

Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit

1305 Thomas Dr, Bellevue, NE 68005



December 3, 2023

9:30 am

1st Sunday of Advent

Rite II

WELCOME EVERYONE

If you are our guest today, or are a member who has been away for a while, we are glad you joined us for worship today. Please let us know you are joining us online by leaving a comment, or by emailing us so that we can say thank you.

God Bless
Fr Tom

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The Holy Eucharist Rite II**Opening Hymn***Immortal, Invisible***Hymnal 423**

Welcome

Peace

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father Son, and Holy Spirit.*People:* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever, Amen***Celebrant and People*

**Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:
 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.**

Celebrant: Lord, have Mercy*People:* **Christ, have mercy***Celebrant:* Lord, have Mercy*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you*People :* **And also with you.***Celebrant:* Let us pray**The Collect of the Day**

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in 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 Liturgy of the Word**The First Lesson: Isaiah 64:1-9**

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence--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! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. 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. 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.

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. 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.

Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Reader: The Word of the Lord*People:* **Thanks be to God****Psalms 80:1-7, 16-18**

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
 shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
 stir up your strength and come to help us.

3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

- 4 O LORD God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

The Epistle: 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Sequence Hymn

Lo! He Comes

Hymnal 58 (v1-2)

The Gospel: Mark 13:24-37

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

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

Jesus said, "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 he is 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."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Message

Fr. Tom

The Nicene Creed *[Please stand]*

Celebrant: Please stand as we affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

**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.

Prayers of the People

Please kneel or be seated]

The reader and people pray responsively.

In peace, we pray to your, Lord God.

A moment of Silence

In the Anglican Cycle of prayer, we pray for _____; in the Diocesan Cycle of prayer, pray for _____ in the DR for _____. In the Parish Cycle of pray _____.

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For those in positions of authority, including our President, Joe Biden, our governor, Pete Ricketts, the elected and appointed officials in our community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for Scott, our Bishop; for Tom, our Priest; for Terri, our postulant for the diaconate Ted our aspirant for the diaconate and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

We pray that you stay with and strengthen all those who are ill; _____; Are there others?

For those who serve our country at home and abroad; especially those who are deployed _____: are there others? We pray that you will stay with them and their families Lord, giving them comfort and hope until they are once again reunited in peace.

For those in our community who travel, that you watch over them and keep them safe, especially: _____; are there others?

For all those with special concerns, especially; _____; are there others?

Hear us Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you Lord, for all the blessings of this life; and we pray that you continue to pour out your blessings on those who are celebrating birthdays this week, especially; _____; are there others? We pray also for those who are celebrating anniversaries this week, especially, _____; are there others?

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, [especially for _____] are there others? That they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant continues:

For Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen**

Almighty God, whose will it is to hold heaven and earth in the peace of your kingdom, give peace to your church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. **Amen**

Offertory Hymn

Sleepers Awake

Hymnal 62

Doxology

See Pew Card

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (C)

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 him thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn

Sanctus

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

The people may stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord. On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name. **Amen.**

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

The Celebrant continues

The Lord's Prayer

**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

Fraction Hymn

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

Facing the people, the Celebrant offers the following invitation:

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Hymn

Judge Eternal

Hymnal 596

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The People may join in saying this prayer

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us
with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.**

**And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.**

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen

The Blessing

Announcements

Birthday & Anniversary Prayers

Going Forth Hymn

How Firm a Foundation

Hymnal 637

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Birthday/Anniversary Prayers

Birthday Prayer: O God, our times are in your hands: Look with favor, we pray, on *this* your servant, as *they* begin another year. Grant that *they* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *their* trust in your goodness, all the days of *their* life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anniversary Prayer: O gracious and ever living God, look mercifully on these who have been joined together. Grant them your blessing, and assist them with your grace, that with fidelity and steadfast love they may honor and keep their promises and vows; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

Birthdays:

Lora C
Kris G
Alonzo S

Anniversaries:



The Nave Presence Candle is given by Toby Wingert in Thanksgiving for Megan, Jeff & Erin and in Memory of Chuck, Mary Alice, & Harry.

WEEKLY MINISTRY TEAMS			
Ministries		Dec 3	Dec 10
VPOD		Patrick H	Judy D
Hospitality		Team 2	Team 3
Altar Guild		Team 1	Team 2
Spirit Hub		Jen W	
Altar Bread		Leslie N	Leslie N
LEM's	5:00 pm	Alberta Y	Amber H
	8:00 am	Rick S	Doug A
	9:30 am	Lori E Anika S	Grace W Jen W
Recycle		Jan S	Marcia A
Acolytes 9:30 am	C T T	Olivia H Kyper M Ailynn M	Isaiah J H Evelynn V Mya H

This Week's Highlights

2024 Estimates of Giving: If you have not yet submitted your 2024 estimate of giving, please prayerfully consider doing so this week. 2024 Estimate of giving cards may be found at the Spirit Hub or on our website, [click here](#) and fill out our online form.

First Friday Lunch: Due to preparations for the Craft & Bake Sale, the December lunch will be a pot luck luncheon and held on second Friday (8 Dec) beginning at Noon.

Christmas Poinsettias: If you would like to donate a Christmas Poinsettia, please pick up a form by the bulletins or stop by the Spirit Hub. Please turn in all forms by Sunday (10 Dec).

2024 Grant Requests: Endowment fund grant request forms are available at the Spirit Hub and must be turned in by Friday (15 Dec). If you ministry is looking to expand its efforts to serve, a grant may be the way to begin.

Mobile Pantry: Our next Mobile Pantry is Sat (16 Dec). Parish volunteers are needed as we do not have scouts to help this month. Volunteers are asked to arrive by 9:30 entering via Thomas Dr. Distribution will be between 10-11:30am.

Blue Christmas Service: A quiet and contemplative service for those having trouble finding hope or joy in the holiday season will take place in the sanctuary Sat evening (16 Dec) beginning at 5pm. All are invited as together we help raise one another up.

Christmas Pageant: Our Christmas Pageant will be offered during worship on Sunday (17 Dec) during our 9:30 am service. There is a part for all parish youth who wish to participate. For more information on how you might help make the pageant a success, please contact Cindy Pekarek.

Family Ornaments: As Advent begins, we will once again enjoy the lights and color of our parish Christmas Tree. Each family is invited to place an ornament on the tree. If you have not done so before, please place one on the tree, noting your family name and year you arrived at CHS.