

Voluntary      *Berçeuse*      *Louis Vierne (1870-1937)*

Hear the words of Jesus: You shall love God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first Law of God, and the second is like it:

*You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two laws hang the whole of scripture.*

#### The Peace

“Why do you stand looking up into heaven?” Jesus comes to us again, in the body of his people, in the bread and wine of his table, and the communion of peace.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

*And also with you.*

#### The Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins to God.

*God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

#### The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

*And also with you.*

Let us pray.

God of flood and fire, calling us to turn from dead halls echoing with greed: may the gift of your Spirit come to us from another place, burning with life and a hope that will not be quenched; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. *Amen.*

#### The First Lesson

*Zephaniah 3:14-20*

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

*Thanks be to God.*

**The Gradual** *Canticle 9 (read responsively by whole verse)*

Surely, it is God who saves me; \*

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

*For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, \*  
and he will be my Savior.*

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \*  
from the springs of salvation.

*And on that day you shall say, \**

*Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;*

Make his deeds known among the peoples; \*

see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

*Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, \*  
and this is known in all the world.*

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \*

for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

#### The Second Lesson

*Philippians 4:4-7*

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

*Thanks be to God.*

Sequence Hymn 68      *Rejoice! rejoice, believers*      *Llangloffan*

#### The Holy Gospel

*Luke 3:7-18*

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

*Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

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 Christ.

*Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

#### The Sermon

The Rev. James B. Flowers

#### The Nicene Creed

Book of Common Prayer, p. 358

#### The Prayers of the People

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Surely, it is God who saves us; therefore, we joyfully pray, “God our salvation: *thank you.*”

Though hindered by our sins and in need of your bountiful grace and mercy, you never leave us. You are ever in our midst. Renew your Church in love.

You are invited to add your own thanksgivings.

*Silence*

God our salvation:

*Thank you.*

Make your deeds known among the people, O God. Save the lame; gather the outcast. May the exiles know home and all people know your peace.

*Silence*

God our salvation:

*Thank you.*

May your springs of salvation renew the earth. Heal our planet and restore in us a sense of responsibility and gratitude.

*Silence*

God our salvation:

*Thank you.*

Merciful God, in this month of great excess and consumerism, call the financial and business communities to act justly and generously. Grant that those without coats be clothed and those without food be fed.

*Silence*

God our salvation:

*Thank you.*

O God, you have done great things. With thankful hearts we pray to you for those burdened by shame, grief, or weakness. Be for them a stronghold and a sure defense.

You are invited to add your own petitions.

*Silence*

God our salvation:

*Thank you.*

God our salvation, gather us, with all those who have died, into you sacred heart. Grant us to sing your praises for all eternity.

*Silence*

God our salvation:

*Thank you.*

#### Concluding Collect

These are our prayers. Receive them in your mercy. And grant us, O God, your peace—your peace that passes our human understanding. *Amen.*

Walk in love as Christ loved us, and gave himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God.

*All are welcome to receive the bread and wine at the altar. You may stand or kneel at the altar rail. The bread is received in the open palm. The wine is taken by drinking from the chalice (please help guide it to your mouth by holding the base of the chalice). Gluten-free wafers are available by request, by placing one hand across your chest. If you do not wish to receive the sacrament, you are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. Please cross your arms across your chest to receive it.*

#### The Offertory

#### The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer 1, from Enriching our Worship

Sursum Corda and Proper Preface

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 our thanks and praise.*

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Sanctus    S-124

*David Hurd (b. 1950)*

*The Celebrant continues*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You

formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life. 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." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

***Christ has died.***

***Christ is risen.***

***Christ will come again.***

*The Celebrant continues*

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with [ \_\_\_\_\_ and] all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. 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.***

#### The Lord's Prayer

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

***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 for ever. Amen.***

Fraction Anthem S-161

David Hurd

The gifts of God for the people of God.

#### Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

***Eternal God, we thank you that in Christ you give yourself into our hands: may we who have tasted life proclaim the coming feast when many will come from east and west, from north and south to greet the Lord of all; we ask this in his name. Amen.***

#### The Blessing

May the God who brings heaven close to earth give truth to our judgment and flame to our longing, that our hearts might be ready to be born again in love; and the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

#### The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ!

***Thanks be to God!***

For the Procession Jesu, meine Freude

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

*Please remain in place until the procession is completed.*

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God.*

*Breakfast will follow in Stirling Hall.*

#### Serving today:

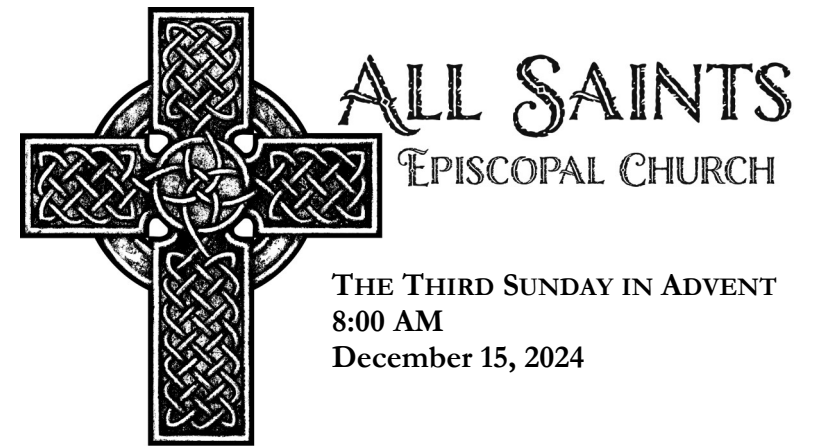
Lector: Cynthia Donnell  
 Intercessor: Woody Hannum  
 Chalice: Cynthia Donnell  
 Usher: Woody Hannum  
 Altar Guild: Mary Robert  
 Bread Baker: Martha Durant  
 Doorkeeper: Baldwin Sanders  
 Breakfast: Tori & Rick Davis, Renea Greene, Katharine Flowers  
 Flowers: Pier Hardin  
 LEV: Matt McDonald

#### This week:

Sun, Dec 15 7:45a Nursery opens  
 8a Holy Eucharist, church  
 9a Breakfast, Stirling Hall  
 9:15a Adult choir rehearsal, Choir Rm  
 9:15a-10:15a Godly Play classes, Parish House (upstairs)  
 9:30a Adult Sunday School, Smith Rm  
 10:30a Holy Eucharist, church  
 Reception follows, Parish House  
 Mon, Dec 16 6p Vestry, Saad Rm  
 7p AA, Smith Rm  
 Wed, Dec 18 6p AA, Smith Rm  
 Sat, Dec 21 2p Prism, Youth Rm

#### Holiday schedule:

Sun, Dec 22 5p Lessons & Carols, church  
 Reception follows, Stirling Hall  
 Tue, Dec 24 Church office closed for Christmas holiday  
 5p Choral prelude, church  
 5:30p Christmas Eve eucharist, church  
 Wed, Dec 25 Church office closed  
 9a Christmas Day worship, church  
 Thu, Dec 26 9a Church office reopens  
 Tue, Dec 31 Church office closed for New Year holiday  
 Wed, Jan 1 2025 New Year's Day, church office closed  
 Thu, Jan 2 9a Church office reopens



THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

8:00 AM

December 15, 2024

#### Welcome to All Saints!

We are a community of faith who seek to continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers; who seek to serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbor as ourselves; who strive for justice and peace among all people; and respect the dignity of every human being.

*Baptismal Covenant, BCP, p.304*

If you are visiting please make yourself known to us either face to face, via the information cards in the pew racks, or via email: [office@allsaintsmobile.org](mailto:office@allsaintsmobile.org)

Sign up for our parish newsletter! <https://www.allsaintsmobile.net/the-herald/>

New to The Episcopal Church? Here are a few websites that can help explain our style of worship and any unfamiliar terminology (watch any videos later!):

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/dfms/what-to-expect-when-you-visit/>

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/who-we-are/lgbtq/>

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/racial-reconciliation/>

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/glossary/>

#### We begin worship in holy silence.

*Please turn OFF all cell phones. The red Book of Common Prayer (BCP) & the blue Hymnal 1982 are in the book rack in front of you. Hymn numbers preceded by "S" are found in the front section of the hymnal. Words written in ***Bold Italics*** are said by the congregation.*

#### Please keep in your prayers . . .

**For healing for:** Jane Gordon, Mary Hunter Slaton, Chip Deupree, Clayton Ryan, Renee K. Dillard, Dana Pollock, Cora Lou Robinson, Elva Goldman, Paul and Tracy, Geneva Piloto, Richard Tillman, Karen Bullock, Barbara Michell, Buck Baker, Albert Corte, Robin Steele, Lequita Adkins, Wes Wise, Phyllis Smith, Ruth LaMonte, Bryan LaPorte, Emily Callaway, Will Strickland, Sue Elledge, Bruce Barrett, Lister Thomas, David Powers, Sue Aiken Zundel, Nick Nichols, Meg Stojanik, Jan Cade, Chuck Salmon, Serena Willcox, Claudia McClure, Caden Gray, Mary, Richard Cade, Jr., Hannah Pullins, Cora Cade Lemmon, Becky Wilson, Rose Ellen Stanbery, Adele Smith, Marcia Wyatt, Jacky Bell, Eve Morrison, Colleen, Ann Wesley, Staci Smith, Andi Barrett, Ken Buford, Dottie Dunnam, Gwyn Brantley, Mark Kidd, Lynn Koors, Mary Rose, Preston Griffith, Jan Irving, Frieda Kennedy, Hoagy, Tom Root, Shannon, Regina, Brian Davidson, Monica McCaskey, Debra Guyton, John Gibson Baylor, Jr., Ruth Rivers, Donna Bowcock, Rita Foust, Haley, Jill, Jennifer Smith, Garn Menell, Shannon Cook

**For those who serve in the armed forces:** especially Bernie Waters, David Palmer, David L. Ritter II, Ethan Roberts, Thomas Roberts, Nyirou Kuot, Matt Abbot, Stephen Rollins, Trevor Thiel

**For those who have died.**

*\*Please notify the church office by the last Wednesday of the month if you wish your prayer concern to continue to be listed.*

All Saints Episcopal Church  
 151 South Ann Street, Mobile, Alabama 36604  
[www.allsaintsmobile.net](http://www.allsaintsmobile.net) (251)567-0798  
 The Rev. James B. Flowers, Jr., Rector  
 The Rev. Bob Donnell, Associate Priest  
 The Rev. Mary Robert, Associate Priest  
 Dr. Jeannie Kienzle, Principal Parish Musician  
 Arletha Clemons, Nursery Staff