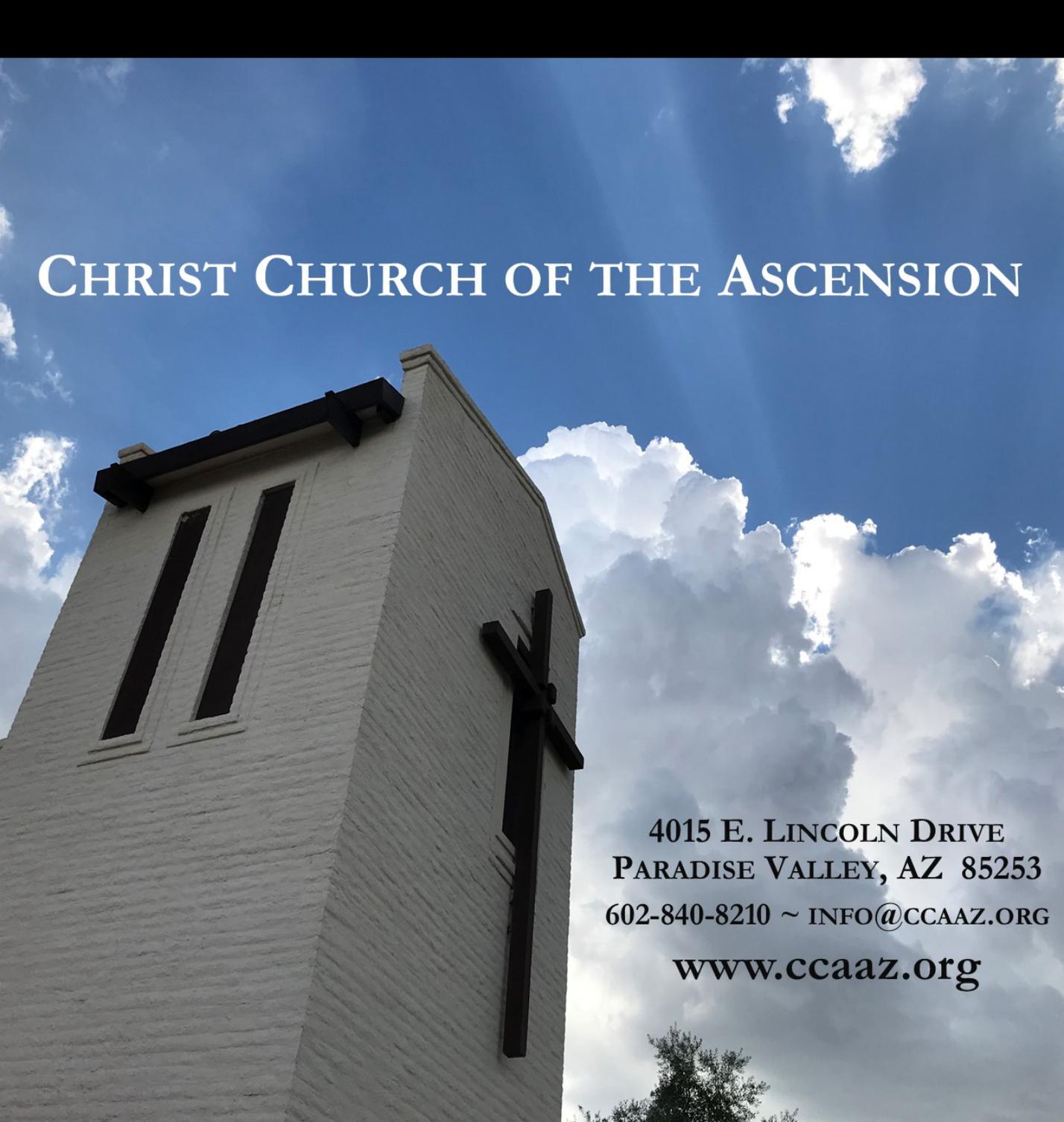


CHRIST CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION



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Today's online service will begin shortly.

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CHRIST CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

EPISCOPAL PARISH AND SCHOOL, PARADISE VALLEY

KNOW CHRIST, LOVE CHRIST, SERVE CHRIST

The First Sunday of Advent - Rite II Morning Prayer, Year C

28 November, 2021

Online Morning Prayer Service - 9:00 am

Prelude Now come Savior of the gentiles J.S. Bach
(Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland)

Welcome

Officiant In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Amen.
– *Isaiah 40:3*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

All **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.

All **Amen.**

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

All **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.

Officiant Our King and Savior now draws near:

All **Come let us adore him. Alleluia.**

Psalm 25:1-9 *Ad te, Domine, levavi*

BCP 614

Reader A reading from **The Book of 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."

The Word of the Lord.

All

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Reader A reading from The First Letter of Paul 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.

The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn Prepare the way, O Zion (stanzas 1-2) Hymnal 65

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

All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Officiant 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 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 does not 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.”

All The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon The Very Rev. Daniel P. Richards

The Apostles' Creed BCP 96

All 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.

Officiant The Lord be with you.

All 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.**

The Prayers of the People

Officiant At the beginning of this Advent season, let us offer our prayers to God, saying: Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader That our gracious Savior may rouse us from sleep and make us attentive to the nearness of his presence, let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader That we may discover God's word in every sound of this world, God's touch in every human embrace, and God's love in every gesture of self-sacrifice among us, let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader That divine energy and holy grace may bring our hearts to vigilance and make us see with uncovered eyes the Christ who suffers in his people's agonies, let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

(continued)

Reader That we may come to recognize in our holy assembly gathered for prayer that Jesus the Christ is with us here to make our songs of praise and pleading his own, let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader That God's coming into the days and years of our human history may be always new, always brimming with light to drive all darkness away, let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader That those who are suffering, especially Sherry K., Dave P., Bishop Reddall, Brian R. Tom T., Lyndsay W., and the Byers Donovan Family, may know your healing and comforting touch, let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader That those who have died may rejoice with the angels, let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader Make ready our hearts for your coming, O Lord, and receive our prayers in the name of the one who comes, our gracious Savior, Jesus, the Christ. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Officiant 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.**

Announcements

The General Thanksgiving

BCP 101

All 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.

The Dismissal

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

The Blessing

Officiant Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

Hymn Thy Kingdom come!

Hymnal 615

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