

**December 12, 2021**  
**The Third Sunday of Advent**

**The Holy Eucharist**

**Announcements**

**Opening Hymn: #65**

**“Prepare the way, O Zion”**

**Book of Common Prayer (BCP)**

**BCP 355**

**Collect of the Day**

**BCP 212**

*(The Children depart for Children’s Church. Any who wish to remain in the service are welcome to do so.)*

**The Epistle**

**Philippians 4:4-7**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

*People*

*Thanks be to God.*

**Sequence Hymn: #76**

**“On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry”**

**The Holy Gospel**

**Luke 3:7-18**

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

*People*

*Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*

*Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**The Sermon**

**The Rev. Kris Opat**

**The Nicene Creed**

**BCP 358**

**The Offering Hymn: #67****“Comfort, comfort ye my people”****The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer A****BCP 361**

*(For Communion, you may come forward to receive and take a wine cup to the end of the altar rail, where you may remove your mask and consume. Place cups in the bin. Gluten-free available.)*

**Communion Song:****“Refiner’s Fire”****Doerksen***(VERSE 1)*

Purify my heart,  
Let me be as gold and precious silver.  
Purify my heart,  
Let me be as gold, pure gold.

*(INSTRUMENTAL)**(VERSE 2)*

Purify my heart,  
Cleanse me from within and make me holy.  
Purify my heart,  
Cleanse me from my sin, deep within.

*(CHORUS)*

Refiner’s fire, my heart’s one desire  
Is to be holy, set apart for You, Lord.  
I choose to be holy, set apart for You, my Master,  
Ready to do Your will.

*(REPEAT CHORUS (2X))***Prayer List**

We pray for all who are ill, or in any trouble, need or sorrow, especially for... Any affected, directly or indirectly, by COVID-19, June & Tom, Don & Ann, Jean, Cathrine, Jeff, Robert, Paul, Eileen, Jason, Joan, all those who serve in the armed forces of the United States, for all who fight in the conflicts of the world and for the day when war will finally cease. In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for Church of the Advent in Brookline. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for The Anglican Church of Canada. We also pray for our fellow Christians of Peters Creek Evangelical Presbyterian Church and those of The ACNA Parish of Christ the Redeemer South Hills.

**Announcements**

**Christmas Flowers** – If you’d like to contribute to the altar flowers for Christmas, please fill out the form in the Narthex or online (found in weekly email).

**Greening of the Church** – Following next Sunday’s service we will be decorating the church for Christmas. If you are able and willing to help, please plan to stay after service for an hour or two to help out.

**Church Fundraiser** - We are having a small fundraiser selling cutting board sets, as well as knitted hats, scarves, and pot holders/trivets. Tables are in the Narthex on the weekends for those who are interested.

**Christmas Services** - This year we plan to hold two services on Christmas Eve: 3pm and 5pm.

**Newcome Class** will begin on January 23<sup>rd</sup> following service and continue for 4 weeks.

**Stewardship mailing** has gone out. If you didn’t get one and would like one, please let Melissa know in the office. You can also submit a pledge form online (link in the weekly email or use the QR code here to bring you to the form).

