

Advent 1 - A Season of

HOPE

*Welcome to our home!
We would love for you to
join our family!*



December 1, 2024

We Gather for Worship

Advent Candle Lighting

Reader 1: According to tradition, each candle has a special meaning. The first one is called the candle of hope. People in the Old Testament knew that God had promised to send a Savior. And Jesus came to Earth on the first Christmas so he could share hope with the world. As we get ready to light the first candle on our Advent wreath, let us listen to a reading from Romans.

Reader 2: I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Romans 15:13.*

During this week, reflect on the ways that you're filled with hope because you know Jesus or how Jesus makes a difference in your lives. **Amen.**

After sharing, the first blue candle is lit and all say:

People: **One candle, burning bright, chasing away the darkness for light.
One candle, glowing light, the blessing of God, giving new sight.**

Opening Hymn: #423 *Immortal, invisible, God only wise* *Please stand & sing as you are able.*

Opening Sentences

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Officiant: 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. *Mark 13:35-36*

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together. *Isaiah 40:5*

Confession

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Please sit or kneel.

Officiant: 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 kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins against God and our neighbor, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

People: **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.**

Officiant: 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.**

Invitatory

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Please stand as you are able.

Officiant: O Lord, open our lips;

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

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. Alleluia!**

Advent Antiphon

Officiant: Our King and Savior draws near:
People: **Come let us adore him.**

Venite: Psalm 95:1-7

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Officiant: Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
People: **let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.**

Officiant: Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
People: **and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

Officiant: For the Lord is a great God, *
People: **and a great King above all gods.**

Officiant: In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
People: **and the heights of the hills are his also.**

Officiant: The sea is his, for he made it, *
People: **and his hands have molded the dry land.**

Officiant: Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
People: **and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

Officiant: For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
People: **Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

Advent Antiphon

Officiant: Our King and Savior draws near:
People: **Come let us adore him.**

Psalm 25:1-9

Read in unison.



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All:

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; * |
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me. ||
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame * |
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes. ||
- 3 Show me your ways, O Lord, * |
and teach me your paths. ||
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, * |
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long. ||
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, * |
for they are from everlasting. ||
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; * |
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord. ||
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; * |
therefore he teaches sinners in his way. ||

- 8 **He guides the humble in doing | right * |
and teaches his way to the | lowly. ||**
- 9 **All the paths of the Lord are love and | faithfulness * |
to those who keep his covenant and his | testimonies. ||**

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

We Hear God's Word

First Lesson: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Please be seated

Reader: A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 11: The Third Song of Isaiah

(60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19)

All: **Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you. For behold, darkness covers the land; deep gloom enshrouds the peoples. But over you the Lord will rise, and his glory will appear upon you. Nations Will stream to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawning.**

Your gates will always be open; by day or night they will never be shut. They will call you, The City of the Lord, The Zion of the Holy One of Israel. Violence will no more be heard in your land, ruin or destruction within your borders. You will call your walls, Salvation, and all your portals, Praise. The sun will no more be your light by day; by night you will not need the brightness of the moon. The Lord will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory.

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.

Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Reader: A reading from Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn: #58

***Lo! he comes, with clouds descending
(v. 1-2 before, v. 4 after Gospel)***

Please stand and sing.

Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

Please remain standing as you are able.

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

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Homily: Rick Ewing

Apostles' Creed

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Please stand as you are able.

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.

We Pray

Lord's Prayer

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Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

All: **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.**

Suffrages: Set B

BCP Page 98 Please be seated

Officiant: Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

People: **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

Officiant: Day by day we bless you;

People: **We praise your Name for ever.**

Officiant: Lord, keep us from all sin today;
People: **Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.**

Officiant: Lord, show us your love and mercy;
People: **For we put our trust in you.**

Officiant: In you, Lord, is our hope;
People: **And we shall never hope in vain.**

Collect of the Day

The collect prayer "collects" the themes from the various readings for the day.

Officiant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray. 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.**

Collect for Sundays

BCP Page 99

Officiant: 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.**

Collect for the Renewal of Life

BCP Page 99

Officiant: O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect for Peace

BCP Page 99

Officiant: O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect for Grace

BCP Page 99

Officiant: Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect for Guidance

BCP Page 100

Officiant: Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect for the Parish and Search Process

BCP Page 817

Officiant: Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life and bring us all to be of one heart and mind, especially as we go through our search process. Guide us to the priest that you want us to have; through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Collect for Mission

BCP Page 100

Officiant: O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Please sit or kneel.

Reader: Bound together in Christ in the communion of the Holy Spirit, let us pray with one heart and mind to God our Father.

Reader: For peace from things that separate us from one another and for our salvation.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader: For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God, especially...

People: **St. Stephen's, Guymon; Diocese of Connecticut; Diocese of Maine; Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan.**

Reader: For this holy gathering and for those who enter with faith, reverence, and fear of God.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader: For...

People: **Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Poulson, our Bishop; Tom, our clergy; Katherine & B.J., our wardens; vestry, delegates, all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God. Lord, have mercy.**

Reader: For the world and its leaders, our nation and its people. We pray for our leaders, especially...

People: **Joe, our President; Donald, our President-elect; Kamala, our Vice-president; JD, our Vice-President-elect; Josh, our Congressman; James & Markwayne, our Senators; Kevin, our Governor; and Patrick, our Mayor. Lord, have mercy.**

Reader: For prisoners, the oppressed, all those in need or suffering, especially...

People: **Johnson family, Ronnie, Mike, John, Rose, Adriana, Fred, Stuart, Nancy, Thomas, Catheryne, Jennifer, Paula, Cathey, Jason, Wesley, Geneva, Glen, Jackie, Ched, Frankie, Taylor, Deborah, Di Noia family, Teresa, Phillip, Roger, Patricia, Leslie, Anna, Pam, Jonathan, D.G., Lester, Mark, those impacted by war and violence, all emergency responders, United States Military, and those whose suffering is known only to God.**

Reader: We pray for those who have died, *(especially...)*

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader: For ourselves, our families, and those we love. We pray for those in our parish, especially...

People: **Martha, Louisa, Tad, and Carole.**

Reader: Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Peace

Please stand as you are able.

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Greet one another in the name of Christ. Please return to your seats when you hear the bell.

Announcements, Birthdays & Anniversary Prayers *BCP Page 830*

Please be seated.

Welcome to our guests today. If you are new to Grace for the first time or even if you have been here once or twice before, please fill out a visitor card and put it in the plate. We promise not to harass you, but we would like to include you on our weekly email broadcasts and other event notifications. Thank you for the blessing of your presence today.

For a Birthday

BCP Page 830

Officiant: Let us pray. O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant N. as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Offertory Anthem:

Simple Gifts

Remain seated.

We Go Out To Do Our Work

Prayer of St. Chrysostom

All: 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.**

Sending

BCP Page 102

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

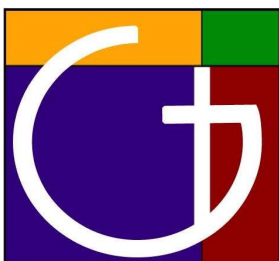
Officiant: May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Romans 15:13

Closing Hymn: #601

O day of God, draw nigh

Please stand and sing.



Grace Episcopal

218 North 6th Street Muskogee, OK 74401

Phone: (918) 687-5416; Email: Office@GraceMuskogee.org;

Website: www.GraceMuskogee.org; YouTube Channel: Grace Muskogee

Social Media: Facebook.com/GraceMuskogee & Twitter.com/GraceMuskogee

Ministers: All the People of God (BCP p. 855)

Sr. Warden: Katherine Coburn

Jr. Warden: B.J. Charbonneau

Deacon Emeritus: The Rev. Thomas A. Harrington

Organist/Choirmaster: Malcolm McGuire

Youth & Children's Director: Nancy Scott

