



St. Vincent's Episcopal Church  
First Sunday of Advent - December 1, 2024

**Prelude Song**

***"Light One Candle"*** (Choir Anthem)

**Processional Hymn #58**

***"Lo! He comes, with Clouds Descending"***

*Lo! he comes with clouds descending,  
once for our salvation slain;  
thousand, thousand saints attending  
swell the triumph of his train.*

*Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Christ the Lord returns to reign.*

*Every eye shall now behold him,  
robed in dreadful majesty;  
those who set at nought and sold him,  
pierced, and nailed him to the tree,  
deeply wailing, deeply wailing,  
shall the true Messiah see.*

*Yea, amen! let all adore thee,  
high on thine eternal throne;  
Savior, take the power and glory;  
claim the kingdom for thin own:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Thou shalt reign,  
and thou alone.*

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

**Celebrant:** Today we light the first candle of Advent, the candle of Hope.

**People:** ***We put our hope in the one to come, the promised one who comes from God to bring good news of salvation. We hope in the one who will lead us to walk in the light of the LORD. We hope he will not let us live in dark valleys, but on the high mountain of God.***

**Celebrant:** "The People who walk in darkness have seen a great light; those who live in a land of deep shadow, on them a light has shone." (Isaiah 9:2)

Let Us Pray: Almighty God, grant that the whole love of your Son, Jesus Christ, may so light our whole lives that we need never walk in darkness. **Amen.**

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
**People:** *And Blessed be his kingdom now and forever. Amen.*

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

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

### Kyrie Eleison

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy.  
**All:** *Lord, have mercy.*

Celebrant: Christ, have mercy.  
**All:** *Christ, have mercy.*

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy.  
**All:** *Lord, have mercy.*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.  
**People:** *And with thy spirit.*  
Celebrant: Let us pray.

### Collect of the Day

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### The Liturgy of the Word

#### **A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah (33:14-16)**

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

**Reader:** The word of the Lord                      **People:** *Thanks be to God*

**Let us read responsively by whole verse, Psalm 25**

1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; \*  
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

**2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**

3 Show me your ways, O Lord, \* and teach me your paths.

**4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.**

5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, \* for they are from everlasting.

**6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \*  
remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.**

7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; \* therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

**8 He guides the humble in doing right \* and teaches his way to the lowly.**

9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness \*  
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \* As it was in the beginning, is  
now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

**A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians (3:9-13)**

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

**Reader:** The word of the Lord

**People:** *Thanks be to God*

**Gospel Hymn #56, v. 1 & 2**

**“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”**

*O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

*O come, thou Wisdom from on high,  
who orderest all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show,  
and teach us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO Luke (21:25-36)**

**All: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

**Deacon:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

**Gospel Response (Hymn #56, refrain)**

***Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!***

***Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!***

**The Sermon**

**The Nicene Creed**

***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

Celebrant: Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers.

Reader: God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation;

**All: *We praise you and thank you, O Lord.***

Reader: God the Son, you came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly;

**All: *We praise you and thank you, O Lord.***

Reader: God the Holy Spirit, you make our bodies the temple of your presence;

**All: *We praise you and thank you, O Lord.***

Reader: Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being;

**All: *We praise you and thank you, O Lord.***

Reader: Lord, grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or disabled, that they may be made whole; especially those on our parish prayer list: *Mata Family, Shirley Bonney, Lisa Youla, Ken Von der Heiden, Emily Matthews, Alice Smith, Ruth D'Ambrosio, Eileen Prins, Edith Racine, Jim Frishe, Susan Barnett, Susan Austin, Ray Lamberson, Irmgard Colter, and Dante Balzano.*

**All: *Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Reader: Grant to all who seek your guidance, and to all who are lonely, anxious, or despondent, a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence;

**All: *Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Reader: Mend broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit;

**All: *Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Reader: Bless physicians, nurses, and all others who minister to the suffering, granting them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience;

**All: *Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Reader: Grant to the dying peace and a holy death, and uphold by the grace and consolation of your Holy Spirit those who are bereaved;

**All: *Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Reader: Restore to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin, in our lives, in our nation, and in the world;

**All: *Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Reader: You are the Lord who does wonders:

**All: *You have declared your power among the peoples.***

Reader: With you, O Lord, is the well of life:

**All:** *And in your light we see light.*

Reader: Hear us, O Lord of life:

**All:** *Heal us, and make us whole.*

Reader: We invite those wishing to receive a blessing of healing to come to the altar.

Celebrant: The Almighty Lord, who is a strong tower to all who put their trust in him, to whom all things in heaven, on earth, and under the earth bow and obey: Be now and evermore your defense, and make you know and feel that the only Name under heaven given for health and salvation is the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### The Confession

Minister: Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

**Minister & People:** *Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Celebrant: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you. **People:** And with thy spirit.

### Announcements

#### Offertory

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.  
*Ephesians 5:2*

**Offertory Song WLP 791**      ***“Peace Before Us”***

*Peace before us, peace behind us,  
peace under our feet. Peace within us,*

*peace over us, let all around us be peace.*

*Love before us, love behind us,  
love under our feet. Love within us,  
love over us, let all around us be love.*

*Light before us, light behind us,  
light under our feet. Light within us,  
light over us, let all around us be light.*

*Christ before us, Christ behind us,  
Christ under our feet. Christ within us,  
Christ over us, let all around us be Christ.*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

*Peace before us, peace behind us,  
Peace under our feet.  
Peace within us, peace over us.  
Let all around us be peace.  
Let all around us be peace.  
Let all around us be peace.*

**Doxology - #380 v.3**

***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.***

Celebrant: All things come from thee, O Lord.

All: ***And of thy own have we given thee.***

**The Liturgy of the Eucharist – Form I**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

People: ***And with thy spirit.***

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: ***We lift them up unto the Lord.***

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: ***It is meet and right so to do.***

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Because thou didst send thy 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 with Angels and Archangels, and with

all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

**Sanctus**

***Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:***

***Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.***

***Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.***

***Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

Celebrant: All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.



And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. Amen.

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say:

**All together 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 Fraction

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**People: *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!***

### Agnus Dei

Celebrant: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

**People: *Have mercy upon us.***

Celebrant: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

**People: *Have mercy upon us.***

Celebrant: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

**People: *Grant us thy peace.***

**All: *We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.***

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for thee, and feed on him in thy hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

**Communion Song #BB27      “One Bread, One Body”**

*One bread, one body, one Lord of all,  
one cup of blessing which we bless.*

*And we, though many,  
throughout the earth,*

*we are one body in this one Lord.*

*Gentile or Jew, servant or free,  
Woman or man, no more.*

*One bread, one body, one Lord of all,  
one cup of blessing which we bless.  
And we, though many,  
throughout the earth,  
we are one body in this one Lord.*

*Many the gifts, many the works,  
one in the Lord of all.*

*One bread, one body, one Lord of all,  
one cup of blessing which we bless.  
And we, though many,  
throughout the earth,  
we are one body in this one Lord.*

*Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,  
gathered to one, for all.*

*One bread, one body, one Lord of all,  
one cup of blessing which we bless.  
And we, though many,  
throughout the earth,  
we are one body in this one Lord.*

### **An Act of Spiritual Communion**

Celebrant: Let us Pray.

***People: I believe, Lord, that thou art truly in Heaven and in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love thee above all things and I very much want to receive thee into my soul, but not being able to do so sacramentally now, come spiritually into my heart. And as if I had already received Thee, I embrace Thee and I fully join Thee. Lord, do not let me ever be separated from Thee. Amen.***

### **Post Communion Prayer**

***All: Almighty and everliving 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 incorporate 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.***

## Advent Blessing and Dismissal

Celebrant: May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify thee with the light of his blessing and set thee free from all sin. **Amen.**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make thee steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be upon thee and remain with thee for ever. **Amen.**

### Closing Hymn #616

### *“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”*

*Hail to the Lord’s Anointed,  
great David’s greater Son!  
Hail, in the time appointed,  
his reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression,  
to set the captive free;  
to take away transgression,  
and rule in equity.*

*He comes with succor speedy  
to those who suffer wrong,  
To help the poor and needy,  
and bid the weak be strong;  
to give them songs for sighing,  
their darkness turn to light,  
Whose souls, condemned and dying,  
Were precious in his sight.*

*He shall come down like showers  
upon the fruitful earth,  
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,  
spring in his path to birth:  
before him on the mountains  
shall peace, the herald, go;  
and righteousness in fountains  
from hill to valley flow.*

Minister: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

