

FOURTH SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT 30 OCTOBER 2022

ORGAN PRELUDE

Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott, BuxWV184 Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

HYMN 362

- 1 Come, let us join our cheerful songs with angels round the throne; ten thousand thousand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.
- 'Worthy the Lamb that died,' they cry, 'to be exalted thus'; 'Worthy the Lamb,' our lips reply, 'for he was slain for us.'
- Jesus is worthy to receive honour and power divine; and blessings, more than we can give, be, Lord, for ever thine.
- 4 Let all that dwell above the sky, and air, and earth, and seas, conspire to lift thy glories high, and speak thine endless praise.
- 5 The whole creation joins in one to bless the sacred name of him that sits upon the throne, and to adore the Lamb.

GREETING

In the name of the living God: Father, Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you and also with you.

The celebrant welcomes those in attendance.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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.

CONFESSION

The grace of God has dawned upon the world with healing for all.
Let us come to him, in sorrow for our sins, seeking healing and salvation.

Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,

love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,

with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

COLLECT

The celebrant prays the collect set for the day.

Almighty and eternal God, you have kindled the flame of love in the hearts of the saints: grant to us the same faith and power of love, that, as we rejoice in their triumphs, we may be sustained by their example and fellowship; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 1:1, 10-18

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah:

¹ The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah. ... ¹⁰ Hear the word of the LORD, you rulers of Sodom! Listen to the teaching of our God, you people of Gomorrah! 11 What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the LORD; I have had enough of burnt-offerings of rams and the fat of fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats. ¹²When you come to appear before me, ^[a] who asked this from your hand? Trample my courts no more; 13 bringing offerings is futile; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and sabbath and calling of convocation— I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity. ¹⁴ Your new moons and your appointed festivals my soul hates; they have become a burden to me, I am weary of bearing them. ¹⁵ When you stretch out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood. 16 Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your doings from before my eyes; cease to do evil, ¹⁷ learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow.

¹⁸ Come now, let us argue it out, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 32:1-8

Blessèd is he whose / $\sin \cdot$ is for-/-given: whose in-/-iquity \cdot is / put a-/-way.

Blessèd is the man to whom the Lord im-/-putes no / blame: and in whose / spirit · there / is no / guile.

For whilst I / held my / tongue: my bones wasted a-/-way · with my / daily · com-/-plaining.

Your hand was heavy upon me / day and / night: and my moisture was dried / up · like a / drought in / summer.

Then I ack-/-nowledged · my / sin to you: and my in-/-iquity · I / did not / hide;

I said 'I will confess my trans-/-gressions · to the / Lord': and so you forgave the / wicked·ness / of my / sin.

For this cause shall everyone that is faithful make his prayer to you* in the / day of / trouble: and in the time of the great water-floods / they shall / not come / near him.

You are a place to hide me in *
you will pre-/-serve me · from / trouble:
you will surround me with de-/-liverance · on / every / side.

Glory be to the Father, and / to the / Son: and / to the / Holy / Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and / ever / shall be: world without / end./ A-/-men.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

2 Thessalonians 1

A reading from Paul's Second Letter to the Thessalonians:

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: ² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ³ We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing. ⁴ Therefore we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your steadfastness and faith during all your persecutions and the afflictions that you are enduring. ⁵ This is evidence of the righteous judgement of God, and is intended to make you worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are also suffering. ⁶ For it is indeed just of God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, ⁷ and to give relief to the afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels 8 in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. ⁹ These will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, separated from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might, ¹⁰ when he comes to be glorified by his saints and to be marvelled at on that day among all who have believed, because our testimony to you was believed. ¹¹ To this end we always pray for you, asking that our God will make you worthy of his call and will fulfil by his power every good resolve and work of faith, 12 so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN 258

O thou who camest from above the fire celestial to impart, kindle a flame of sacred love on the mean altar of my heart!

- 2 There let it for thy glory burn with inextinguishable blaze, and trembling to its source return in humble prayer and fervent praise.
- Jesus, confirm my heart's desiret o work, and speak, and think for thee; still let me guard the holy fire, and still stir up the gift in me.
- 4 Ready for all thy perfect will, my acts of faith and love repeat; till death thy endless mercies seal, and make the sacrifice complete.

GOSPEL Luke 19:1-10

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ He entered Jericho and was passing through it. ² A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax-collector and was rich. ³ He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. ⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed a sycomore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. ⁵ When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, 'Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.' ⁶ So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. ⁷ All who saw it began to grumble and said, 'He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.' ⁸ Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, 'Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.' ⁹ Then Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

CREED

Amen.

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, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who 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.

INTERCESSIONS

A member of the congregation offers prayers.

PEACE

The celebrant introduces the Peace with a suitable sentence:

Let love be genuine. Never pay back evil for evil. As far as it lies with you, live at peace with everyone. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.** Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

HYMN 669

- I heard the voice of Jesus say, 'Come unto me and rest; lay down, thou weary one, lay down thy head upon my breast': I came to Jesus as I was, weary and worn and sad; I found in him a resting-place, and he has made me glad.
- I heard the voice of Jesus say, 'Behold, I freely give the living water, thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live': I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream; my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.
- I heard the voice of Jesus say, 'I am this dark world's light; look unto me, thy morn shall rise, and all thy day be bright':

I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun; and in that light of life I'll walk till travelling days are done.

EUCHARIST

Eucharistic Prayer E

The Lord be with you and also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, you made the world and love your creation. You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour. His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death. And so we gladly thank you, with saints and angels praising you, and *saying*:

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

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:

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

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.

Again he praised you, gave it to them 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.

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

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with [N and] all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught 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,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.

INVITATION

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,

and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving. **Amen.**

The celebrant distributes communion.

ANTHEM

HYMN 452

- 1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence and with fear and trembling stand; ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in his hand Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.
- 2 King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood, Lord oflords, in human vesture in the body and the blood he will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.
- Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way, as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day, that the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.
- 4 At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim with sleepless eye veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,

POST-COMMUNION PRAYERS

Lord of heaven, in this eucharist you have brought us near to an innumerable company of angels and to the spirits of the saints made perfect: as in this food of our earthly pilgrimage we have shared their fellowship, so may we come to share their joy in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.
Amen.

BLESSING

The celebrant may use a seasonal blessing, or another suitable blessing:

...and the blessing of God Almighty the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN 806

There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea; there's a kindness in his justice which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven;

- there is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgement given.
- 2 For the love of God is broader than the measure of our mind, and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
 But we make his love too narrow by false limits of our own; and we magnify his strictness with a zeal he would not own.
- There is plentiful redemption through the blood that has been shed; there is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head.

 There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this; there is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss.
- 4 If our love were but more simple, we should take him at his word; and our lives would be all gladness in the joy of Christ our Lord.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Fuga in D major, BWV 532b Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

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This liturgy is taken from The Archbishop's Council 2000, *Common Worship* (London: Church House Publishing, 2000). The hymns are taken from *Ancient & Modern* (Norwich: Canterbury Press, 2013). Scripture reference, unless otherwise noted, are from the NRSV translation of *The Holy Bible*.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

We are taking a collection during all of the services in the church building through the offering plate and through a tap and pay card reading system at the back of the church. PayPal and standing orders are also possible through our website or by contacting the church Treasurer. More information is available on our website.

Your contributions make a difference, and we are thankful for them.