

Worship

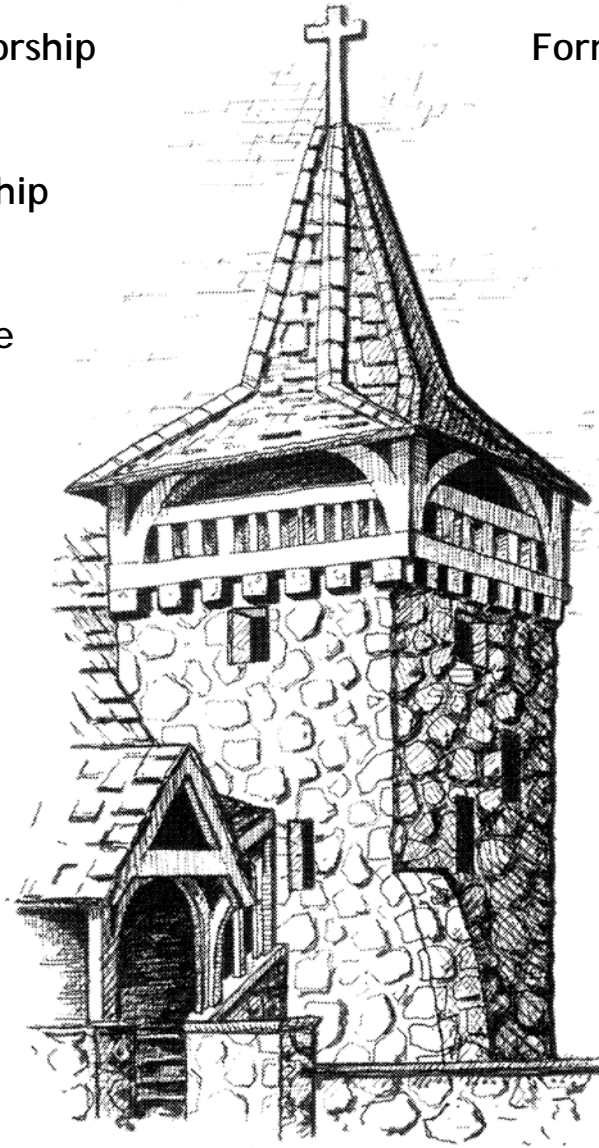
Formation

Fellowship

Outreach

Pastoral Care

Presence



The Episcopal  
**Church of the Ascension**

Your Village Church since 1885

*Our Vision: We serve Christ today  
for those who will come to know and serve Christ tomorrow.*

# The First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2022

TEN - FIFTEEN IN THE MORNING

## The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

*Prayer Book page numbers refer to the red Book of Common Prayer. Complete music for the hymns and service music are found in the blue Hymnal or the green Hymnal Supplement "Wonder Love and Praise".*

The Voluntary Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland

Johann Sebastian Bach

*The Great Bell "Bethlehem" sounds, calling the community to prayer. The people stand at the sound of a small bell and the Great Litany is sung in procession.*

Holy God, Creator of heaven and earth,  
Holy and Mighty, Redeemer of the world,  
Holy Immortal One, Sanctifier of the faithful,  
Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, One God,

***Have mercy on us.***

***Have mercy on us.***

***Have mercy on us.***

***Have mercy on us.***

From all evil and mischief; from pride, vanity and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred  
and malice; and from all evil intent,

***Savior deliver us.***

From sloth, worldliness and love of money; from hardness of heart and  
contempt for your word and your laws,

***Savior deliver us.***

From sins of body and mind; from deceits of the world, the flesh and the devil,  
From famine and disaster; from violence, murder, and dying unprepared,

***Savior deliver us.***

***Savior deliver us.***

In all times of sorrow; in all times of joy; in the hour of our death and at the  
day of judgment,

***Savior deliver us.***

By the mystery of your holy incarnation; by your birth, childhood and  
obedience; by your baptism, fasting and temptation,

***Savior deliver us.***

By your ministry in word and work; by your mighty acts of power; by the  
preaching of your reign,

***Savior deliver us.***

By your agony and trial; by your cross and passion; by your precious death  
and burial,

***Savior deliver us.***

By your mighty resurrection; by your glorious ascension; and by your sending  
of the Holy Spirit,

***Savior deliver us.***

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Hear our prayers, O Christ our God.

Govern and direct your holy Church; fill it with love and truth; and grant it  
that unity which is your will.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Give us boldness to preach the gospel in all the world, and to make disciples of  
all the nations.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Enlighten your bishops, priests and deacons (especially \_\_\_\_\_) with  
knowledge and understanding, that by their teaching and their lives they may  
proclaim your word.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Give your people grace to witness to your word and bring forth the fruit of  
your Spirit.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Strengthen those who stand; comfort and help the fainthearted; raise up the  
fallen; and finally beat down Satan under our feet.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Guide the leaders of the nations into the ways of peace and justice.  
 Give your wisdom and strength to Donald, the President of the United States,  
 and Gavin, the Governor of this state, that in all things they may do your  
 will, for your glory and the common good.  
 Give to the Congress of the United States, the members of the President's  
 Cabinet, those who serve in our state legislature, and all others in authority  
 the grace to walk always in the ways of truth.  
 Bless the justices of the Supreme Court and all those who administer the law,  
 that they may act with integrity and do justice for all your people.  
 Give us the will to use the resources of the earth to your glory and for the  
 good of all.  
 Bless and keep all your people,  
 Comfort and liberate the lonely, the bereaved (especially \_\_\_\_\_) and the  
 oppressed.  
 Keep in safety those who travel (especially \_\_\_\_\_) and all who are in peril.  
 Heal the sick in body, mind or spirit (especially \_\_\_\_\_) and provide for the  
 homeless, the hungry and the destitute.  
 Guard and protect all children who are in danger.  
 Shower your compassion on prisoners, hostages and refugees, and all who  
 are in trouble.  
 Forgive our enemies, persecutors and slanderers, and turn their hearts.  
 Hear us as we remember those who have died (especially \_\_\_\_\_) and grant  
 us with them a share in your eternal glory.  
 Give us true repentance; forgive us our sins of negligence and ignorance and  
 our deliberate sins; and grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit to amend our  
 lives according to your word.

*Hear us, O Christ.*

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*Hear us, O Christ.*

*Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy on us.*

*Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy on us.*

*Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy on us.*

*(Setting is from Enriching Our Music 1)*

## The Word of God

**Prayer Book page # 355**

### The Collect of the Day

*The Celebrant says to the people* The Lord be with you. *People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray. *The Celebrant then prays the collect.*

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### The Lessons

**Prayer Book page # 357**

*The people sit. Two Lessons and the psalm, as appointed, are read. After each Reading, the Reader may say*

The Word of the Lord. *People* **Thanks be to God.**

*A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (2:1-5)*

## **The Psalm 122**

*Laetatus sum*

**Prayer Book page # 779**

*The congregation is invited to sing the psalm with the choir in Anglican chant*

- 1 I was glad when they said to me, \* "Let us go to the house of the LORD."
- 2 Now our feet are standing \* within your gates, O Jerusalem.
- 3 Jerusalem is built as a city \* that is at unity with itself;
- 4 To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, \*  
the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the LORD.
- 5 For there are the thrones of judgment, \* the thrones of the house of David.
- 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: \* "May they prosper who love you.
- 7 Peace be within your walls \* and quietness within your towers.
- 8 For my brethren and companions' sake, \* I pray for your prosperity.
- 9 Because of the house of the LORD our God, \* I will seek to do you good."

## **A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans (13:11-14)**

*The People stand and sing the Sequence Hymn # 601*

ST. MICHAEL

*Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (24:36-44)**

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

*After the Gospel, the Reader says* The Gospel of the Lord. *People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **The Sermon**

*The Rev'd Joshua McGuffie*

*Then, all standing, the people respond to the proclamation of the Word by saying*

## **The Nicene Creed**

**Prayer Book page # 358**

**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 Peace**

**Prayer Book page # 360**

# The Holy Communion

Prayer Book page # 367

After any announcements, the Celebrant begins the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture. During the Offertory, the choir will sing an anthem.

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

setting: Elizabeth Poston

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the Altar. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed upon the Altar and sing the following

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three staves. The first staff is for the organ, with the lyrics 'All things come of Thee, O Lord,'. The second staff is for the choir, with the lyrics 'and of Thine own have we giv - en Thee.' and a 'CHOIR:' instruction: 'Present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.' The third staff is for the organ, with the instruction 'Congregation repeat Refrain'.

## The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer B

Prayer Book page # 367

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and sings (Music is found in the Hymnal at "S-120")

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 him thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your 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 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:

Celebrant and People

(Music is found in the Hymnal at "S-130")

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory.**

**Glorify be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of 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 Savior 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 before he died for us, 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.”

Therefore, according to his command, O Father, *(Music is found in the Hymnal at “S-136”)*

*Celebrant and People* **We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O 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 may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [ \_\_\_\_\_ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of 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 him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

*(Music is found in the Hymnal at “S-119”)*

**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 Breaking of the Bread

Prayer Book page # 364

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. Then may be sung* *(Music is in the Hymnal at “S-152”)*  
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

*The following Fraction Anthem will be sung*

*(Music is found in the Hymnal at “S-161”)*

**O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. *(And may add)* Take them in remembrance that Christ died and lives for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*All are welcome to come forward and receive of this sacrament of Christ’s Presence or receive a blessing. If you wish to receive a blessing or not receive from the Cup, please indicate by crossing your arms before you. Gluten-free hosts are available – please inform the priest distributing communion if you would prefer to receive in this kind. Ascension has returned to receiving Communion in both kinds. Our parishioners have choices. One option is to continue to receive in one kind. A second option is to receive from the common cup. (Please keep in mind that our chalices are made of precious metals which have an anti-microbial quality. Also, we use sacramental wine which is higher in alcohol content. After each person receives, the chalice is turned and wiped with the linen called a purificator.) A third option will be for individuals and households to receive in a small chalice, which will have a small amount of consecrated wine poured into it from the common cruet. Folks may choose to bring from home a*

*glass or cup that holds special significance or to use a small glass which we have available. Please note – the practice of Intinction (where a parishioner dips the bread in the wine) is not permitted under diocesan guidelines.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [*Amen.*] The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [*Amen.*]

*For those viewing on Facebook Live, here is the prayer for spiritual Communion –*

**Lord Jesus Christ, you have instituted for us a great sacrament in your promise of life and love, which we remember now as we hear your words again: “This is my body; this is my blood — given for you.” Feed us in our hearts with faith and trust, draw us closer to you and to each other, and strengthen us for service to our neighbor. We come before you now, with hearts you have fed all our lives with the promise that you have given yourself for us. Keep us strong in that faith until we can meet at your table again. Amen.**  
**(From ELCA Bishop Ray Erwin)**

*After Communion, the people stand and sing the* **Post-Communion Hymn # 617**

SONG 1

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

**Prayer Book page # 365**

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, 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.**

*The people then stand and sing the* **Final Hymn # 68**

LLANGLOFFAN

*The Celebrant may bless the People.*

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

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you 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.**

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*The People are dismissed with the words found on page 366, and the People respond* **Thanks be to God.**

**Voluntary** Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

Paul Manz

*Once the procession has retired from the church, the People are invited to remain for the Voluntary.*

*Following the Voluntary, the Angelus will be rung.*

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*The Sanctuary Candle is given by Beverly Clifton in thanksgiving for Susan’s birthday.*

*Please join us in the parish hall for coffee hour following both services.*

# Announcements for the First Sunday of Advent

## November 27, 2022

**ASCENSION WELCOMES CHILDREN** – There are toys in the back of the church and in the side chapel for small children in need of distraction and a rocking chair for those in need of consolation. And sometimes parents and kids need to feel free to step outside and take a breather! All children are welcome to come forward and receive communion or a blessing.

**IF YOU ARE VISITING US TODAY**, we welcome you in the Name of Christ and invite all persons to share in the Sacrament of our Lord's Body and Blood. Holy Baptism is the way we acknowledge our fellowship and communion in Christ's Church. If you are interested in being baptized or talking about your baptism, please speak to the Rector.

**THE TUESDAY NIGHT DINNER GROUP** will meet at 6p.m. this WEDNESDAY, November 30<sup>th</sup> at Nano Cafe, 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre - 626-325-3334. Please RSVP to Ray Smith at [ray@madre.net](mailto:ray@madre.net) or Ray's cell phone # 626-233-1035. All are welcome.

**ADVENT BIRTHDAYS:** 11/29 Scott Callihan, 11/30 Susan Clifton, Caitlin Wolfe, Ayanna Gomez  
12/ 4 Jonathan Prentice, 12/5 Walker Williams, 12/7 Troy Worley, 12/9 Connie Keith, 12/10 Jessica Allen, 12/13 Ted Calleton, Carol Rasmussen, 12/14 Elizabeth Wilson, 12/16 Elizabeth Levie, 12/17 John Buchanan, 12/21 Ed Sniecienski

**ADVENT ANNIVERSARIES:** 12/20 Roger & Debra Keith

**ST. ANNE'S ALTAR GUILD IS COLLECTING FOR CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AND GREENS:** Envelopes are available at the back of the church and in the parish hall. Checks should be made out to the Church of the Ascension and turned in by December 18th for donations to be noted in the Christmas bulletin.

**SIMILARLY, OUR MUSIC MINISTRY IS ASKING FOR YOUR SUPPORT.** Envelopes are available at the back of the church and in the parish hall. Checks should be made out to The Church of the Ascension (with the notation "Music Fund") and turned in by December 18th for donations to be noted in the Christmas bulletin.

**LESSONS NEXT WEEK:** Isaiah 11:1-10 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 Romans 15:4-13 Matthew 3:1-2

**CELEBRATING THE SAINTS FOR THE COMING WEEK** (taken from Lesser Feasts and Fast 2018):

**11/28 – Kamehameha and Emma** (*King and Queen of Hawaii, 1864, 1885*) **11/30 – St. Andrew** **12/2 – Channing Moore Williams** (*Missionary Bishop in China and Japan, 1910*) **12/3 – Francis Xavier** (*Missionary to the Far East, 1552*)

**LEADERSHIP:** *Rector:* The Very Reverend Canon Michael A. Bamberger, M. Div.;

*Assisting the Rector:* The Reverend Canon Deacon Ed Sniecienski  
The Reverend Pastor Joshua McGuffie, M.Div.

*Director of Music and Organist:* Mr. Robert Williamson; *Minister to Young Persons:* Ms. Jobi McGuffie;  
*Parish Administrator:* Ms. Kim Lumino; *Administrative Coordinator:* Mrs. Jean Rowe; *Altar Guild Director:* Mrs. Lynne Holl; *Senior Warden:* Mr. Gordon Tomaske; *Junior Warden:* Mr. Cameron Cox; *Treasurer:* Mr. Dan Hanson

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