

Welcome to
St. Michael's University Church

An inclusive and caring community
in the heart of Isla Vista



Sunday, December 12, 2021
The Third Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE

RINGING OF ISAIAH THE BELL

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

After the bells ring, the congregation stands and sings the following as an appointed person lights the Advent Wreath:

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart.

COLLECT

God is with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. (The celebrant says the collect, to which the people respond **Amen.**)

WELCOME

SONG

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

○ come, all ye faithful, joyful, and triumphant
○ come ye, ○ come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold him, born the king of angels
○ come let us adore him
○ come let us adore him
○ come let us adore him, Christ the Lord

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above
Glory to God, glory in the highest
○ come let us adore him
○ come let us adore him
○ come let us adore him, Christ the Lord

READING: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

CANTICLE 9 The First Song of Isaiah (12:2-6) (Read antiphonally by *)

Surely, it is God who saves me;
I will trust in God and not be afraid. *

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
and the Lord will be my Savior. *

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing
from the springs of salvation. *

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

GOSPEL HYMN: "O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

O Lord, hear my prayer/ O Lord, hear my prayer
When I call, answer me
O Lord, hear my prayer/ O Lord, hear my prayer
Come and listen to me

GOSPEL: Luke 3:7–18

Leader: 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.

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

GOSPEL HYMN: “O Lord, Hear My Prayer”

SERMON

SONG “Hold On (Change is Coming)” (by Sounds of Blackness)

CHORUS:

Hold on/ Change is coming

Hold on/ Don't worry about a thing Hold on/ You can make it

Hold on/ Everything will be alright

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With hope and expectation, we turn our hearts to God in prayer.

Anyone who feels inspired may read one of the following prayers.

For all victims of poverty, violence, desperation, and other forms of suffering, we pray.

God of Love, hear the prayers of your people.

For leaders and nurturers of many kinds, that they may lead with character, kindness, and compassion.

God of Love, hear the prayers of your people.

For the expansive beauty of your creation and our renewed care for this planet, we pray.

God of Love, hear the prayers of your people.

For the good work of this community.

May we bring God's healing to Isla Vista and beyond.

God of Love, hear the prayers of your people.

For what and for whom else would we like to pray today?

(Pause)

For all of these, we pray to God,
God of Love, hear the prayers of your people.

Prayer Collect

The Peace

Announcements

The Offertory: *After the offering, all who are able stand and sing:*
Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

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 It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Loving God. By water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Miriam, Hannah, and Mary, with every nameless and unremembered child of God, and with all the company of heaven, singing:

Celebrant and People sing “Santo, Santo, Santo”

Santo, santo, santo
Mi corazón te adora
Mi corazón te sabe decir:
“Santo eres, Señor”

Holy and gracious God:

You made us in your infinite love, and when we turned away from that love, you sent Jesus Christ to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, and to draw us near to you.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, Jesus 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ:

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. AMEN.

And now, as Christ has taught us, we pray:

**Our God, 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

SILENCE

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.
Everyone is welcome at God's table.

Holy Eucharist

The Body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ, the Cup of Salvation. **Amen.**

If you want to receive communion, please join us as we form a circle.

If you would like a blessing, place your arms across your chest.

Please note that we use gluten free bread for communion.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand if you are able.

Let us pray.

**Eternal God,
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.**

BLESSING

SONG: "In My Hour of Darkness/Every Grain Of Sand"

CHORUS:

In my hour of darkness
In my time of need
Oh, Lord—grant me vision
Oh, Lord—grant me speed

At the time of my confession, in the hour of my deepest need
When the pool of tears beneath my feet floods every newborn seed
There's a dying voice within me reaching out somewhere
Toiling in the danger and darkness of despair

CHORUS

Oh, the flowers of indulgence and the weeds of yesteryear
Like criminals, they have choked the breath of conscience & good cheer
In the fury of the moment I can see the Master's hand
In every leaf that trembles and in every grain of sand

CHORUS

The Sun beat down upon the steps of time to light the way
To ease the pain of idleness and the memory of decay
Then onward in my journey I come to understand
That every hair is numbered like every grain of sand
CHORUS
CHORUS

SENDING

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

IN THE NAME OF THESE REFUGEES

