



# THE PARISH CHURCH

— AT HABERSHAM —

## Daily Morning Prayer

Sunday, December 24, 2023

# *Advent*

*O come, O come, Emmanuel*



## A Church Where We Love Our Neighbors

### Who We Are

*The Parish Church worships God together in community, offering an opportunity to come to know and love the Lord Jesus. We believe that as we grow in our love for God together, we will also grow closer to one another - being known, sharing life, and loving neighbors as Jesus taught us to do, right where we live.*

*The Parish Church at Habersham is a daughter church plant of St. Helena in Downtown Beaufort. We are a mission church on the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina under the authority of Bishop Charles Edgar.*

# Liturgy of the Word

## Welcome and Announcements

## Advent

### Opening Sentences of Scripture

In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. *Isaiah 40:3*

### Confession of Sin

*The Officiant says to the people:*

Dearly beloved, the Scriptures teach us to acknowledge our many sins and offenses, not concealing them from our heavenly Father, but confessing them with humble and obedient hearts that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy. We ought at all times humbly to acknowledge our sins before Almighty God, but especially when we come together in his presence to give thanks for the great benefits we have received at his hands, to declare his most worthy praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things which are necessary for our life and our salvation. Therefore, draw near with me to the throne of heavenly grace.

*Silence is kept. All seated, the Officiant and People say:*

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We

have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and apart from your grace, there is no health in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare all those who confess their faults. Restore all those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

*The Priest alone stands and says:*

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, desires not the death of sinners, but that they may turn from their wickedness and live. He has empowered and commanded his ministers to pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He pardons and absolves all who truly repent and genuinely believe his holy Gospel. For this reason, we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that our present deeds may please him, the rest of our lives may be pure and holy, and that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*All stand.*

*Please read responsively by half verse*

*Officiant:* O Lord, open our lips;

*People:* ***And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.***

*Officiant:* O God, make speed to save us;

*People:* ***O Lord, make haste to help us.***

*Officiant:* Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

*People:* ***As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.***

Officiant: Praise the Lord.

People: *The Lord's Name be praised.*

### Antiphon for Advent

Officiant: Our King and Savior now draws near:

People: *O come, let us adore him*

### Venite

O Come

*Please read responsively by half verse*

O come, let us sing unto the Lord;

*let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.*

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving

*and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.*

For the Lord is a great God

*and a great King above all gods.*

In his hand are all the depths of the earth,

*and the heights of the hills are his also.*

The sea is his, for he made it,

*and his hands prepared the dry land.*

O come, let us worship and fall down,

*and kneel before the Lord our Maker.*

For he is our God,

*and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.*

Today, if you will hear his voice,

*harden not your hearts as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness,*

When your fathers tested me,

*and put me to the proof, though they had seen my works.*

Forty years long was I grieved with this generation  
and said,

***“It is a people that err in their hearts, for they have  
not known my ways,***

Of whom I swore in my wrath  
***that they should not enter into my rest. Psalm 95:1-11***

*Repeat the Advent Antiphon*

Officiant: Our King and Savior now draws near:

People: ***O come, let us adore him***

## **The Psalm or Psalms Appointed**

*At the end of the Psalms the Gloria Patri (Glory be...) is sung or said*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the  
Holy Spirit;

***as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen***

## **The Lessons**

2 Samuel 7:1-17

<sup>1</sup> Now when the king lived in his house and the Lord had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, <sup>2</sup> the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent.” <sup>3</sup> And Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart, for the Lord is with you.”

<sup>4</sup> But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, <sup>5</sup> “Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the Lord: Would you build me a house to dwell in?’ <sup>6</sup> I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a

tent for my dwelling. <sup>7</sup> In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?” <sup>8</sup> Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, “Thus says the Lord of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. <sup>9</sup> And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. <sup>10</sup> And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, <sup>11</sup> from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. <sup>12</sup> When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. <sup>13</sup> He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. <sup>14</sup> I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, <sup>15</sup> but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. <sup>16</sup> And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.” <sup>17</sup> In accordance with all these words, and in accordance with all this vision, Nathan spoke to David.

## Psalm 96

- <sup>1</sup> Oh sing to the Lord a new song;  
***sing to the Lord, all the earth!***
- <sup>2</sup> Sing to the Lord, bless his name;  
***tell of his salvation from day to day.***
- <sup>3</sup> Declare his glory among the nations,  
***his marvelous works among all the peoples!***
- <sup>4</sup> For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;  
***he is to be feared above all gods.***
- <sup>5</sup> For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols,  
***but the Lord made the heavens.***
- <sup>6</sup> Splendor and majesty are before him;  
***strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.***
- <sup>7</sup> Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,  
***ascribe to the Lord glory and strength!***
- <sup>8</sup> Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;  
***bring an offering, and come into his courts!***
- <sup>9</sup> Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness;  
***tremble before him, all the earth!***
- <sup>10</sup> Say among the nations, “The Lord reigns!  
***Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity.”***
- <sup>11</sup> Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;  
***let the sea roar, and all that fills it;***
- <sup>12</sup> Let the field exult, and everything in it!  
***Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord,***
- <sup>13</sup> Before the Lord, for he comes,  
***for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness.***



## Romans 16:25-27

<sup>25</sup> Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages <sup>26</sup> but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— <sup>27</sup> to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

## Luke 1:26-38

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" <sup>29</sup> But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup> and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

<sup>34</sup> And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

<sup>35</sup> And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. <sup>36</sup> And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup> For nothing will be impossible with God.” <sup>38</sup> And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

*Officiant:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

**The Homily**

The Rev. Dr. Chris Seitz

**The Canticle**

Magnificat

*Please read responsively by half verse*

*The Song of Mary*

My soul magnifies the Lord,

**and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;**

For he has regarded

**the lowliness of his handmaiden.**

For behold, from now on,

**all generations will call me blessed;**

For he that is mighty has magnified me,

**and holy is his Name.**

And his mercy is on those who fear him,

**throughout all generations.**

He has shown the strength of his arm;

**he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.**

He has brought down the mighty from their thrones,

**and has exalted the humble and meek.**

He has filled the hungry with good things,  
**and the rich he has sent empty away.**

He, remembering his mercy, has helped his servant Israel,  
**as he promised to our fathers, Abraham and his  
seed for ever.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the  
Holy Spirit; \*  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall  
be, world without end. Amen.**

## The Apostles' Creed

*Officiant and People together, all standing*

***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 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.***

## The Prayers

*Officiant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* And with your spirit.

*Officiant:* Let us pray.

*The People kneel or stand.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

***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.***

*Officiant:* O Lord, show your mercy upon us;

*People:* ***And grant us your salvation.***

*Officiant:* O Lord, guide those who govern us;

*People:* ***And lead us in the way of justice and truth.***

*Officiant:* Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

*People:* ***And let your people sing with joy.***

*Officiant:* O Lord, save your people;

*People:* ***And bless your inheritance.***

*Officiant:* Give peace in our time, O Lord;

*People:* ***And defend us by your mighty power.***

*Officiant:* Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

*People:* ***Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.***

*Officiant:* Create in us clean hearts, O God;

*People:* ***And take not your Holy Spirit from us.***

## **The Collect of the Day for the Fourth Sunday in Advent**

### **Annunciation**

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and as we are sorely hindered by our sins from running the race that is set before us, 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.

### **A Collect for strength to await Christ's return**

*Sunday*

O God our King, by the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ on the first day of the week, you conquered sin, put death to flight, and gave us the hope of everlasting life: Redeem all our days by this victory; forgive our sins, banish our fears, make us bold to praise you and to do your will; and steel us to wait for the consummation of your kingdom on the last great Day; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Prayer for Mission**

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Officiant may invite the People to offer intercessions and thanksgivings.*

## **The General Thanksgiving**

*Officiant and People*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
***we your unworthy servants give you humble  
thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.***

We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
***and all the blessings of this life; but above all for  
your immeasurable love in the redemption of the  
world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of  
grace, and for the hope of glory.***

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
***that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth  
your praise, not only with our lips, but in our  
lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and  
by walking before you in holiness and  
righteousness all our days;***

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
***to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor  
and glory throughout all ages. Amen.***

## **A Prayer of St. John Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time, with one accord to make our common supplications to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will grant their requests: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

*Officiant:* Let us bless the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

*The Officiant says*

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

## **The Dismissal**

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*People: Thanks be to God.*

## Thank You for Worshipping with Us!

- If you have any prayer requests or questions about the Christian faith, our Pastor, Jamie Sosnowski, is available at 843-817-5667 or at [parishchurchathabersham@gmail.com](mailto:parishchurchathabersham@gmail.com).
- If you would like to financially support our ministry, you can go to [TheParish.org](http://TheParish.org) and Click “Give” on the homepage.
- New to the Parish Church? Please let us know who you are by scanning this code with your phone's camera.

