

# The Third Sunday of Advent: Gaudete Sunday and the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Sung Eucharist + 10:30 AM

St. Martin of Tours Episcopal Church Bridgewater NJ

Opening Hymn Rejoice! Rejoice Believers

Hymnal 1982, 68

Priest: Bless the Lord who forgives our sins.

All: God's mercy endures forever.

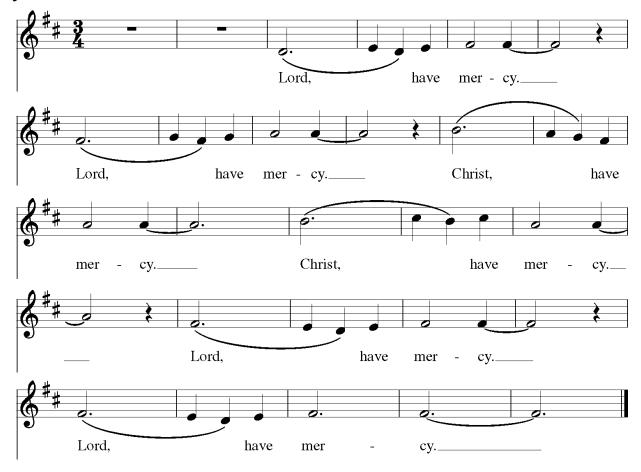
Priest: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Priest: 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*.



### Wonder, Love and Praise, 839



Priest: 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 forever. Amen.

O God of love, you blessed your people at El Tepeyac with the presence of La Virgen de Guadalupe: grant that her example of love to the poor and forsaken may stir our faith to recognize all people as members of one family. Teach us to follow in the way you have prepared for us, that we may honor one another in word and action, sharing with her your commonwealth of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

### A Reading from the Prophet Zephaniah (Please be seated)

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. The Word of the Lord/ Thanks be to God.

The First Song of Isaiah (Metrical Canticle. Remain seated) Hymnal 1982, 679

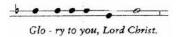
### A Reading from the Epistle to the Philippians (Please be seated)

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. The Word of the Lord/ *Thanks be to God*.

### Gospel Acclamation (Please stand)

Alleluia (repeated) Behold I send my messenger before your face, who shall prepare the way of the Lord. Alleluia.

### The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke



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. The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily

### The Nicene Creed (Please stand)

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.

## The Prayers of the People (Please stand or kneel)

Intercessor: Watchful at all times, let us pray for strength to stand with confidence before our Maker and Redeemer.

That God may bring in his kingdom with justice and mercy, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.** 

That we may seek Christ in the Scriptures and recognize him in the breaking of the bread, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.** 

That God may bind up the brokenhearted, restore the sick, and raise up all who have fallen, especially Andrea, Stephanie, Alex, Kelsey, Linda, Anna Rose, Sarah, Marion, and those we now name .... let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.** 

That the light of God's coming may dawn on all who live in darkness and the shadow of death, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.** 

That, with all the departed and all the saints in light, we may shine forth as lights for the world, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.** 

Priest: Almighty God, as your blessed Son Jesus Christ first came to seek and to save the lost; so may he come again to find in us the completion of his redeeming work; for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

# The Peace and Announcements Offertory Hymn Soon and Very Soon (please stand)

Amen.

LEVAS II, 14

Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King, Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King, Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we are goin' to see the King!

No more cryin' there we are goin' to see the King, No more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King, No more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we are goin' to see the King!

No more dyin' there we are goin' to see the King, No more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King, No more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we are goin' to see the King!

Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King, Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King, Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King, Hallelujah, We are goin' to see the King!

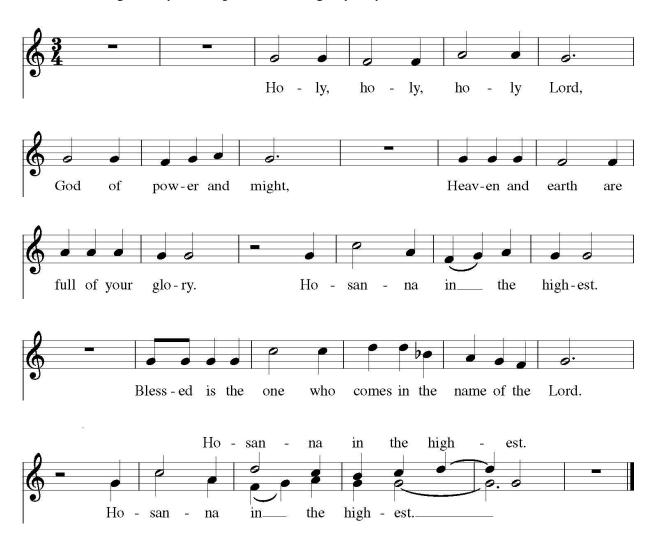
### The Liturgy of the Altar (Remain standing if able)

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 God 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, because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Glory and praise to you, Lord God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You created us in your image and invited us to dwell in your love; but we rejected your love, abused your creation and brought death to the world. Yet, you would not abandon us to sin and death. You sent Jesus Christ, your only Son, to become one of us, to show us the way of life. In obedience to your will, he offered himself upon the cross in love, to free us from the power of sin and death, and to reconcile us to you and to one another.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, 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."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now the suffering and death and proclaiming the resurrection and ascension of Jesus our Redeemer, we bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of Christ.

Gather us by this Holy Communion into one body in the Risen One, and make us a living sacrifice of praise. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. *AMEN* 

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

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

### The Fraction and Agnus Dei (Sung by choir)

**WLP, 868** 

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are they who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.

### **Holy Communion**

All are welcome to receive Communion. We will be offering communion with both Christ's Body and Blood. We understand individuals may have different comfort levels as to how they receive communion. Following ancient Christian teaching, all persons may, but no person must, receive communion in both kinds to receive the fullness of Christ's Body and Blood. You may choose to receive only the host at this time. Should you choose to receive the wine, one vessel will be offered for those who want to sip the wine from the common cup. Please do not dip the host into the chalice at this time.

### **Communion Hymns**

Rejoice in the Lord, Always

Voices Found, 162



On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand

LEVAS II, 9

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand, And cast a wishful eye; To Canaan's fair and happy land, Where my possessions lie.

Refrain: I am bound for the promised land, I am bound for the promised land; Oh, who will come and go with me? I am bound for the promised land.

All o'er those wide-extended plains, Shines one eternal day; There God the Son forever reigns, And scatters night away. [Refrain]

No chilling winds or pois'nous breath can reach that healthful shore; Sickness and sorrow, pain and death, are felt and feared no more. [Refrain]

When shall I reach that happy place And be forever blest? When shall I see my Father's face, And in God's bosom rest? [Refrain] Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Blessing

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Ame*n.

#### **Dismissal**

Closing Hymn Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Hymnal 1982, 616

### **Serving Today**

Thurifer: Zac Laws Crucifer: Alex Kellam

Lay Reader: Marilyn O'Regan Eucharistic Minister: Yvonne Comeau

Choir: Beth Hixenbaugh, Alison Jandak, Jane Maloney, Rob Vernon

Organist: Kathy Shanklin Celebrant: Father Rob Laws

The Eucharistic Prayer that we are using throughout the season of Advent comes from *Enriching Our Worship*, which has been approved for use by the General Convention and the Bishop of our diocese.

Today we light three candles of the Advent wreath. The first candle represents hope, the second candle represents love, and the third, joy. Today is Gaudete Sunday, originally a reprieve from the advent fast, when this season had a more rigorous feeling of penitence than it has today. We still observe this day as a day of joy, remembering that the coming of Christ is near. As the light of the wreath burns brighter each week, my God enkindle hope and love in our hearts.