

ST THOMAS ANGLICAN CHURCH
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December 10, 2023 - Weekly Readings

2nd Advent

We acknowledge that we meet and work in Treaty 1 Land. We appreciate the Gifts of Resources from Creator coming from Treaty 2 and 3 Land. Treaty 1, 2 & 3 Land are the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, Dene, Sioux and the homeland of the Metis Nation. We are grateful for their stewardship of this land and their hospitality which allows us to live, work and serve God the Creator here.

Hymns for the Day

Opening #630 (WOV)

light one candle to watch for messiah

Gradual #647 (WOV)

when Jesus came to Jordan

Closing #370 (CP)

songs of praise the angels sang

40:4 Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

40:5 Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

40:6 A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field.

40:7 The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass.

40:8 The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

40:9 Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear;

Isaiah 40:1-11

40:1 Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

40:2 Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

40:3 A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!"

40:10 See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

40:11 He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

85:1 LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

85:2 You forgave the iniquity of your people; you pardoned all their sin. Selah

85:8 Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

85:9 Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

85:10 Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

85:11 Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.

85:12 The LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

85:13 Righteousness will go before him, and will make a path for his steps.

God of grace, you loved the world so much that you gave your only Son to be our Saviour. Help us to rejoice in our salvation by showing mercy and truth, and by walking in the way of righteousness and peace. We ask this in his name and for his sake. **Amen**

2 Peter 3:8-15a

3:8 But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day.

3:9 The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance.

3:10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

3:11 Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in

leading lives of holiness and
godliness,

3:12 waiting for and hastening
the coming of the day of God,
because of which the heavens
will be set ablaze and dissolved,
and the elements will melt with
fire?

3:13 But, in accordance with his
promise, we wait for new
heavens and a new earth, where
righteousness is at home.

3:14 Therefore, beloved, while
you are waiting for these things,
strive to be found by him at
peace, without spot or blemish;

3:15a and regard the patience of
our Lord as salvation. So also our
beloved brother Paul wrote to you
according to the wisdom given
him.

Mark 1:1-8

1:1 The beginning of the good
news of Jesus Christ, the Son of
God.

1:2 As it is written in the prophet
Isaiah, "See, I am sending my
messenger ahead of you, who
will prepare your way;

1:3 the voice of one crying out in
the wilderness: 'Prepare the way
of the Lord, make his paths
straight,'"

1:4 John the baptizer appeared in
the wilderness, proclaiming a

baptism of repentance for the
forgiveness of sins.

1:5 And people from the whole
Judean countryside and all the
people of Jerusalem were going
out to him, and were baptized by
him in the river Jordan,
confessing their sins.

1:6 Now John was clothed with
camel's hair, with a leather belt
around his waist, and he ate
locusts and wild honey.

1:7 He proclaimed, "The one who
is more powerful than I is coming
after me; I am not worthy to stoop
down and untie the thong of his
sandals.

1:8 I have baptized you with
water; but he will baptize you with
the Holy Spirit."

The Dismissal

To all our donors and those who
have contacted us
for one concern or the other, we
are grateful for
your gifts and presence. Thank
you for your
generous donations and giving.

We pray that the
risen Lord bless and multiply you
in all you do.

Go Forth into the world rejoicing
in the power of
the Holy Spirit.
And be what you are, the church
in the World.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

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