



# **Christ Church of Arlington**

First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023

# God Welcomes Us

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Reading and Prayer

\* Call to Worship

*Micah 5:2-5a*

Leader: But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

**ALL: Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel.**

Leader: And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.

**ALL: And he shall be their peace.**

\* Prayer of Invocation

\* Song of Anticipation

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

\* *Please stand (if possible)*

## God Restores Us

### Prayer of Confession

**ALL:** **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.**

### Silent Confession of Sin

\* Assurance of Forgiveness

*Zephaniah 3:14-17*

Leader: Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem!

**ALL:** **The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil.**

Leader: On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

**ALL:** **"Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing."**

\* Song of Adoration

*God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen*

Confession of Faith

*The Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q&A #19, 20*

Q19: What is the misery of that estate into which man fell?

**A19: All mankind, by their fall, lose communion with God, are under His wrath and curse, and so made liable to all miseries of this life, to death itself, and to the pains of hell forever.**

Q20: Did God leave all mankind to perish in the estate of sin and misery?

**A20: God, having out of his mere good pleasure, from all eternity, elected some to everlasting life, did enter into a covenant of grace, to deliver them out of the estate of sin and misery, and to bring them into an estate of salvation by a Redeemer.**

Pastoral Prayer

Congregational Prayer

**ALL: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## **God Nourishes Us**

Scripture Reading

*Romans 3:21-26 (p. 941)*

Leader: The grass withers and the flower fades,

**ALL: but the Word of our God will stand forever.**

\* Song of Preparation

*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

Sermon

"The Coming King: Grace"  
*Isaiah 1:1-20 (pp. 566-567)*  
Rev. Billy Boyce

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

Prayer of Humble Access for Holy Communion

**ALL: We do not presume to come to this, your table, O Merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy even as to gather up the crumbs from under your table. But you are the same Lord, whose eternal nature is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, that by faith in your dear son, Jesus Christ, our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, so that we evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

Presentation of Communion Elements

Minister: Behold! The gifts of God for the people of God! Hallelujah!

**People: Hallelujah!**

Words of Institution

## Distribution of the Bread and Cup

Minister: When we eat this meal we are reminded that we are not our own,

**ALL: But together belong to Christ, and in Christ belong to one another.**

Minister: The bread that we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

**ALL: And we who are many are one in Him!** (*partake of the bread together*)

Minister: The cup that we drink is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

**ALL: And we who are many are one in Him!** (*partake of the cup together*)

\* Advent Doxology

\* Benediction

## Sermon Notes

1. Distance

2. Restoration

3. Communion

## **Announcements**

### **Women's Bible Studies**

Women's Bible Studies on Nehemiah will meet on Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **Women's Christmas Party**

All women of CCA are invited to a Women's Christmas gathering on Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 2PM. We will meet to celebrate the season with festive food and a White Elephant Christmas ornament exchange! For more info or to RSVP, please reach out to Melynda.

### **Session Meeting**

The next CCA Session meeting will be on Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM, at the church building.

### **Men's Fellowship**

Our next men's fellowship will be on Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 7PM, at the Board Room in Clarendon. Please reach out to Pastor Jimmy for more information.

### **OrthodoXology**

OrthodoXology will have its next meeting on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 7PM, at the Langborgh home. Please RSVP to Eric if you'd like to attend.

### **Neighborhood Caroling**

Mark your calendars for an early evening of neighborhood caroling in Lyon Park. We'll be gathering at the church building on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 4PM. For more information, please contact Pastor Jimmy.

### **PCA Ministerial Relief Fund**

From now through January 1st, we will be receiving contributions as a church for the PCA Ministerial Relief Fund. If you'd like to contribute through check, Tithe.ly or the PCA Foundation, please include a note with your gift that specifies "Ministerial Relief." For more information, contact our Treasurer, Mark Doehnert.

## **Welcome to CCA!**

We hope you find rich fellowship with God and with his people this morning. As you enter worship, we'd like to make you aware of a few things:

### For All Visitors:

- After the service, please join us for coffee and doughnuts.

### For Those with Kids:

- Children of all ages are welcome to stay with their parents throughout the whole service.
- The nursery is available for infants and toddlers (through age 3).

### About Communion:

- We celebrate the Lord's Supper (or Communion) every week at CCA.
- We welcome all baptized Christians – those who are trusting in Jesus Christ for salvation and who are members of congregations that proclaim the gospel – to receive Communion with us. If this does not currently describe you, we invite you to participate in spirit by considering the things you see and hear in worship, including God's love for sinners as portrayed in this meal. If you have any questions about whether you should participate in the Lord's Supper, please talk with our Pastor or one of our elders.
- For parents: to receive communion, a child must have been baptized and formally received as a communing member by the Session of this church or the governing body of the church to which you belong.
- Our communion bread is gluten-free, and we offer both wine and juice. Wine is in the outer ring; juice is in the inner ring.

## **Staff Contacts**

Rev. Billy Boyce, Lead Pastor ([billy@ccapca.org](mailto:billy@ccapca.org))

Rev. Jimmy Choi, Associate Pastor ([jimmy@ccapca.org](mailto:jimmy@ccapca.org))

Melynda Boyce, Director of Women's Ministry ([melynda@ccapca.org](mailto:melynda@ccapca.org))

Tacye Clarke, Kids' Ministry Director ([tacye@ccapca.org](mailto:tacye@ccapca.org))