



# THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY 12 DECEMBER 2021

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

8:00 A.M.

*Page numbers refer to the Book of Common Prayer.*

## Welcome and Announcements

## THE WORD OF GOD

### Opening Acclamation

BCP p. 323

### The Lighting of the Advent Candle

### Kyrie eleison

p. 324

### The Collect of the Day

p. 160

### The Lesson: Philippians (4:4—7)

*The Holy Bible (NRSV) p. 1073*

#### *Commentary:*

*There were many reasons the Philippian Christians could have felt discouraged, so to counteract this attitude, Paul prescribed rejoicing in the Lord. Paul was not telling the Philippians or us to be unrealistic, he was not saying his readers never had reason to be sad. However, he advised focusing on the blessings we have in Christ and being grateful for them even in the midst of sadness. Paul also advised replacing worry with prayer. Peace in the heart follows sincere, honest prayer about the things that concern us.*

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.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

### The Holy Gospel: Luke (3:7—18)

*The Holy Bible (NRSV) p. 937*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

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

*(continued overleaf)*

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 be to thee, O Christ.**

**The Homily**

The Reverend Phillip Craig, Jr.

**The Nicene Creed**

p. 327

**The Prayers of the People**

p. 328

**Confession of Sin**

p. 330

**The Peace**

p. 332

**The Holy Communion** (*Gluten-free wafers available*)

**Eucharistic Prayer I**

p. 333

**Sanctus**

p. 334

**The Lord’s Prayer**

p. 336

**The Breaking of the Bread**

p. 337

**Prayer of Humble Access**

p. 337

**The Communion of the People**

p. 338

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

p. 339

**The Blessing**

p. 339

**The Dismissal**

p. 339

*Celebrant & Preacher: The Reverend Phillip Craig, Jr.*

*The flowers at the altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of  
Jane Miller Metts, Edwin Anderson Metts, Elizabeth Cotchett Metts,  
Elizabeth Metts Brown, James Fred Rippy III, and Michael Corbett Brown, Sr.*



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**DEADLINE for submission is Monday 20 December at 9:00 am.**

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