



St. Jude's Episcopal Church

Seeking and Worshipping God, Reaching out to Others

December 25, 2021 Christmas Day
8:00 am Morning Prayer

Opening Sentence _____

Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy, which will come to all the people; for unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. *Luke 2:10, 11*

Confession of Sin _____

The Officiant says to the people,

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together,

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.

The Priest says,

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

The Invitatory and Psalter _____

Officiant Lord, open our lips

People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People,

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. To us a child is born: O come, let us adore him. Alleluia.

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Psalm 98

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the Lord with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

The Lessons

The First Reading Isaiah 52:7-10

Reader A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news,
who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."
Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see
the return of the Lord to Zion.
Break forth together into singing,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the Lord has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.
The Lord has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle D A Song of the Wilderness

Isaiah 35:1-7,10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, * the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
It shall blossom abundantly, *
and rejoice with joy and singing.
They shall see the glory of the Lord, * the majesty of our God.
Strengthen the weary hands, * and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to the anxious, "Be strong, do not fear! *
Here is your God, coming with judgment to save you."
Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, * and the ears of the deaf be unstopped.
Then shall the lame leap like a deer, *
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness *
and streams in the desert;
The burning sand shall become a pool *
and the thirsty ground, springs of water.
The ransomed of God shall return with singing, *
with everlasting joy upon their heads. Joy and gladness shall be theirs, *
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The Second Reading _____ *Hebrews 1:1 – 12*

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say,

"You are my Son;
today I have begotten you"?

Or again,

"I will be his Father,
and he will be my Son"?

And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

"Let all God's angels worship him."

Of the angels he says,

"He makes his angels winds,
and his servants flames of fire."

But of the Son he says,

"Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,
and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom.

You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;

therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."

And,

"In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands;
they will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like clothing;
like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed.
But you are the same,
and your years will never end."

Reader **The Word of the Lord.**

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle N _____ *A Song of God's Love*

1 John 4:7-11

Beloved, let us love one another, * for love is of God.

Whoever does not love does not know God, * for God is Love.

In this the love of God was revealed among us, * that God sent his only Son into the world,
so that we might live through Jesus Christ.

In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us * and sent his Son that sins might be forgiven.

Beloved, since God loved us so much, * we ought also to love one another.

For if we love one another, God abides in us, * and God's love will be perfected in us.

Third Reading _____ John 1:1 – 14

A Reading from the Gospel of John.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Sermon _____ The Rev. Tracie Little

The Apostles' Creed _____

Officiant and People say together,

**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

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People,

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.

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

R. **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

V. Day by day we bless you;

R. **We praise your name for ever.**

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;

R. **Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.**

V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;

R. **For we put our trust in you.**

V. In you, Lord, is our hope;

R. **And we shall never hope in vain.**

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born [this day] of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever.
Amen.

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.**

The Prayers of the People _____

Let us pray.

Welcome! Let your presence among us be reflected in our lives as we say:
Amen. Welcome, Lord, welcome.

With the gift of angel song and joyful spirits, we rejoice at your coming among us. Sustain us, your people, with joy deep in our hearts. Give our bishops, priests, deacons, and all our faithful leaders a renewed sense of purpose and direction, that they may lead us in the way you would have us go.

We pray to the Lord.
Amen. Welcome, Lord, welcome.

Give the leaders of the nations an urgency for peace and brotherhood, that the world you entered be blessed by good tidings.

We pray to the Lord.
Amen. Welcome, Lord, welcome.

Shower people throughout the world with your blessings of beauty and purpose, freedom and plenty.

We pray to the Lord.
Amen. Welcome, Lord, welcome.

Open our hearts to the needs of those around us who are hungry or lonely, who struggle with the burdens of living, whose spirits are restless for you.

We pray to the Lord.
Amen. Welcome, Lord, welcome.

Make whole those who suffer today with illness, with anxiety, with despair. May we care about them and care for them as our brothers and sisters.

We pray to the Lord.
Amen. Welcome, Lord, welcome.

Gather to your heart those who have died, who are now welcomed into your eternal embrace and surrounded by your glory.

We pray to the Lord.
Amen. Welcome, Lord, welcome.

The General Thanksgiving

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.

The Blessing

May God, the brightness of the universe bless us.
May Jesus, the light of the world, disturb us,
May the Holy Spirit, energy of the cosmos, strengthen us.
May we be blessed with the power to speak and live the Gospel, all our days. Amen.

Announcements

Sending Out

St. Jude's Episcopal Church
106 E. Elizabeth Street
Fenton, MI 48430
(810) 629-5681

www.stjudesfenton.com
Facebook: St. Jude's Episcopal Church

Wednesdays, 8 am - Morning Prayer on Facebook

Sunday Worship:
8 am - Morning Prayer on Facebook
10:30 am - Communion Service in Church Building