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St. Luke’s Gondola Point

Morning Prayer Service

Advent I - November 29, 2020

[Un-bolded words are said by one, **Bolded words** can be said by all.]

**PENITENTIAL RITE**

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” *John 8.12*

Dear friends in Christ, as we prepare to worship almighty God, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence is kept.

**Most merciful God, 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.**

Almighty God have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES**

[**Video can be found on our St. Luke’s Website Blog.**]

**First Sunday Of Advent: Hope** (From the Candlelighting Liturgy to Accompany the Advent Wreath booklet, by *The Whole People of God*)

**Child:** Today is the first Sunday in the season of Advent. Advent means “coming”, and in this season we prepare for the coming of Christ. One of the ways we can celebrate Advent is by making an Advent wreath and lighting its candles to remind us of the gifts Christ brings to the world.

**Adult:** The Advent wreath includes many symbols. The wreath is in the shape of a circle, with no beginning and no ending. This reminds us that there is no beginning and no ending to God, and that God’s love and caring for us never ends. The evergreen branches are a sign of ever new life. The candles tell us of the light which came into the world with Jesus Christ. The four coloured candles help us count down the four Sundays to Christmas The white candle which we light on Christmas Eve signifies the coming of Christ.

**Child:**  Today we light the first candle, the candle of hope. (*First Candle is lit*).

**Adult:** The people of Israel heard God’s promises through the prophets. The prophet Jeremiah spoke words of hope to Israel. He proclaimed the coming of a leader through whom God’s promise of Shalom would be fulfilled. We too hope and pray for a world of peace and harmony.

**Child:** Hope is like a light shining in a dark place. As we light this candle, we celebrate the hope of Israel, and the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

**Congregation:**  We continue to hope in God’s promise that Christ will come again to fill our lives and the life of the world with love and joy and peace.

**Prayer:** Thank you, God, for the light of hope. As we prepare for Christ’s coming, help us to share our hope with others. Amen.

Opening Hymn: *Hope Is A Star (Verse One)*

**MORNING PRAYER**

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;

**Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

Will you not give us life again,

**That your people may rejoice in you?**

Show us your mercy, O Lord,

**And grant us your salvation.**

Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!

**Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

The kingdom of God is at hand: **O come, let us worship.**

***Jubilate*** *Psalm 100*

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*

**serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.**

Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*

**he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; \*

**give thanks to him and call upon his name.**

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; \*

**and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

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.**

The kingdom of God is at hand: **O come, let us worship.**

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

A Reading from Isaiah 64:1–9.

*O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,*

*so that the mountains would quake at your presence—*

*2 as when fire kindles brushwood*

*and the fire causes water to boil—*

*to make your name known to your adversaries,*

*so that the nations might tremble at your presence!*

*3 When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,*

*you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.*

*4 From ages past no one has heard,*

*no ear has perceived,*

*no eye has seen any God besides you,*

*who works for those who wait for him.*

*5 You meet those who gladly do right,*

*those who remember you in your ways.*

*But you were angry, and we sinned;*

*because you hid yourself we transgressed.*

*6 We have all become like one who is unclean,*

*and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.*

*We all fade like a leaf,*

*and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.*

*7 There is no one who calls on your name,*

*or attempts to take hold of you;*

*for you have hidden your face from us,*

*and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.*

*8 Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;*

*we are the clay, and you are our potter;*

*we are all the work of your hand.*

*9 Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,*

*and do not remember iniquity forever.*

*Now consider, we are all your people.*

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

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*

**shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.**

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, \*

**stir up your strength and come to help us.**

Restore us, O God of hosts; \*

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

O Lord God of hosts, \*

**how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?**

You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*

**you have given them bowls of tears to drink.**

You have made us the derision of our neighbours, \*

**and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

Restore us, O God of hosts; \*

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

And so will we never turn away from you; \*

**give us life, that we may call upon your name.**

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; \*

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

Glory be 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 1 Corinthians 1:3–9.

*3Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

*4I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, 5for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— 6just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— 7so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. 8He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9God 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.**

Canticle 7 *The New Jerusalem Isaiah 60.1–3, 11ab, 14cd, 18–19*

*Arise, shine, for your light has come; \**

***the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.***

*Though night still covers the earth \**

***and darkness covers the nations,***

*Over you will the Lord arise, \**

***over you will his glory appear.***

*Nations will stream to your light \**

***and kings to your dawning brightness.***

*Your gates will always be open; \**

***day or night, they will never be shut.***

*They will call you, The City of the Lord, \**

***The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.***

*Violence will no more be heard in your land, \**

***ruin or destruction within your borders;***

*you will name your walls, Salvation, \**

***you will call your gates, Praise.***

*No longer will the sun be your light by day, \**

***no longer the moon give you light by night;***

*the Lord will be your eternal light; \**

***your God will be your glory.***

Hymn: *Wait For The Lord, Whose Day Is Near* (CP #94)

The Lord be with you: **And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark (13:24–37). **Glory to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*24“But in those days, after that suffering,*

*the sun will be darkened,*

*and the moon will not give its light,*

*25 and the stars will be falling from heaven,*

*and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.*

*26Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. 27Then 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.*

*28“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. 29So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. 30Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. 31Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.*

*32“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. 33Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. 34It 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. 35Therefore, 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, 36or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. 37And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”*

The Gospel of Christ: **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Apostles’ Creed

Let us confess our faith, as we say,

**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.**

**INTERCESSIONS**

*In joyful expectation let us pray to our Saviour and Redeemer, saying, “Lord Jesus, come soon!”*

*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.* ***Lord Jesus, come soon!***

*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.*

***Lord Jesus, come soon!***

*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.* ***Lord Jesus, come soon!***

*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.* ***Lord Jesus, come soon!***

*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.*

***Lord Jesus, come soon!***

*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.*

***Lord Jesus, come soon!***

*O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us, Lord our God.*

***Lord Jesus, come soon!***

*Hear and answer our prayers, O Lord; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, according to your will, and your grace.*

[***Take a moment of silence to offer up prayers and thanksgivings, for yourself and others. Our weekly prayer list can be found in this week’s bulletin.***]

*Gracious God,*

*you have heard the prayers of your faithful people; you know our needs before we ask, and our ignorance in asking. Grant our requests as may be best for us. This we ask in the name of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.* ***Amen****.*

Collect

*Almighty God,*

*give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility, that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.* ***Amen.***

The Lord’s Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to 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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (CP #89)

Dismissal

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**