

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church
Poway, California

A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist in the Celtic Tradition
for the Season of Advent: Waiting and Listening for God
Saturday, December 15, 2018
5:00 p.m.



Our Mission:

We are called to be disciples of Christ,
revealing His Life, Love and Light to the World.

Our Vision:

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church is a radically welcoming,
inclusive faith family – sharing and teaching the love of Jesus Christ
through our worship, actions and outreach:
transforming ourselves and the world.

PRELUDE

“Caithness Lament”

Keith Getty (b. 1974)

Please remain seated during the processional.

OPENING WORDS

Presider The God of love is with us.

***People* The Spirit of love is in us.**

Presider Blessed be the one God, whose prophets foretold the coming of the Light;

***People* And blessed be the Son, whose coming we await.**

Following the Presider’s invitation, please stand.

CEREMONY OF LIGHT¹

Presider Thy Word is a lantern unto my feet,

***People* And a light unto my path**

Presider At eventide there shall be light.

Lighting of the pew torches

Reader Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, at your word you bring on the evening twilight. You create day and night, you roll away light before the darkness, and the darkness before the light; you make the day to pass, and the night to approach, and divide the day from the night. Blessed are you, O Lord, for you bring on the evening twilight.

Presider Lighten our darkness, we beseech you, O Lord, and by your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Reader Daylight has ended, night is upon us. Yet unto Thee, sustainer of all things, Darkness and Light, all times and all seasons, all are as one, O Lord of Creation.

¹ From *A Celtic Primer*, compiled by Brendan O’Malley (London: Morehouse Publishing, 2002), “A Ceremony of Light,” pp. 218-220

PHOS HILARON (O GRACIOUS LIGHT)

Repeated several times. The Advent Wreath is lit.

Bm Em⁷/B A Bm/A

Kin - dle a flame to light - en the dark, and

G/A G C[#]m⁷(b⁵) F[#]

take all fear a - way.

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OPENING PRAYER

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, to you our hearts are open and our inmost desires known. We cannot hide our most intimate secrets from you. We ask you to be present at all times in our thoughts and our hearts, and to purify them, so that we may love you with the love of the Spirit and praise your name with humility and joy; through Christ our Lord.

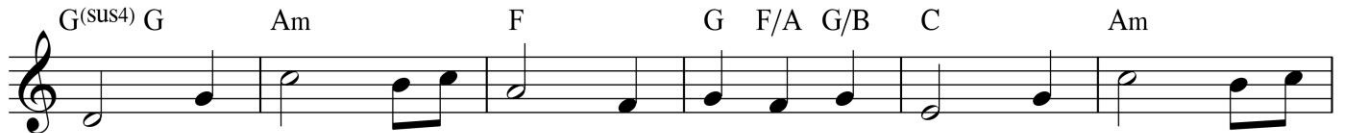
People **Amen.**

ADVENT GATHERING SONG

During the season, a verse is added each week. Tonight we sing verses 1-3.



Advent 1: 1. Hope is a star that shines in the night, lead-ing us on 'till the morn-ing is
Advent 2: 2. Peace is a rib-bon that cir - cles the earth, giv - ing a prom - ise of safe - ty and
Advent 3: 3. Joy is a song that wel-comes the dawn, tell - ing the world that the Sav - ior is
Advent 4: 4. Love is a flame that burns in our heart, Je - sus has come and will ne - ver de-



bright. When God is a child, there's joy in our song. The last shall be
 worth.
 born.
 part.



first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be a - fraid.

© 1989, Hope Publishing Company

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Please remain standing as able.

Presider Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the readings.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Lesson

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 The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle: Isaiah 12:2-6 (*Refrain sung first by cantor, then by all*)



The Epistle

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as able for the reading of the gospel.

The Gospel

Luke 3:7-18

Em C Am⁶ B

Wait for the Lord, God's day is near.

Em D G Em Am B Em

Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart.

© 1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Presider 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.

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Em C Am⁶ B

Wait for the Lord, God's day is near.

Em D G Em Am B Em

Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart.

Please be seated.

Sermon

The Reverend Mary Lynn Coulson

Please stand as able.

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Presider Let us join in affirming our faith in God.

People **We believe in God above us,
maker and sustainer of all life,
of sun and moon, of water and earth,
of male and female.**

**We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ
the Word made flesh,
born of a woman, servant of the poor,
tortured and nailed to a tree.**

A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.

He descended into the earth to take the place of death.

On the third day he rose again from the tomb.

**He ascended into heaven, to be everywhere present,
and his kingdom will come on earth.**

**We believe in God within us,
the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,
life-giving breath of the Church,
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
source of resurrection and of eternal life. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please remain standing or kneel as able.

Presider With prayers for a world waiting in hope, let us turn to the Lord, and we shall be saved.

Intercessor For the Church, still waiting for unity, still hoping for renewal. May all the faithful be blessed by the sound of the Gospel proclaimed to the ends of the earth.

People Come, Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

Intercessor For all nations, still waiting for peace, still hoping for an end to war, still searching for common ground. May all peoples be blessed by the sound of understanding between clans and tribes, rulers and races.

People Come, Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

Intercessor For those who have lost hope, still waiting for a job, still hoping for a cure, still searching for a place to call home. May those without joy this season be blessed by the sound of God's promise for them fulfilled.

People Come, Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

Intercessor For travelers and visitors, families and friends, still waiting for welcome, still hoping for reconciliation, still searching for a way to mend what has been broken. May everyone we encounter this season be blessed by greetings of peace, compassion, and hospitality.

People Come, Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

Intercessor For the sick and the dying and those who care for them, still waiting for results, still hoping for a miracle, still searching for courage and comfort, including those we now name, either silently or aloud.

We invite you to add your intercessions.

Intercessor May all the sick be blessed by the sound of God's healing word and the strength of our prayers.

People Come, Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

Intercessor For loved ones whom we miss this season, forgotten ones who died alone, innocent ones caught in the crossfire of violence, including those we now name either silently or aloud.

We invite you to add your intercessions.

Intercessor May all who have died be blessed by the sound of God welcoming them home.

People Come, Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

Presider You are near to us, Lord, as close to us as the child in the womb of her mother. And yet we wait in expectant hope for your coming. Attune our ears to hear your voice in all those we meet, and open our eyes to see your abiding presence in our world. Hear our prayers and make us turn to you, that we may leap for joy at the sound of your saving Word, Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please remain standing or kneel as able.

Presider As we await the coming of Jesus, so we often wait for others to forgive us. Our sin separates us from God and from one another. Let us forgive our brothers and sisters and confess our own sin together.

Silence

Presider God of all people,

People **As we await once again the birth of your love into our hearts, we confess that we have lost sight of that love. In this busy season we turn away from pain and poverty, we avoid the sick and the lonely, and we ignore the outcast and the oppressed.**

Have mercy on us and give us the strength to truly welcome Christ into our hearts and to live our lives according to your will. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Presider The Lord enrich us with grace, and further us with heavenly blessing. The Lord defend us in adversity and keep us from all evil. The Lord receive our prayers and graciously absolve us from our offenses. In God's name we pray.

People **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE

Please stand as able.

Presider God makes peace within us.

People **Let us claim it.**

Presider God makes peace between us.

People Let us share it.

After sharing the peace with one another, please be seated.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Music

“Breath of Heaven (Mary’s Song)”

Amy Grant (b. 1960)

Please stand as able.

Doxology:

Greensleeves

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant king, to own him.
The King of Kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Presider We offer you praise and hearts lifted high, O God, who is Father of all life and of all sound. Though our days vanish like mist, and the sounds of the earth fade away in the distance, still your Spirit is within all life, and every human soul is born in your likeness. And so with the whole created order, with the stars that silently glisten with life’s glory, with the wind that howls and the gentle breeze that whispers, with the trumpets of heaven’s messengers and the echo of the saints, we join in the song of your unending greatness:

Sanctus

San - to, San - to, San - to, mi cor - a - zon te a - do - ra!

My heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord.

Chord symbols: C, G, C(sus4), C, F, C, F, G/F, F, C, C/B, Am, F, G, C.

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Blessed are you, O God, whose wisdom from above has inspired men and women through the ages to fulfill on earth your purposes – to hear the cry of the poor, to act with mercy, and to live together in gentleness and peace. We bless you for the coming of Christ, who in life and in death embodied the law of love. By his rising again, he has saved our souls from despair, and by the gift of the Holy Spirit, he has given us courage and hope to face the forces of evil and death that rage around and within us.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, and having blessed it, he broke the bread, and gave it to his disciples, saying: “Take, eat; this is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way he took wine, and having given thanks for it, he shared it with his disciples saying: “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

***People* Remembering his eternal self-giving, we proclaim the mystery of Christ among us. Made one with him, and one with each other, we offer these gifts, and with them ourselves, a single, holy living sacrifice.**

O God, whose generosity is unbounded and who wills that we should lack no good thing, bless this bread and this wine with your Holy Spirit, that in receiving them into ourselves we may be made whole again, strengthened not merely to hear the truth, but to do it, and be blessed in our doing; through Christ, by whom, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty God, world without end. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Presider And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we pray:

***All* 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

Presider The Spirit we await is with us in this bread.

***All* The voice of the Holy One speaks to us in this cup.**

Following the Presider's invitation to communion, please be seated.

Communion Music

"Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God"

Keith Getty (b. 1974)

Prayer after Communion

Please remain seated or kneel as able.

Presider Let us join in thanking God for this holy meal.

***All* O God, we have heard your call to us, and we have responded by gathering in your name to await your voice. Help us to listen to your presence in silence and in sound—the voices of your people, the noises of your animals, the music of creation—that, reconnected with you and one another through this holy meal, we may hear the voice which call us home to you: our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier. Amen.**

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSINGS OF BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

All Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please stand as able.

CLOSING PRAYER

Presider Lord of all light, as we go forth into the world, we extinguish the lights that here represent the presence of the Holy in our midst,

All But we will carry the light in our hearts, and we pray that as we go about our work in the world, we will shine with the love of God. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Presider May the Wonderful Counselor guide you, the Mighty God protect you, the Everlasting Father be with you, and the Prince of Peace comfort you. And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you now and ever more.

All Amen.

Closing Hymn: "Hark, the Glad Sound!" (*see next page*)

Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth with joy to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The congregation is invited to remain in prayer during the postlude, or leave in silence.



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come

prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a
bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him
soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His
shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es

throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.
burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.
grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.
ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

