

Welcome to The Parish of Holy Trinity St. Stephens

Advent

Watch

Rejoice

Behold

Prepare

Eucharist #2

2nd Sunday of Advent, December 10th, 2023

A photograph of a sunset over a landscape with mountains. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange and yellow glow. The sky is a deep blue with some clouds. The text "CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT" is overlaid in large, white, sans-serif capital letters across the center of the image.

CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT

words and music by: Bernadette Farrell,
Publisher: Oregon Catholic Press
Used by Permission. License # 3177350 Size B

Verse 1

**Longing for light,
we wait in darkness.**

**Longing for truth,
we turn to you.**

**Make us your own,
your holy people,**

Light for the world to see.

Chorus

**Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts,
Shine through the darkness.**

**Christ, be our light!
Shine in your Church,
gathered to-day.**

Verse 2

**Longing for peace,
our world is troubled
Longing for hope,
many despair
Your world alone has
power to save us
Make us your living voice.**

Chorus

**Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts,
Shine through the darkness.**

**Christ, be our light!
Shine in your Church,
gathered to-day.**

Verse 3

**Longing for food,
many are hungry.
Longing for water,
many still thirst.
Make us your bread,
broken for others,
Shared until all are fed.**

Chorus

**Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts,
Shine through the darkness.**

**Christ, be our light!
Shine in your Church,
gathered to-day.**

Verse 4

**Many the gifts,
many the people,**

Many the hearts that yearn to belong.

Let us be servants to one another,

Making your kingdom come

Chorus

**Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts,
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your Church,
gathered to-day.**



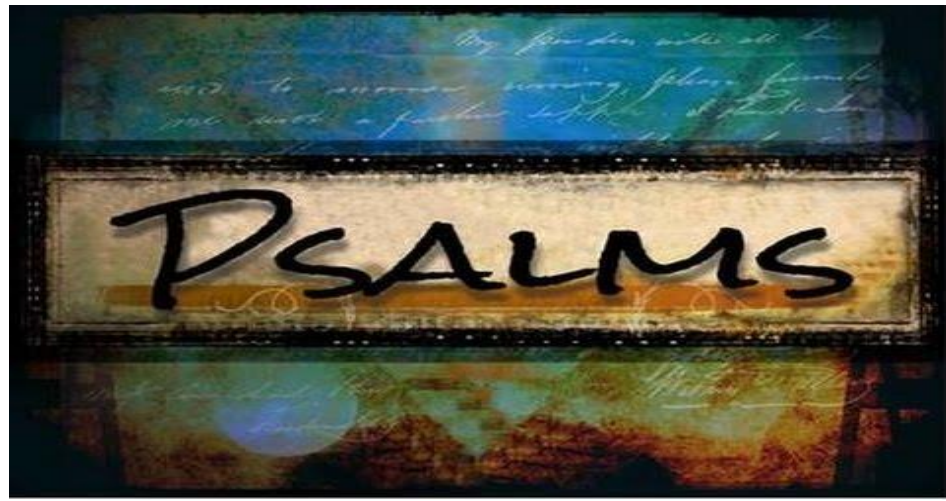


Welcome
WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE

**Greetings and Announcements:
Rev. Rob Henderson**

Choir practice !!





Psalm 85 (George Black Psalter)

Refrain:

***“Let me hear what you will say,
O God.”***

There's a voice in the wilderness

There's a voice in the wilderness crying,

A call from the ways untrod:

Prepare in the desert a highway,

A highway for our God!

The valleys shall be exalted,

The lofty hills brought low;

Make straight all the crooked places,

Where the Lord our God may go!



*Hark, A
Herald
Voice is
Sounding*

*Book of
Common
Praise 108*



Verse 1

**Hark! a herald voice is sounding;
“Christ is nigh,” it seems to say,
“Cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day!”**

Verse 2

**Wakened by the solemn warning
Let the earthbound soul arise;
Christ, our Sun, all sloth dispelling,
Shines upon the morning skies.**

Verse 3

**Lo, the Lamb, so long expected,
Comes with pardon down from
Heaven;
Let us all, with deep repentance,
Pray that we may be forgiven.**

Verse 4

**That when next He comes with glory,
And the world is wrapped in fear,
With His mercy He may shield us,
And with words of love draw near.**

Verse 5

**Honour, glory, might, and blessing
To the Father and the Son
With the everlasting Spirit,
While eternal ages run.**



THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Celebrant:

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
And the love of God,
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
Be with you all.**

***People:* And also with you.**

Celebrant: **Almighty God,**

People: **to you all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

We say together the Collect for today:

**Almighty God, who sent your servant
John the Baptist to prepare your
people to welcome the Messiah,
inspire us, the ministers and
stewards of your truth, to turn our
disobedient hearts to you,**

that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge, we may stand with confidence before his glory; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Second Sunday of Advent

Peace



Let Us Pray Together:



Almighty God, you offer rest for our hearts and peace for our souls. Give us grace to seek peace in our lives, peace in our community and peace in the world. Amen.



Light One Candle

Light One Candle

Light one candle for peace.

Peace that the whole world needs

Light one candle for peace.

Peace that the Saviour will bring,

Peace that the Saviour will bring.

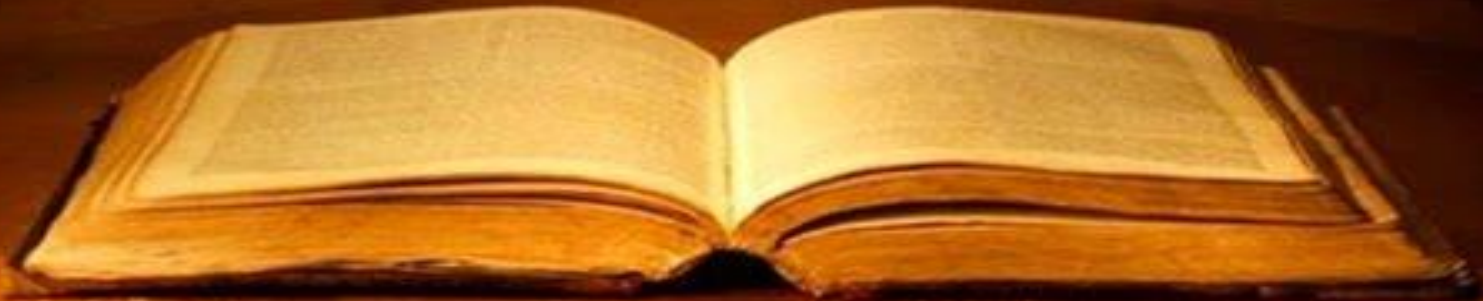


THE READINGS

REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY
ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

The Proclamation of the Word

ISAIAH



**A Reading from the
Book of Isaiah (40:1-11)**

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field.

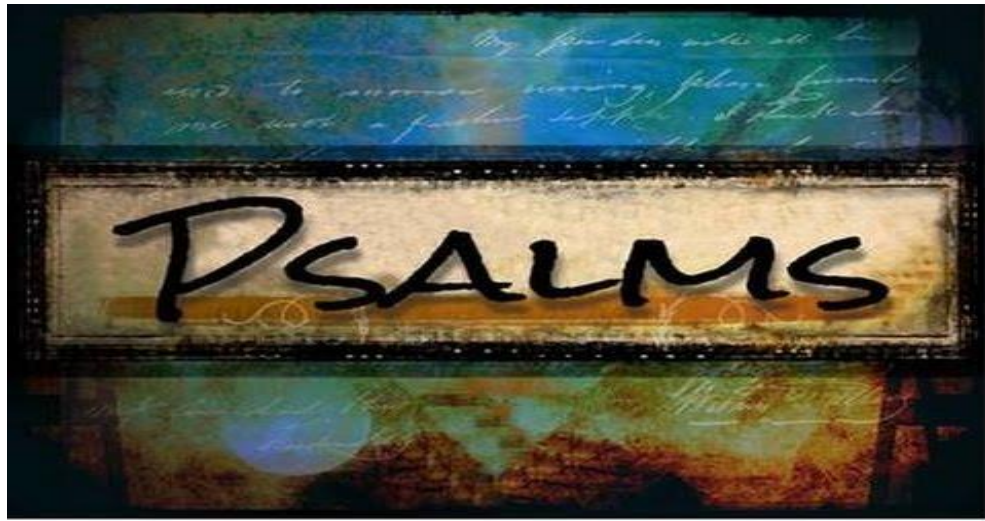
**The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows
upon it; surely the people are grass.
The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand
forever. Get you up to a high
mountain, O Zion, herald of good
tidings;**

lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader: **The word of the Lord.**

People: **Thanks be to God.**



Psalm 85 (George Black Psalter)

Refrain:

***“Let me hear what you will say,
O God.”***

Psalm 85 (George Black Psalter)

**You have been gracious to your land,
O God,**

**You have restored the good fortune
of Jacob.**

**You have forgiven the iniquity of your
people and blotted out all their sins.**

***Let me hear what you will say,
O God***

Psalm 85 (George Black Psalter)

**You speak, O God and I will listen,
For your words are peace to your
faithful people and to those who
turn their hearts to you.**

**Truly, your salvation is very near to
those who fear you, that your glory
may dwell in our land.**

***Let me hear what you will say,
O God***

Psalm 85 (George Black Psalter)

**Mercy and truth have met together;
righteousness and peace have
kissed each other.**

**Truth shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down
from heaven.**

***Let me hear what you will say,
O God***

Psalm 85 (George Black Psalter)

**God shall indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.
Righteousness shall go before you,
and peace shall be a pathway for
your feet.**

***Let me hear what you will say,
O God***

THE GOSPEL OF

MARK

BE Amazed, BE Transformed, BE Christ to the World

PREPARE

THE WAY
OF THE
LORD

**Prepare the way of the Lord,
Prepare the way of the Lord,
And all people will see
The salvation of our God.**

(Repeat)

All stand for the Gospel

Reader: **The Lord be with you.**

People: **And also with you.**

Reader: **The Holy Gospel
of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to Mark.**

People: **Glory to you,
Lord Jesus Christ.**

Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight," John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him

in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals.

**I have baptized you with water;
but he will baptize you with the Holy
Spirit."**

Reader: **The Gospel of Christ.**

People: **Praise to you,
Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Prepare the way of the Lord,
Prepare the way of the Lord,
And all people will see
The salvation of our God.**

(Repeat)



Homily: Rev. Rob Henderson



*Prayers of
the People*

Second Sunday of Advent – Year B

**We are drawing near to the coming
of Christ, let us offer our prayers to
God saying:
*Lord, hear our prayer.***

May the power of God's holy presence clear a path through the rubble of broken lives and hearts to make our world and all of us a new creation.

For this let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, Hear Our Prayer.

May our gracious God be always for us a shepherd to console and comfort us, to nourish all our deep hungers, and to make us live in peace for ever. We pray for peace in the Middle East, Ukraine and all places of conflict today. For this we pray to the Lord.

Lord, Hear Our Prayer.

May we come to find in the desert of our lives the gift of forgiveness and the waters of a new Jordan that bring cleansing refreshment.

For this let us pray to the Lord

Lord, Hear Our Prayer.

**May the God who is our comfort hear
the cries of all in need. The
unhoused, the sick, the lonely.
We pray for those on our parish
prayer list as we remember today:
*Janet B., Kathy G., Bea, Jennifer A.,
Luke, Lucy, Edith, Jerry, and Carol.*
For this we pray to the Lord.**

Lord, Hear Our Prayer.

May the God who is our future in the gift of Jesus Christ hold us always in the embrace of faithful love and bring us to new heavens and a new Earth. For this let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, Hear Our Prayer.

**Recall us to our baptism O Lord,
and hear our cries for ourselves and
for the whole world.**

**We pray in the name of Jesus Christ
the Lord**

Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant: **Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love
and infinite in mercy;
God welcomes sinners
and invites them to this table.
Let us confess our sins,
confident in God's forgiveness.**

Celebrant: **Most merciful God,**

People: **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 neighbours 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.**

Celebrant: **Almighty God**
 have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you
from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you
in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Amen.**



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

People: **And also with you.**

PEACE



*The
Peace of
the Earth
Be With
You*

words and music by: Guatemalan Folk Melody
Public Domain
Used by Permission. License # 3177350 Size B

Verse 1

**The peace of the earth be with you
The peace of the heavens too.
The peace of the rivers be with you
The peace of the oceans too.
Deep peace falling over you.
God's peace growing in you.**



**Receiving the
gifts of money
and other gifts
for the needs
and
responsibilities
of the Church.**



Tithes and Offerings

Worship the Lord in Giving



Altar Flowers

The flowers for the Altar today are given to the Glory of God by Heather Gough in memory of her parents, Florence & Thomas Edge.

Prayer Over The Gifts

**God our strength,
we are nothing without you.
Receive all we offer you this day as
you sustain us with your mercy;
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**



Eucharistic Prayer # 2

Celebrant: **The Lord be with you.**

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: **Lift up your hearts.**

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: **Let us give thanks
to the Lord our God.**

People: **It is right to give our
thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: **We give you thanks and
praise,
almighty God,
through your beloved Son,
Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and Redeemer.
He is your living Word,
through whom
you have created all things.**

**By the power of the Holy Spirit
he took flesh of the Virgin Mary
and shared our human nature.
He lived and died as one of us,
to reconcile us to you,
the God and Father of all.**

**In fulfilment of your will
he stretched out his hands
in suffering,
to bring release to those
who place their hope in you;
and so
he won for you a holy people.**

**He chose to bear
our griefs and sorrows,
and to give up his life on the cross,
that he might shatter
the chains of evil and death,
and banish the darkness
of sin and despair.**

**By his resurrection
he brings us
into the light of your presence.**

**Now with all creation
we raise our voices
to proclaim the glory of your name.**

Hymn 732 Holy Holy Holy (Eucharist)

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Hosanna in the highest,
Hosanna in the highest.
Blest, the One who comes in the name
of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest,
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Holy and gracious God,
accept our praise,
through your Son our Saviour
Jesus Christ;
who on the night
he was handed over
to suffering and death,**

**took bread and
gave you thanks, saying,
“Take, and eat:
this is my body
which is broken for you.”**

**In the same way he took the cup,
saying,**

**“This is my blood
which is shed for you.**

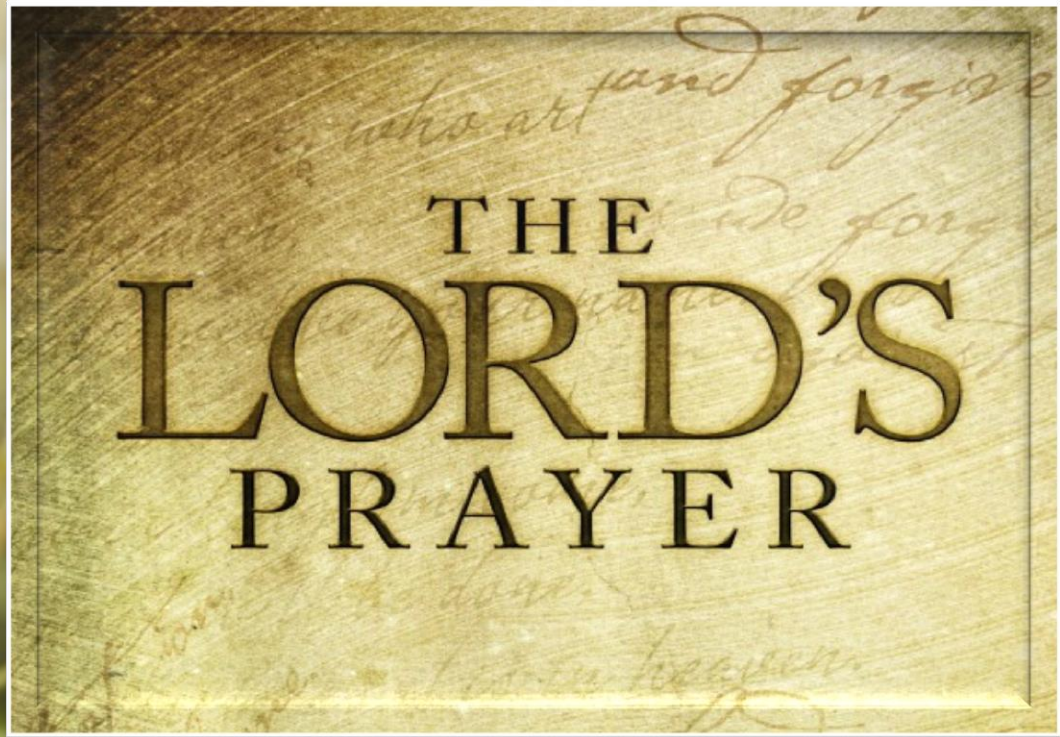
**When you do this,
you do it in memory of me.”**

**Remembering, therefore,
his death and resurrection,
we offer you this bread and this
cup, giving thanks that you have
made us worthy to stand in your
presence and serve you.
We ask you to send your Holy Spirit
upon the offering of your holy
Church.**

**Gather into one all who share
in these sacred mysteries,
filling them with the Holy Spirit
and confirming their faith in the
truth, that together we may praise
you and give you glory
through your Servant,
Jesus Christ.**

**All glory and honour are yours,
Father and Son,
with the Holy Spirit
in the holy Church,
now and for ever.**

People: **Amen.**



Lord's Prayer

(Songs of a Gospel People)

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 them,
that 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**

Breaking of the Bread #5
Advent



Celebrant: **God of promise,
you prepare a banquet
for us in your kingdom.**

People: **Happy are those who are
called to the supper of the
Lamb.**



**The gifts of God
for the
People of God.**

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Lamb of
God
(JMT)*



Verse 1

Cantor: **Lamb of God,
you take away
the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

All: **Lamb of God,
you take away
the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

Verse 2

Cantor: **Lamb of God,
you take away
the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

All: **Lamb of God,
you take away
the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

Verse 3

Cantor: **Lamb of God,
you take away
the sin of the world
grant us grant us peace.**

All: **Lamb of God,
you take away
the sin of the world,
grant us grant us peace.**





Come ^{to} the Table

**ALL ARE WELCOME AT THE TABLE,
IT IS JESUS WHO INVITES YOU.**

**Please allow personal distance when
approaching to receive the sacrament.**

**If you do not wish to receive the wafer,
please cross your arms in front of your
chest to receive God's blessing.**

Gluten free wafers are available.

Communion Hymn





*There's A Voice In
The Wilderness*

Book of Common Praise

106

Verse 1

**There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
A call from the ways untrod:
Prepare in the desert a highway,
A highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted,
The lofty hills brought low;
Make straight all the crooked places,
Where the Lord our God may go!**

Verse 2

**O Zion, give voice to good tidings,
Ascend to the heights and sing!
Proclaim to a desolate people
The coming of their King.
The works of pride all perish,
like flowers they shall decay,
The power and pomp of nations
Shall pass like a dream away.**

Verse 3

**But Your word, O God, is faithful,
Your arm, O Lord, is strong;
You stand in the midst of nations,
And You will right the wrong.
You will feed Your flock like a shepherd,
And fold the lambs to Your breast;
In pastures of peace You'll lead them,
And give to the weary rest.**

Verse 4

**There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
A call from the ways untrod:
Prepare in the desert a highway,
A highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted,
The lofty hills brought low;
Make straight all the crooked places,
Where the Lord our God may go!**



We Say Together the Prayer After Communion:

Faithful God, we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet. Help us always to hear the prophet's call to turn our hearts to you; in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

The Doxology

Celebrant: **Glory to God,**

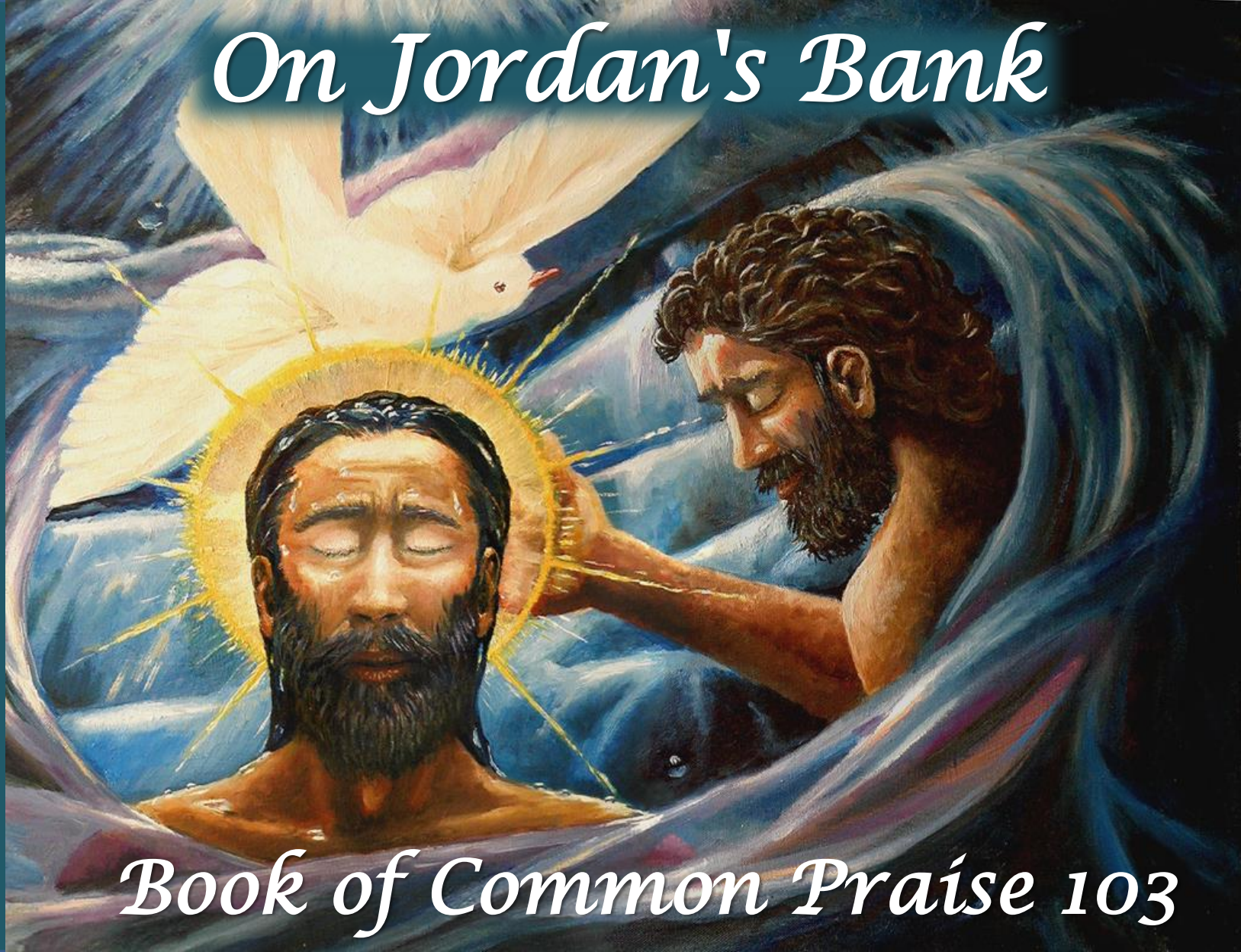
People: **whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more than
we can ask or imagine.**

**Glory to God from
generation to generation,
in the Church and in
Christ Jesus, for ever and ever.
Amen.**



Advent Blessing

On Jordan's Bank



Book of Common Praise 103

Verse 1

**On Jordan's bank the Baptists cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings of the King of kings!**

Verse 2

**Then cleansed be every breast from
sin;
Make straight the way for God
within;
Prepare we in our hearts a home,
Where such a mighty Guest may
come.**

Verse 3

**For Thou art our Salvation, Lord,
Our Refuge, and our great Reward.
Without Thy grace we waste away,
Like flowers that wither and decay.**

Verse 4

**To heal the sick stretch out thine
hand,
And bid the fallen sinner stand;
Shine forth and let Thy light restore
Earth's own true loveliness once
more.**

Verse 5

**All praise, eternal Son, to Thee
Who advent doth Thy people free,
Whom, with the Father, we adore
And Holy Ghost for evermore.**



The Dismissal

FILL US ALL WITH

Peace

The image features two lit red candles as the central focus, set against a dark background with a grid of light blue and purple rectangular patterns. The candles are surrounded by a festive Christmas wreath of green pine needles and red berries. The entire scene is framed by a thin red border. The text 'The Dismissal' is at the top, 'FILL US ALL WITH' is below the candles, and 'Peace' is written in a large, elegant script at the bottom.



*Wonderful
Gift*

Refrain

Oh what a wonderful gift !

Oh what a wonderful gift !

God gives lives of hope and love,

Oh what a wonderful gift !

Verse 1

**Arise your light has come !
The world in stillness lay,
To hear the songs that lit the night, and
brought us Love's new day**

Refrain

**Oh what a wonderful gift !
Oh what a wonderful gift !
God gives lives of hope and love,
Oh what a wonderful gift !**

Verse 2

**Today we bring a light, as Advent comes
anew.**

**But hope and peace and love and joy are
gifts for all year through**

Refrain

Oh what a wonderful gift !

Oh what a wonderful gift !

God gives lives of hope and love,

Oh what a wonderful gift !

Verse 3

**For all that we receive,
For all the love we hold**

**We answer with our thanks to God, and
share them with the world**

Refrain

Oh what a wonderful gift !

Oh what a wonderful gift !

God gives lives of hope and love,

Oh what a wonderful gift !

Verse 4

**So as we bring our gifts,
And offer them with prayer,
May we be people seeking
Peace and justice everywhere.**

Refrain

**Oh what a wonderful gift !
Oh what a wonderful gift !
God gives lives of hope and love,
Oh what a wonderful gift !
Oh what a wonderful gift !**



PREPARE
A WAY FOR THE LORD
LUKE 3:4

thank you

have a blessed week

God
loves
You!

