First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2026
Holy Eucharist, Rite I
The Rev. Canon Mark A. Scheneman, celebrant

Organ Preludes

Lighting of Moravian Advent Star

Opening Hymn *"Sleepers, wake"* **Hymn 61, st. 1**

Salutation and Response **p. 323 BCP**

Celebrant: Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath (see insert)

The Collect for the First Sunday of Advent

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy Spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy 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 quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

The Word of God (be seated for the readings)

The Old Testament Lesson **Isaiah 64:1-9**

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 80:1-4, 16-18 (said responsively)

- Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; * **shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.**
- In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, * **stir up your strength and come to help us.**
- Restore us, O God of hosts; * **show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**
- O Lord God of hosts, * **how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?**
- Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, * **the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.**
- And so will we never turn away from you; * **give us life, that we may call upon your Name.**
- Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; * **show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

The Epistle **1 Corinthians 1:3-9**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn *"Thy kingdom come! on bended knee"* **Hymn 615, st. 1-3**

The Holy Gospel (remain standing) **Mark 13:24-37**

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Mark

People: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to Thee. O Christ.

The Sermon **The Rev. Canon Mark A. Scheneman**

The Nicene Creed (unison, standing) **p. 326 BCP**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy
catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Response after each petition: Lord, hear our prayer.

Parish Intercessions (Celebrant)

The Prayer of St. Francis (in unison)

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Confession (kneeling in unison) **p. 331 BCP**

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen

Absolution (Celebrant) **p. 332 BCP**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who wish hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Exchange of the Peace (standing)

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with thy Spirit. (Greet one another in the name of the Lord.)

Announcements (be seated)

Offertory Hymn *"Rejoice! rejoice, believers"* **Hymn 68**

Reception of Gifts (in unison)

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. Amen

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving **p. 340 BCP**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy Spirit.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up unto the Lord.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
People: It is meet and right so to do.

Sanctus & Benedictus (sung in unison) **S-113**

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to Thee, O Lord most high.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Consecration (kneeling, concluding with AMEN) **p. 341 - 343 BCP**

The Lord's Prayer (traditional words) **p. 336 BCP**

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Agnus Dei (sung in unison) **S-157**

O Lamb of God, that taketh away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that taketh away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that taketh away the sins of the world: grant us thy peace.

The Prayer of Humble Access (in unison) **p. 337 BCP**

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Administration of Holy Communion

THE HOLY TABLE around which we gather is the Lord's, not our own. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Prayer for Spiritual Thanksgiving

In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the

earnest wish that I may always be united to you. And since I cannot now receive you with my own faith community, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you live in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen

Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison) **p. 339 BCP**

Almighty and ever living God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing (Celebrant)

Recessional Hymn *"Watchman, tell us of the night"* **Hymn 640**

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God