us, Heavenly Father,
through the power
of the Holy Spirit,
always to be humble and compassionate
servants of others,
and to pick up our cross daily and follow
in the path of
your dear Son Jesus Christ,
our Lord and Savior.
in whose name we pray.

Amen.

**Advent: the time to listen for footsteps—
you can't hear footsteps when you're
running yourself
Bill McKibben**

Saint Luke's Tulsa

Those For Whom We Pray

THE MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH

Prayers for Healing: Drew, Claudette & John, Linda, Charlotte, John, Joseph, Tera, Yvonne

[Please let Fr. John or Melissa Mullen know if you wish to add someone to the Prayer List]

Those in Retirement Homes:

Those in the Armed Forces: For all who serve around the world

Christian People in the World: The people of Ukraine

The Clergy: Sarah the Archbishop of Canterbury-Elect; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Poulson, our Bishop; John, our Vicar

Our Wardens: Jack Kelly and Craig Cottrell

Our Bishop's Committee: Zac Cox, Sue Dishong, Ann GhostBear, Jana Gowan, Bill Hiddle, Carle Robbins, Dedee Cottrell, Susan Soulsby, and Rick Vivion

Our Parish Office Staff: Lee Ann Henley, Treasurer; Melissa Mullen, Secretary/Clerk; Susan Moffatt, Bookkeeper

Our Organist: Drew Ashley

Our Choir: Lee Ann, Melissa, Betty, Janice

The Faithful Departed: All those who have died during the war in Ukraine and Palestine, and as a result of gun violence

Welcome Visitors

We are glad you chose to worship with us today.
We would appreciate it if you would complete the card
found in your pew and place it in the alms basin,
or sign our guest register at the north or south entrance to the church.



May our Lord Jesus Christ bless your worship experience this day
and go with you throughout the week.

Our Mission Statement

To know Christ and make him known through worship, prayer,
study, fellowship, outreach, and witness in our daily walk.



Saint Luke's Episcopal Church

Ninth & Yale

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and like us on Facebook [St. Luke's \(Tulsa\)](#)