**ST. LUKE’S ANGLICAN CHURCH, PALERMO**

First Sunday in Advent

Sunday, November 29, 2020 ◊ 10:30 am



**The Reverend Garfield Wu – Presider & Preacher**

**Welcome to St. Luke’s!**

We are glad to be able to worship with you in person. Our service will look a little different than usual week as we take precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Though this time may bring challenges, we know that nothing can separate us from the love of God.

None of us comes to church by accident. No matter what joys, burdens, or problems you bring with you this day, we pray that God’s grace will touch you and fill you with the hope and commitment to live your life with peace, courage, compassion, and love.

****

**THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY**

**Processional Hymn**

**Come Thou Long Expected Jesus – CP 88 (v.** **1, 3, 4)**

1. 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.

3. Born thy people to deliver;

born a child and yet a King;

born to reign in us forever:

now thy gracious kingdom bring.

4. By thine own eternal Spirit,

rule in all our hearts alone;

by thine all sufficient merit,

raise us to thy glorious throne.

**Greeting**

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ

and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: **And also, with you.**

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

All: **And blessed be God's kingdom forever. Amen.**

**Collect for Purity**

Celebrant: Almighty God,

All:**to whom 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:**Lord, have mercy,**

**Christ, have mercy,**

**Lord, have mercy.**

**Collect of the Day**

Almighty God, who sent your servant John the Baptist  
to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah, inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth, to turn our disobedient hearts to you, that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge, we may stand with confidence before his glory; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians**

***1 Corinthians 1:3-9***

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn**

**Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent – CP 48 (v. 1, 2, 4)**

1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence,

and with fear and trembling stand;

ponder nothing earthly-minded,

for, with blessing in his hand,

Christ our God to us approacheth,

our full homage to demand.

2. King of kings, yet born of Mary,

as of old on earth he stood,

Lord of lords, in human vesture,

in the body and the blood,

he will give to all the faithful

his own self for heavenly food.

**The Gospel**

**Mark 13:24-37**

The Lord be with you.

**And also, with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

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

“But in those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened,  
    and the moon will not give its light,  
and the stars will be falling from heaven,  
    and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that heis near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn,or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

The Gospel of Christ.

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

4. At his feet the six-wingèd seraph,

cherubim with sleepless eye

veil their faces to the presence,

as with ceaseless voice they cry,

“Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord most high!”

**The Sermon**

**By the Rev. Garfield Wu**

**Choir Anthem:**

**Who Are We Waiting For**

**The Apostle’s Creed**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Celebrant: | Let us confess the faith of our baptism as we say, |
| All: | **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**  **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suf­fered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day, he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**  **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the com­munion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resur­rection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.** |

**The Prayers of the People**

**Litany #12 – Advent (from BAS p. 119)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Leader: | O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live; |
| All: | **Lord Jesus, come soon!** |
| Celebrant: | O Lord, and head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us; |
| All: | **Lord Jesus, come soon!** |
| Celebrant: | O Branch of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more; |
| All: | **Lord Jesus, come soon!** |
| Celebrant: | O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison; |
| All: | **Lord Jesus, come soon!** |
| Celebrant: | O Morning Star, splendour of the light eternal and bright Sun of righteousness: come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death; |
| All: | **Lord Jesus, come soon!** |
| Celebrant: | O King of the nations, you alone can fulfil their desires: Cornerstone, you make opposing nations one: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay. |
| All: | **Lord Jesus, come soon!** |
| Celebrant: | O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us, Lord our God; |
| All: | **Lord Jesus, come soon!** |

**Family Cycle of Prayer:**

Ranji & Arthur Rajaratnam, Answerd & Karen Ramcharan, Lynette Reis, Mark & Barb Robinson, Bob Russell, and their families.

**In the Diocese of Niagara:**

We pray for the parish of St. John, St. Catharines; The Venerable Bruce McPetrie, Interim Priest-in-Charge; and the people of that parish.

Let us take a moment to say the names of those we know to be in need, or allow those things are weighing heavy our on our hearts this day to come before the Lord. […]

So, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray to the mercy and protection of our heavenly Father. **Amen**

**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. |
| Celebrant: | Most merciful God, |
| All: | **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. |
| All: | **Amen** |

**The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

**THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST**

**Preparation of the Gifts**

**Offertory Hymn**

**There’s a Voice in the Wilderness – CP 106 (v. 1-3)**

1. There’s a voice in the wilderness crying,

a call from the ways untrod:

prepare in the desert a highway,

a highway for our God!

The valleys shall be exalted,

the lofty hills brought low;

make straight all the crooked places

where the Lord our God may go!

2. O Zion, give voice to good tidings,

ascend to the heights and sing!

Proclaim to a desolate people

the coming of their King.

The works of pride all perish,

like flowers they shall decay;

the power and pomp of nations

shall pass like a dream away.

3. But your word, O God, is faithful,

your arm, O Lord, is strong;

you stand in the midst of nations,

and you will right the wrong.

You will feed your flock like a shepherd,

and fold the lambs to your breast;

in pastures of peace you’ll lead them,

and give to the weary rest.

**The Prayer over the Gifts**

God our strength, we are nothing without you. Receive all we offer you this day as you sustain us with your mercy; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer #1)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Celebrant:  People: | The Lord be with you.  **And also, with you** |
| Celebrant:  People: | Lift up your hearts.  **We lift them to the Lord.** |
| Celebrant:  People: | Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  **It is right to give our thanks and praise.** |
|  |  |
| Celebrant: | It is indeed right that we should praise you, gracious God, for you created all things. You formed us in your own image: male and female you created us.  When we turned away from you in sin, you did not cease to care for us but opened a path of salvation for all people. You made a covenant with Israel, and through your servants, Abraham and Sarah gave the promise of a blessing to all nations.  Through Moses, you led your people from bondage into freedom; through the prophets, you renewed your promise of salvation. Therefore, with them, and with all your saints who have served you in every age, we give thanks and raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name. |
| All | **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.** |
| *Celebrant* | Holy God, source of life and goodness, all creation rightly gives you praise.  In the fullness of time, you sent your Son Jesus Christ, 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 healed the sick and ate and drank with outcasts and sinners; he opened the eyes of the blind and proclaimed the good news of your kingdom to the poor and to those in need. In all things, he fulfilled your gracious will.  On the night he freely gave himself to 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." Gracious God, his perfect sacrifice destroys the power of sin and death; by raising him to life, you give us life forevermore.  Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith. |
| All: | **Christ has died.**  **Christ is risen.**  **Christ will come again** |
| Celebrant: | Recalling his death, proclaiming his resurrection, and looking for his coming again in glory, we offer you, Father, this bread, and this cup.  Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that all who eat and drink at this table may be one body and one holy people, a living sacrifice in Jesus Christ, our Lord.  Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. |
| People: | **Amen.** |

**The Lord's Prayer**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Celebrant: | And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say: |
| All: | **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,**  **forever 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:  All: | The gifts of God for the people of God.  **Thanks be to God.** |
| All: | **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.**  **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.**  **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.** |

**The Eucharist**

*You are encouraged to receive the Holy Communion, standing or kneeling at the communion rail or at your request in your seat. In accordance with COVID-19 health guidelines, only the host will be distributed. Let us know if you require a gluten-free wafer. If you prefer a blessing only, please indicate so by crossing your arms. If you find it difficult to get to the altar, we will be honoured to bring the Holy Communion to you.*

**Violin Solo** by Alina Zhang

**THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

**The Prayer after Communion**

Faithful God, we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet. Help us always to hear the prophet's call to turn our hearts to you; in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

**Doxology**

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

**Blessing**

*The Celebrant blesses the people, and all respond,*

**Amen.**

**Announcements**

**Recessional Hymn**

**More Than We Can Ask or Imagine – CP 86 (v.** **1, 2)**

1. More than we can ask or imagine,

More than we can ever dare to dream,

We are the children of heaven’s creation,

God’s own beloved, each called by name.

And we cry, Glory! Glory!

Glory to God who calls us by name!

Glory! Glory! Glory to God!

Glory we sing!

2. More than we will ever imagine,

More than we will ever understand;

We are sent to walk with compassion,

To live out God’s love, by heart and by hand.

And we cry, Glory! Glory!

Glory to God who presses us on!

**The Dismissal**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord, love others.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

This liturgy is used with the permission of the Bishop of Niagara.

This service is adapted from *The Book of Alternative Services* (BAS). *The Book of Alternative Services*, copyright © 2019 by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada; all rights reserved; reproduced under license. *Common Worship*,copyright © 2019 by the Archbishop's Council; used by permission; all rights reserved.

|  |
| --- |
| **READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY**  **2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8** |

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MORNING PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY**

**Wednesdays @ 9:30am**

Our Morning Prayer services continue at St. Luke’s and online! Join us for a nourishing liturgy followed by a short Bible Study each Wednesday morning. This is a fun and friendly time of discussion and learning. No prior knowledge of the Bible is required. Come and check it out!

This week’s readings:

**Isaiah 2:1-11; Psalm** **119:1-24;**

**1 Thessalonians 2:13-20; Matthew 15:29-39**

Contact: **garfield@stlukepalermo.ca**

or **647-878-8650** for details!

**Support St. Luke’s this Fall and Double Your Donation!**

This fall, St. Luke’s is holding a special fundraiser to support our community services! An anonymous donor has offered to match all donations up to $3,000, which means your support will be doubled! Place your donation in an envelope marked “St. Luke’s Fundraiser,” or contact Richard at **treasurer@stlukepalermo.ca** to donate!



**St. Luke’s Palermo**

**2020 Gift Card Sale!**

Sales have now ended. Thank you everyone for your support!

Gift cards will be ready for pick up the week of **December 7**.



Donations are Open to Support Nourishing Neighbours!

The Oakville Community Foundation has approved St. Luke’s Nourishing Neighbours COVID Relief Project for public fundraising in their GIVE Oakville Program! Visit St. Luke’s donation page on the GIVE Oakville website to make a donation, and be sure to share the webpage widely. Every dollar helps us cover the costs of running our fresh food program during the COVID pandemic.

Visit this link today to donate, and share it with others:

**https://ocf.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create?grant\_id=8572**

**Health and Safety Protocol:**

* Always wear a mask when in the Church.
* Please sanitize your hands as you come into the Church, going up for communion and coming down after communion and when you are leaving the building.
* Please take your bulletin home with you.

**If you have any of the following symptoms, please contact your family doctor.**

Symptoms of COVID-19 can vary from person to person. Symptoms may also vary in different age groups. Some of the more commonly reported symptoms include:

* new or worsening cough
* shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
* temperature equal to or over 38°C
* feeling feverish
* chills
* fatigue or weakness
* muscle or body aches
* new loss of smell or taste
* headache
* gastrointestinal symptoms (abdominal pain, diarrhea, vomiting)
* feeling very unwell

Children have been more commonly reported to have abdominal symptoms and skin changes or rashes.

In severe cases, the infection can lead to death.

Symptoms may take up to 14 days to appear after exposure to COVID-19.

Evidence indicates that the virus can be transmitted to others from someone who is infected but not showing symptoms. This includes people who:

* have not yet developed symptoms (pre-symptomatic)
* never develop symptoms (asymptomatic)

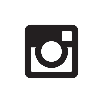
While experts know that these kinds of transmissions are happening among those in close contact or in close physical settings, it is not known to what extent. This means it is extremely important to follow the proven preventative measures.

For more information, please look online at

**https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html**

**Thank you for joining us today.**

**We do hope that you will come again.**

th?u=http%3a%2f%2fuploadth?u=https%3a%2f%2fwww

**fb.me/stlukepalermo**

**@stlukepalermo**

**@stlukepalermo**



****

**St. Luke’s Anglican Church, Palermo**

3114 Dundas Street West,

Oakville, Ontario, L6M 4J3

**Tel:** 905-825-3364

**Email:** office@stlukepalermo.ca

**Website:** stlukepalermo.ca

**Rector:** The Rev. Garfield Wu

**Email:** rector@stlukepalermo.ca

**Tel:** 647-878-8650

**Reader:** Wendy Cousins

**Music Director:** Janet Correia

**Duty Warden:** Margie Simms

**Greeter:** Peter Malue