

Keep awake therefore, for you do not know  
on what day your Lord is coming.

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany  
Morning Prayer  
1st Sunday of Advent  
December 1, 2013, 10:30 am

Matthew 24:42

We worship today according to the appointed order for Daily Morning Prayer: Rite Two,  
beginning on page 75 of the Book of Common Prayer.

Processional Hymn:

"Sleepers, Wake!" A Voice Astounds Us.....61

Watch, for you do not know when the master of the house  
will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in  
the morning, lest he come suddenly and find you asleep.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Hymn: O Come, O Come Emmanuel.....56  
Verses 1,2, and 8

Call to Confession of Sin

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of  
Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to  
hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf  
of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our  
salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and  
mind to worship him, let us stand or kneel in silence, and with  
penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may  
obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*Silence. The people stand or kneel.*

**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.**

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

### The Invitatory and Psalter

*The people stand*

Lord, open our lips.

**And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

**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. Alleluia.**

Our King and Savior now draws near: Come let us adore  
him.

Hymn: Psalm 95 - Venite.....S 35

*The Psalm - Psalm 122 (the people remain standing)*

Left:

**I was glad when they said to me,  
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."**

Right:

**Now our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

**Jerusalem is built as a city  
that is at unity with itself;**

**To which the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the LORD,  
the assembly of Israel,  
to praise the Name of the LORD.**

**For there are the thrones of judgment,  
the thrones of the house of David.**

**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:  
"May they prosper who love you.**

**Peace be within your walls  
and quietness within your towers.**

**For my brethren and companions' sake,  
I pray for your prosperity.**

**Because of the house of the LORD our God,  
I will seek to do you good."**

All:

**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 Lessons (the people sit for all of the lessons)*

*The First Lesson – Isaiah 2:1-5*

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and  
Jerusalem.

In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,  
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,  
and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.  
O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the LORD!

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

*From Canticle 12 - A Song of Creation*

Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord, \*  
**praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, \*  
**praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

Glorify the Lord, you angels and all powers of the Lord, \*  
**O heavens and all waters above the heavens.**

Sun and moon and stars of the sky, glorify the Lord, \*  
**praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

Glorify the Lord, every shower of rain and fall of dew, \*  
**all winds and fire and heat.**

Winter and summer, glorify the Lord, \*  
**praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

Glorify the Lord, O chill and cold, \*  
**drops of dew and flakes of snow.**

Frost and cold, ice and sleet, glorify the Lord, \*  
**praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

Glorify the Lord, O nights and days, \*  
**O shining light and enfolding dark.**

Storm clouds and thunderbolts, glorify the Lord, \*  
**praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

Glorify the Lord, O nights and days, \*  
**O shining light and enfolding dark.**

Storm clouds and thunderbolts, glorify the Lord, \*  
**praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

*The Epistle: Romans 13:11-14*

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

*Canticle 16 - The Song of Zechariah*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \*  
**he has come to his people and set them free.**

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \*  
**born of the house of his servant David.**

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,  
that he would save us from our enemies, \*  
**from the hands of all who hate us.**

He promised to show mercy to our fathers \*  
**and to remember his holy covenant.**

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \*  
**to set us free from the hands of our enemies,**

Free to worship him without fear, \*  
**holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.**

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \*  
**for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,**

To give his people knowledge of salvation \*  
**by the forgiveness of their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God \*  
**the dawn from on high shall break upon us,**

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, \*  
**and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

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 Gospel Lesson : Matthew 24:36-44*

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

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

*The Apostles' Creed (the people stand)*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## The Prayers

*The people stand or kneel*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

**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.**

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

**And grant us your salvation.**

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

**Let your people sing with joy.**

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

**For only in you can we live in safety.**

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

**And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

Let your way be known upon earth;

**Your saving health among all nations.**

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

**Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

**And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

## The Collects

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.**

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

## The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

## Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

## The Offertory

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

The Offertory Hymn: *Alleluia, He Is Coming*.....SH-72

## The Presentation *(the people stand)*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

## The Prayers of the People (Form I, page 383 of the Book of Common Prayer)

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Katharine, our Presiding Bishop, Kee and Santosh, our Bishops, Wells, our Priest, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For our Barack, our President, Robert, our governor, Bobby, our mayor, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For reasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For **Lynda** Denton, **Dot** and **Thurman** Harris, **Charlotte** and **Lannon** Poole, **Dezsel** Oliver (Kathy Haynie), **Billie** Wilkinson, **Lindsey** Burt (Eddie and Pam Harper), **Kathy** Brumbleloe (Jere and Pam Van Etten), **Oletta** Goodwin, **Sherry** Gritz (Jean Kerr), **Clifford** Flood (Jean Kerr), **Robert** Lumpkin (Barbara Trogon) and the others we now name: *(Silence, during which the people offer their own petitions)* let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace. **Lord, have mercy.**

In the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God. **To thee, O Lord our God.** *(Silence)*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect:*

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all**

**your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.**

**We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

**And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days.**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn:

*Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending.....57*

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

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Have you purchased your copy of Handel's *Messiah*? Singers will gather at 1:00 pm on Sunday, December 15. The oratorio will begin at 2:00 pm. For more information, check out [www.EpiphanyTallassee.org/messiah](http://www.EpiphanyTallassee.org/messiah).

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***Serving at Epiphany this week . . .***

Ushers: Jimmy and Betty Weldon  
Altar Guild: Betty Weldon and Pam Van Etten  
Lay Reader: Amanda Borden  
Piano: Caleb Hart

Officiant: Lee Borden  
Refreshments: Betty Weldon  
Stewards: Pam and Jere Van Etten

***and next . . .***

Ushers: Greg and Lynne Dubay  
Altar Guild: Laura Williams  
Lay Reader: Jere Van Etten  
Piano: Caleb Hart

Officiant: Mike Harber  
Refreshments: Lavonne Hart  
Stewards: Maurice and Debra McCord