

Welcome

We are pleased to have you worship with us this morning! We hope that your spiritual life is deepened today.

Please join us for coffee and refreshments in the church hall following worship.

Nursery care and Sunday School up to age 12 is available in the parish hall. Children will rejoin their parents after the Peace.

Contact Us

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Staff

Rector The Rev. Jason Wells
Music Minister Justine Paul
Sexton Jane Lavin

Leadership

Senior Warden Randy Makee
Junior Warden Gerry Monroe
Clerk Scott Cumming
Treasurer Stephen Wheeler
Vestry Beth Lavoie
Audrey Rose
Brittany Wheeler
Marily Wilson

This Sunday's Servers

Eucharistic Min. Barb Geissingner
Eucharistic Min. Christian Smith
Acolyte Brittany Wheeler
Reader Beth Lavoie
Reader Kathleen Beliveau
Usher Joel Smith
Usher Deb Smith
Counter Joel Smith
Counter Adam Czarkowski
Coffee Hour Shelly Breer

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Feeding you, body, mind and soul

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: DECEMBER 8, 2013



Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn 65

Prepare the way, O Zion

Opening Acclamation and Prayer

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Lord, have mercy

Hymnal S-95

Cantor or Choir *All* *Cantor or Choir*
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

All *Cantor or Choir* *All*
Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Prayer of the Day

Response: **And also with you.**

Advent... Photo by Gytha

Isaiah 11:1-10

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;

That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;

That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.

He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.

He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.

He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.

In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon
shall be no more.

Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!

And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen.

Romans 15:4-13

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 56, vv. 3-4 *O come, O come Emmanuel*

Matthew 3:1-12

First Response: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Second Response: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon The Rev Jason Wells

Nicene Creed

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 salva-

tion 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.

Prayers of the People

Response: **Lord, have mercy.**

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Offertory

Hymn 81 *Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming*

Eucharistic Prayer

Celebrant *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Holy, holy, holy Hymnal S-122

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
power and might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Memorial Acclamation

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Amen

Celebrant *People*

A - men.

Lord's Prayer

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

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.**

Breaking of the Bread

Hymnal S-160

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Communion

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion at the Altar. If you come to the rail and cross your arms over your chest, you may receive a blessing instead of Communion.

If you would like to be baptized, please speak to the Rev. Jason Wells as soon as possible for scheduling.

Hymn

Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart!

Closing Prayer

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Blessing

Hymn 67

Comfort, comfort ye my people

Dismissal

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Pageant Rehearsals happen during the 10am Sunday School classes. All children (youth, elementary, nursery) will rejoin their parents during the Peace.

Lectio Divina on Wed, Dec. 11 at 5pm to explore this ancient, accessible prayer method. Please bring a potluck dish to share.

Youth Event Sat., Dec. 14 at 3pm at St. Paul's Church, youth eat, reflect, bake cookies, pack items for the homeless and worship before witnessing a living nativity in Antrim.

Poinsettias To beautify our Christmas worship, fill out the envelope in your pew and place it in the offering plate when it comes by. Orders must be in by Dec. 15. Suggested gift: \$10.

Rosary Class At 11am on Dec. 15, Father Jason will teach you how to use this ancient form of prayer and meditation.

Homeless Memorial Candlelight Vigil on Fri., Dec. 20, 4pm at the State House. Come on the longest night of the year, the first night of Winter, to honor our homeless who died in 2013. Donations of socks, hats and mittens welcome.

From the Pledge Clerk Any donations for 2013 must be received by 11am on Dec. 29. Donations received later will be recorded for 2014.

Friendly Kitchen Donations

Until December 18, bring donations of THINSULATE GLOVES, FLEECE HAT AND A PAIR OF WHITE ATHLETIC SOCKS to the box located in the Parish Hall. The items will go to the Friendly Kitchen for Christmas gift bags for their guests. Some of them live out in the cold all day and night or have homes with little to no heat.

BY THE NUMBERS

Date	Att.	Pledge	Plate
11/10	62	\$798	\$116
11/17	72	\$1,147	\$156
11/24	66	\$1,691	\$129
12/3	82	\$1,678	\$57
Year	3,171	\$76,004	\$5,204

COMING UP

12/15	9am	Community Life
12/20	5pm	Turkey Supper
12/22	11am	Stump the Priest
12/24	4pm	Pageant Service
12/24	7pm	Choral Service
1/19	11am	Annual Meeting

PRAYER NEEDS

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer
Church of the Transfiguration,
Derry, where the Bishop is visiting this morning

Requests

Thurston, Ernest, Anna, Kelly, Jo, Robert and Maggie

Birthdays this Week

Suzanne Morgan, Patrick Hall and Xavier Sokol

If your birthday is this week and you are not listed here, please let Father Jason Wells know that it's your birthday!

ADVENT WREATH PRAYER

Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Sunday	Matthew 3:1-12
Monday	Isaiah 35:1-10
Tuesday	Isaiah 40:1-11
Wednesday	Isaiah 40:25-31
Thursday	Isaiah 41:13-20
Friday	Isaiah 48:17-19
Saturday	Sirach 48:1-11