

St. Augustine's Church

A Church Family in the Heart of the City



December 12, 2021 10:00 AM

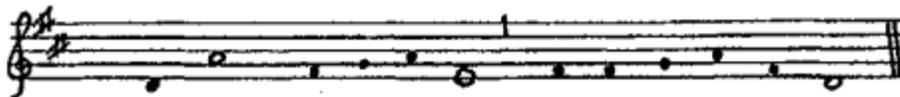
The Third Sunday of Advent
The Holy Eucharist
December 12, 2021

Prelude

Mary Lee Voort

Advent Responsory: Psalm 130:1,3,5-6

An Advent Responsory



My soul waits for the Lord; in his word is my hope.

My soul waits for the Lord; in his word is my hope.
My soul waits for the Lord; in his word is my hope.



Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear my voice.

In his word is my hope.

There is forgiveness with you;
therefore you shall be feared.

In his word is my hope.

My soul waits for the Lord,
more than watchmen for the morning.

In his word is my hope.

O Israel, wait for the Lord,
for with the Lord there is mercy.

In his word is my hope.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.

My soul waits for the Lord; in his word is my hope.

Text from The Book of Alternative Services, page 105
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Chants and Pointing © Michael P. Ebsworth, November 1993

Processional Hymn: 88 "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;

From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.

**Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.**

**Born thy people to deliver; born a child and yet a King;
born to reign in us forever: now thy gracious kingdom bring.**

**By thine own eternal Spirit, rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.**

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Dr. Gillian Breckenridge

Children's Focus

Cooper, McKay and Reid Roberts

The Gathering of the Community *(All Stand)*

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Almighty God,

People **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are
hidden. 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.**

Kyrie Eleison *(All kneel)*

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.

The Collects

Celebrant Let us pray. *(All kneel)*

All **God of power and mercy, you call us once again to celebrate the coming of
your Son. Remove those things which hinder love of you, that when he
comes, he may find us waiting in awe and wonder for him who lives and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

**Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and put on
the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son**

Jesus Christ came to us in great humility, that on 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 Proclamation of the Word

At the conclusion of each reading, the reader shall say: **The Word of the Lord.**
And the people shall respond: **Thanks be to God.**

First Reading Zephaniah 3:14-20

Ceri Penner

Sing, Daughter Zion;

shout aloud, Israel!

Be glad and rejoice with all your heart,

Daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵The LORD has taken away your punishment,
he has turned back your enemy.

The LORD, the King of Israel, is with you;
never again will you fear any harm.

¹⁶On that day
they will say to Jerusalem,

“Do not fear, Zion;
do not let your hands hang limp.

¹⁷The LORD your God is with you,
the Mighty Warrior who saves.

He will take great delight in you;
in his love he will no longer rebuke you,
but will rejoice over you with singing.”

¹⁸“I will remove from you
all who mourn over the loss of your appointed festivals,
which is a burden and reproach for you.

¹⁹At that time I will deal
with all who oppressed you.

I will rescue the lame;

I will gather the exiles.

I will give them praise and honor
in every land where they have suffered shame.

²⁰At that time I will gather you;
at that time I will bring you home.

I will give you honor and praise
among all the peoples of the earth
when I restore your fortunes

before your very eyes,”
says the LORD.

Second Reading Philippians 4:4-7

Jay Penner

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Gradual Hymn: #104 “Joy Shall Come”

**Joy shall come even to the wilderness,
and the parched land shall then know great gladness;
as the rose, as the rose shall deserts blossom,
deserts like a garden blossom.
For living springs shall give cool water,
in the desert streams shall flow
For living springs shall give cool water,
in the desert streams shall flow.**

Gospel Reading Luke 3:7-18

René Boéré

Reader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

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

John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ⁹ The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰ “What should we do then?” the crowd asked.

¹¹ John answered, “Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.”

¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized. “Teacher,” they asked, “what should we do?”

¹³ “Don’t collect any more than you are required to,” he told them.

¹⁴ Then some soldiers asked him, “And what should we do?”

He replied, “Don’t extort money and don’t accuse people falsely—be content with your pay.”

¹⁵ The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. ¹⁶ John answered them all, “I baptize you with^[a] water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with^[b] the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” ¹⁸ And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them.

Reader Gospel of Christ.

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

Sermon

The Rev. Steve Bateman

Anthem

"Gaudete!"(O Rejoice!) - Sheldon Curry

Gaudete, Gaudete! Christus est natus ex Maria virgine, gaudete !
(O rejoice! O rejoice for Christ is coming from a Virgin maid, we say, O, rejoice!)

Dawning now the day of grace, day so long expected;
let us raise our song of praise, Hope is resurrected!
Gaudete, Gaudete ! Christus est natus ex Maria virgine, gaudete !

Comfort, comfort ye my people, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning ‘neath their sorrows’ load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;
tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over.

Gaudete, Gaudete ! Christus est natus ex Maria virgine, gaudete !
God is born in common stall, miracle of nature,
open hands to one and all, sov’ reign Holy Stranger.

Make ye straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain;
let your hearts be true and humble, as befits His holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord now o’er earth is shed abroad;
and all flesh shall see the token that God’s word is never broken.

Therefore let our gathering sing the lustrous story;
Praising God with heart and voice, greet the Song of Glory!
Gaudete, Gaudete ! Christus est natus ex Maria virgine, gaudete !

The Nicene Creed

Celebrant Let us confess our faith as we say,

All **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. With the father and the Son he is worshipped 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 *(all kneeling)*

Flora Mackay

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for The Anglican Church of Canada.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: In our diocese we pray for Holy Trinity, Rocky Mountain House, St. Cuthbert & St. George, Sundre and Mr. Gerald Ingeveld, Lay Minister and The Rev. John Gishler, we also prayer for Bishop, Archdeacons and Regional Deans.

In the Companion Diocese of the Windward Islands we pray for St. David and St. Paul on Grenada and The Rev. Fr. Edward Mark, Priest-in-Charge.

Parish Cycle of Prayer: We pray for those involved in ministry of Administration: Parish Treasurer, Envelope Secretary, New Connections Team and Facility Booking Coordinator.

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept. The celebrant and the people say together,

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 neighbours 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 upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

The Peace *All stand, and one of the ministers addresses the people:*
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you**

Offertory Hymn: #91 "People, Look East! The Time is Near" (v. 1, 2, 3, 5)

**People, look east! The time is near
Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the guest, is on the way.**

**Furrows, be glad! Though earth is bare,
One more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
That in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the rose, is on the way.**

**Birds, though you long have ceased to build,
Guard the nest that must be filled;
Even the hour when wings are frozen
God for fledging time has chosen
People, look east and sing today:**

Love, the bird, is on the way.

**Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
With the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Lord, is on the way.**

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Prayer over the Gifts *(All Stand)*

The Rev. Dr. Gillian Breckenridge

All **God of hope, renew in us the joy of your salvation and make us a living sacrifice to you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Eucharistic Prayer 3 *(Please remain standing)*

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 our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh, and opened to us the way of salvation. Now we watch for the day when he will come again in power and great triumph to judge this world, that we, without shame or fear, may 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.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Lord God of hosts.**

Heaven and earth are full of your glory, hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling 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 Saviour 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 he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted. 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."

All Therefore, Father, according to his command,
**we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, 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, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all 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 whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer *(all kneeling)*

Celebrant And now, as our Saviour 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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

All **Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.**

The Communion

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Celebrant Those joining from home may say the following prayer.

All **Gracious God, I repent of my sins, and steadfastly believe that Jesus Christ has suffered death upon the cross for me, and that he shed his blood for my redemption. I earnestly remember the benefits I have because of his death and give him my heartfelt thanks. I eat and drink the body and blood of our Saviour Christ profitably to my soul's health, although I do not receive the sacrament with my mouth.** *Adapted from the Book of Common Prayer p584*

The celebrant and people then receive communion. The sacrament is given with the following words.

The body of Christ (given for you).

The blood of Christ (shed for you).

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Let us pray. *(All kneeling)*

All **Merciful God, may this eucharist free us from our sins, fill us with unending joy, and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is Lord now and for ever. Amen**

(all stand)

Celebrant Glory to God

All **whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, forever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

Closing Hymn: #103 "On Jordan's Bank, the Baptist's Cry"

On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh; awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of Kings.

Then cleansed be every breast from sin; make straight the way for God within. Prepare we in our hearts a home, where such a mighty guest may come.

For thou art our salvation Lord, our refuge, and our great reward; with out the grace we waste away, like flower that wither and decay.

To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and bid the fallen sinner stand; shine forth, and let thy light retore earth's own true loveliness once more.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee whose advent doth thy people free, whom with the Father we adore and Holy Ghost for evermore.

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Mary Lee Voort

Flowers at the altar are in loving memory and to honour all past and present members of the A.C.W. of St. Augustine's and in loving memory of Bob and Mildred.

Thank you to our technical crew this morning:

Sound: Brad Gillespie, David Hignell; Videography: Orion Legg and Jonathan Legg



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