

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2011

11:00 a.m. Worship

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

**Hosanna in the Highest. (3x)**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

## The Lord’s Supper

**\*Closing Hymn #196** “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

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*\*For those who can, please stand*

## GATHERING

**Greeting**

**Organ Prelude**

**\*Processional Hymn #209** “Blessed Be the God of Israel”

**Advent Candle Lighting**

The Arnold Williams Family

Leader: By water and the spirit, God’s story was told in the wilderness.

**People: We heard the voice of one crying in the wilderness and we came to hear the good news.**

Leader: Though we were unworthy, God’s love descended in the form of a dove from heaven and a voice announcing the Gospel story.

**People: We light this second candle of Advent in the expectation of God’s salvation in Jesus.**

**Refrain: I love to tell the story, ‘twill be my theme in glory, to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.**

**Invocation**

**Almighty God, to you 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.**

## PROCLAMATION

**Scripture Reading**

Isaiah 40:1-11

Pew Bible, Page 627

Leader: “The Word of God for the People of God.”

People: “Thanks be to God.”

**Parish Concerns and Prayers**

Susan Schall

## Congregational Prayer of Confession and Pardon

**Lord Jesus, whose advent was announced by the preaching of John the Baptist, so inspire our preachers today that they might stand up and preach your good news, not as we might like it, but as you would have it. Give our preachers the holy boldness and fire that ignite your light in our souls so that in hearing about you we might truly encounter you and that in meeting you we might turn from our sinful ways and faithfully follow you.**  
Amen.

**Anthem**                    “I Wonder as I Wander”        Niles/arr. Christopher

**Offering**

**Offertory**

**\*Doxology #94**

**\*Hymn of Preparation** “There’s a Voice in the Wilderness Crying” (insert)

**Sermon**                    “**God’s Story Was, Is and Will Be**”        **Rev. Heaton**  
Text: Mark 1:1-8

## RESPONSE

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Invitation to Holy Communion (Musical Setting)**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

You have formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away, and our loved failed, your love remained steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our Sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest. (3x)**

**Blessed is the one comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest. (3x)**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people.

He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.