

St. Stanislaus Cathedral

The First Parish of the Polish National Catholic Church

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December 15, 2024 ~ Third Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE *How Brightly Shines the Morning Star* (variations 1, 2)

Buxtehude

Prayer Before Holy Mass (please rise)

My dear God and loving Father, as I participate in this Holy Mass, may Jesus fill me with His holy grace when I open my heart to Him in sincere prayer. May the sacraments I will receive, the prayers that I will say and the hymns that I will sing bring me closer to Jesus and help me to be more like Him in all that I say and do. May the Holy Communion that I will receive give me strength, so that I may share faith, hope and love with the people I will meet. Amen.

THE LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

C: "He will baptize you in the Holy Spirit and in fire." (Luke 3:16)

C: Our help is in the name of the Lord. **R: Who made heaven and earth.**

C: Lord hear our prayer. **R: And let our cry come to you.**

C: The Lord be with you. **R: And also with you.**

Reader: *In the Third Week of Advent*, we are called to respond to the gifts and graces we received in our baptism. We ask, "Does my life today fulfill the expectations and responsibilities of bearing the name of Christian?" What are we doing for the hungry, the oppressed, the sick, the lonely? Do we truly care about the needs of others? Do we accomplish cheerfully all that is expected of us in the work place or the classroom? (*Light the two purple and one rose candle*)

C: Almighty and loving God, Your Son has taught us the way to live as Your children. We were blessed in our baptisms with special gifts and graces, and still there are times when we find it hard to be all that we should be. We ask for an increased awareness of the needs of others and for the courage to stand up for those who cannot stand up for themselves. Please, God, help us to live in Your grace that all who know us will know You and Your love. **R: Amen.**

OPENING HYMN 15 *From Heaven a Voice* (1, 2, 5)

From heav'n a voice comes down to earth;
A star foretells the Savior's birth.
It shines through darkness, sin, and grief,
And brings to mankind's soul relief.

From Jesse's stem a flower springs,
Which to the world salvation brings.
God sent to us His Son, our Lord,
Before the ages long adored.

Come and rejoice, ye saints above,
And all who sorrow, feel His love.
All ye distressed who live in fear,
The Savior of the world is near.

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INTROIT

Psalm 85:6-7; 90:14

C: Will You be angry with us forever, drag out Your anger for all generations? Please give us life again, that Your people may rejoice in You. **R: Fill us at daybreak with Your love, that all our days we may sing for joy.** C: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. **R: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

KYRIE

O'Connor

OPENING PRAYER

Loving Father, as we prepare for the coming of Your Son, teach us what we are to do so that we, who joyously await Him, may serve You faithfully. We ask this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You, and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **R. Amen.**

~ LITURGY OF THE WORD ~

FIRST LESSON

Zephaniah 3:14-18

Shout for joy, O daughter Zion! Sing joyfully, O Israel! Be glad and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has removed the judgment against you and has turned away your enemies; the King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst, you have no further misfortune to fear. On that day, it shall be said to Jerusalem: Fear not, O Zion, be not discouraged! The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior; he will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you in his love, he will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals.

This is the Word of the Lord. **R. Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL - *Traditional Mass*

Zephaniah 3:19b-20

C: I will save the lame, and assemble the outcasts; I will give them praise and renown in all the earth, when I bring about their restoration. **R: At that time I will bring you home, and at that time I will gather you; for I will give you renown and praise, among all the peoples of the earth, when I bring about your restoration before your very eyes, says the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - *Contemporary Mass*

Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6

Alstott



R. Cry out with joy and glad - ness: for a - mong you



is the great and Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

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R. (6) Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

God indeed is my savior;
I am confident and unafraid.
My strength and my courage is the LORD,
and he has been my savior.
With joy you will draw water
at the fountain of salvation.

R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Give thanks to the LORD, acclaim his name;
among the nations make known his deeds,
proclaim how exalted is his name.

R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Sing praise to the LORD for his glorious achievement;
let this be known throughout all the earth.
Shout with exultation, O city of Zion,
for great in your midst
is the Holy One of Israel!

R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

SECOND LESSON

Philippians 4:4-7

Brothers and sisters: Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

This is the Word of the Lord. **R. Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA

Matthew 6:33

arr. Rebecca Elfman

Choir or cantor,
then all: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

C: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. **R: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.** C: But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides. **R: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

GOSPEL

Luke 3:10-18

The crowds asked John the Baptist, “What should we do?” He said to them in reply, “Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise.” Even tax collectors came to be baptized and they said to him, “Teacher, what should we do?” He answered them, “Stop collecting more than what is prescribed.” Soldiers also asked him, “And what is it that we should do?” He told them, “Do not practice extortion, do not falsely accuse anyone, and be satisfied with your wages.”

Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, “I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with

unquenchable fire.” Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people.

This is the gospel of the Lord. **R. Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

HYMN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT 143 *Holy Spirit, Dwell Within Us* (1, 3)

Holy Spirit, Dwell within us, Great Creator, come and teach us.
Send Your grace and consolation, Fill the hearts of Your Creation.

Fill our minds, Your light releasing, Love within our hearts increasing.
Firm in godliness, You strengthen Mortal man with gifts from heaven.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL - *Contemporary Mass*

R: Lord hear our prayer.

~ LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST ~

OFFERTORY VERSE

Luke 6:31

Do to others as you would have them do to you.

OFFERTORY HYMN 26 *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* (1, 2, 4)

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand.
Ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of Kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture in the Body an the Blood
He will give to all the faithful, His own self for heav’nly food.

At His feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim, with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice the cry:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord Most High!

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

O God, our Father, as we await the coming of Your Son, receive these gifts we offer. Teach us to use them for Your glory in service to all. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **R. Amen.**

PREFACE

SANCTUS

Sobiechowski

~ CANON ~

THE LORDS PRAYER

AGNUS DEI

Alstott

POST-COMMUNION HYMN 161 *Who, O Lord, Would Not Love You?* (1, 3, 4)

Refrain: Who, O Lord, would not love You, Love before creation?
For You took upon Yourself our improv'ished station.

1. Covering the brightness of Your majesty, as a child abiding in humanity. *R*
3. Lamb of God so peaceful, wondrous mystery, with You as our Savior, fear there cannot be. *R.*
4. Through Your love unending, miracle divine, You revive my spirit with Your food sublime. *R.*

COMMUNION VERSE

Isaiah 12:6

Shout with exultation, O city of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty God, through this Holy Eucharist give us the grace to properly prepare for the celebration of the birth of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Open our eyes that we may see His presence; open our ears that we may hear His call; open our hearts that we may rejoice in Him. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **R. Amen.**

FINAL BLESSING (please kneel)

DISMISSAL

C: Let us bless the Lord! **R: Thanks be to God.**

Prayer After Holy Mass (please remain kneeling)

I am grateful to You, Lord, that I was able to come to church and participate in the Holy Sacrifice of Mass. I thank You for receiving Your gracious pardon, Your instruction and teaching through Your Word, and Your Body and Blood in Holy Communion. May Your sacraments continue to strengthen and help me to be faithful to You and Your Church. Help me to face all the challenges of life on my journey to Your heavenly kingdom. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN 25 *Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding* (1, 2, 5)

Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding: "Christ is nigh!" it seems to say;
"Cast away the works of darkness, O ye children of the day!"

Startled at the solemn warning, Let the earthbound soul arise;
Christ, our Sun, all sloth dispelling, shines upon the morning skies.

Honor, glory, might and blessing to the Father and the Son,
With the everlasting Spirit, One in Three, and Three in One.

POSTLUDE *Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying!*

Setting, J. S. Bach