



**Pohick Episcopal Church • December 20, 2020 • 9:00 am**

Fourth Sunday of Advent • Morning Prayer Rite II

*Facebook Live from inside historic Pohick Church • BCPonline.org, p.80*

**Opening Welcome**

**Prelude** *Pifa (Messiah)*

*Handel*

Officiant Our King and Savior now draws near: Come let us adore him.

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Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

p. 79

*Officiant and People*

*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 you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

**The Invitatory and Psalter**

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Officiant Lord, open our lips.

*People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.*

*Officiant and People*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

**Venite** *Psalm 95:1-7*

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Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, \*

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, \*

and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

**Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26** (in unison)

***Misericordias Domini***

- 1 Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing; \*  
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
- 2 For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; \*  
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
- 3 "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; \*  
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
- 4 'I will establish your line for ever, \*  
and preserve your throne for all generations.'"
- 19 You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people: \*  
"I have set the crown upon a warrior  
and have exalted one chosen out of the people.
- 20 I have found David my servant; \*  
with my holy oil have I anointed him.
- 21 My hand will hold him fast \*  
and my arm will make him strong.
- 22 No enemy shall deceive him, \*  
nor any wicked man bring him down.
- 23 I will crush his foes before him \*  
and strike down those who hate him.
- 24 My faithfulness and love shall be with him, \*  
and he shall be victorious through my Name.
- 25 I shall make his dominion extend \*  
from the Great Sea to the River.
- 26 He will say to me, 'You are my Father, \*  
my God, and the rock of my salvation.'

*Officiant and People*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and will be forever. Amen.*

## The Lessons

Reader A Reading from 2 Samuel (7:1-11, 16)

When the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

**The Song of Mary** *Magnificat* (in unison)

*Luke 1:46-55*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

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.*

Reader A Reading from 1 Thessalonians (5:16-24)

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith-- to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Hymn 60 *Creator of the stars of night*



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,  
2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse  
3 When this old world drew on toward night,  
4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now  
5 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,  
\*6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,



1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,  
2 should doom - to death a - u - ni - verse,  
3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,  
4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow;  
5 re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;  
6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,  
2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free  
3 not as a mon - arch, but the child  
4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,  
5 de - fend us while we dwell be - low  
6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



1 we pray you hear us when we call.  
2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.  
3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.  
4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.  
5 from all as - saults of our dread foe.  
6 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Words: Latin, 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Conditor alme siderum*, plainsong, Mode 4; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956) Copyright ©1984, Bruce Neswick. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Reader A Gospel Reading from Luke (1:26-38)

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Sermon The Reverend Dr. Lynn P. Ronaldi, *Rector*

Solo *In the bleak midwinter*

*Holst*

**The Apostles' Creed** *Officiant and People, all standing*

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*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.*

**The Prayers**

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Officiant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Officiant Let us pray.

*Officiant and 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 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.*

Officiant Show us your mercy, O Lord;

People *And grant us your salvation.*

Officiant Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

People *Let your people sing with joy.*

Officiant Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

People *For only in you can we live in safety.*

Officiant Lord, keep this nation under your care;

People *And guide us in the way of justice and truth.*

Officiant Let your way be known upon earth;

People *Your saving health among all nations.*

Officiant Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

People *Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.*

Officiant Create in us clean hearts, O God;

People *And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.*

### Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### Collect for Mission

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### Hymn 81 *Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming*

1 Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung!  
2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind,  
\* 3 O Flower, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet - ness fills the air,

Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as seers of old have sung.  
with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the Vir - gin Mo - ther kind.  
dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery - where;

It came, a blos - som bright, a - mid the  
 To show God's love a - right, she bore to  
 true man, yet ve - ry God, from sin and

cold of win - ter, when half spent was the night.  
 us a Sa - vior, when half spent was the night.  
 death now save us, and share our ev - ery load.

Words: St. 1-2, German, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker (1851-1934). st. 3, Friedrich Layritz (1808-1859); tr. Harriet Reynolds Krauth Spaeth (1845-1925); ver. *Hymnal 1940* Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music: *Es ist ein Ros*, melody from *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1599; harm. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

### Intercessions and Thanksgivings

*Officiant* **Let us pray for all those affected by COVID-19**, by illness or hunger, or by loss of life, job or home. For all who are isolated, alone, or discouraged.

**We pray for Pohick Church and all churches who are learning to be community in new ways.**

**We especially pray for an end to the pandemic, and wisdom for our leaders.** We give thanks for the coming vaccine.

**We pray for an end to racism and all social injustice, for the courage to protest wrongs peacefully, and for an end to the civil unrest and violence in our nation.**

**We pray for family and friends who are first responders, hospital personnel, and fire and rescue personnel:** Dr. Kevin Botts, Will Prados, Julie Kiefer, Karen; Laura; Jennifer; Dr. Will Edmonson; Kathe Hannis Clark RN, Michelle Alley Sherrod, RN, Alison Brown Tuttle; Sara Mulhern, Nathan Crane, Dr. Susanne Roberts, Dr. Richard Yoon, Lindsey Chapman, Taylor Bireley, Chris Johnson, Grace Agar, Lt Anthony Marsico, Jr, Dr. Laurie Mortara, Melissa, Laura, Ashley, Avery, Chase, Teddy, Elizabeth Bartkowiak, Davis Sessums, Dr. Tony Slavinski, Christian Lavenski RN, Robert Foresman, Alex Foresman, Katie Arnhart, Dr. George Smallfield III, Dr. Melissa Smallfield, Patrick Burkey, Dr. John Orona, Dr. Devon Watson, Dr. Megan Sise, Dr. Uulana Bodnar, Ashley Nicholson, Kathy Vitale, Christian Ewaskiewicz, RN, Kathy Aagesen; Justin and Nora Scot, Susan Plain, Lea Schmitt, Chris Stone, Lisa Keill, Alison Tompkins, Sheriden Floyd RN, William Low, Cameron Craig, Christina Petty, RN, Courtney Hayward, RN, Rachel Mazerolle, RN, Dr. Sunmolu Beckley, Dr. Maxwell James, Dr. Cameron Webb, Dr. Adrian Ambrose, Funmilayo Onipede, Nicole Habel, Haley Sanchez, Funmilayo Abiara, Annie Hammer, Ty Ashworth, Rose

Keptang, Alyssa Craig, Carmen Watson, Tom, Bailey, Dr. Alley Ronaldi, Melissa Villamoor, Dr. Dan Derbes III, Danielle Derbes, PA, Anna Delania and Tracy Torseth, RNs.

**We especially pray for those in our parish (or their friends and family) who are ill, hospitalized, or in need of our prayers:** Kristy Girtten, the Nelson Family, Penelope Mann, Kenneth Minter, Archie Taylor and family, Erika Knudsen, George Crump, Haydee Sparks, Peter Thomas, Tom Murphy, Carole Fischer, Joan Parsons, Adrian McCabe, Willy and Christel Lowel, Suzi Scott, Sharon Michel, Bryan Tuccillo, Victoria Sackett, D'Andrea Wooten, Beth Cooke, Joan Egan, Bill Hosp, Wendy, Margery, Jack Florio, Tim Dwyer, William Low, Simon Delgado, Stan Coss, Patricia Scott, James King, Funmi Oduolowu, Fiona, Harry Petrie, Marsha Tonkin, Raymond Hawthorne, Susan Yarwood, Diane, Jim, Mary Hoffman, Jim and Lynn Anderholm, Carol and Glenn Larkin, Sr., Ellen Hill, Dr. Will and Tricia Edmonson, Tori Ronaldi, Jackie Geschickter, Cindy Johnston, Tom Bland, Ernie Janes, Pam Botts, and Sarah Parfitt.

**We pray for all who have died,** that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom, especially for Tom Villagomez, friend of Rick and Pamela Nelson.

**We also pray for those having birthdays this week:** Eleanor Grimm, Sarah Kirkland, Kelly Uribe, Anne Gailey, Charles Keeney, Zachary Smith, Katherine Kirkland, Susan Mayberry, and John Wilson.

**We pray for our members who serve our country,** particularly those overseas, and their families: John Winston, Tony Winston, Arch Wilson, Ryan Moatta, Rick Church, Katie Weber, Jesse Grimm, and Marty Wilson.

**We pray for Christians and others around the world,** especially those in Burma, China, Nigeria, and North Korea, who continue to face persecution for their faith.

**We pray for peace in the Middle East,** and for the Church in Syria, Iraq, Egypt, and Israel.

**In the Diocese of Virginia, we pray for** St. Asaph's, Bowling Green, and St. James, Montross.

*Other intercessions may be typed in Facebook comments, or spoken aloud or in silence.*

### **Concluding Collect**

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people;  
In the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help;  
for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now  
and for ever. *Amen.*

### **The General Thanksgiving**

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#### *Officiant and People*

*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 ourselves 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.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

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Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

*People Thanks be to God.*

Officiant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

### Closing remarks

**Postlude** *Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming*

*Brahms*

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Officiant: The Reverend Dr. Lynn P. Ronaldi, *Rector*  
Assisting: The Reverend Alex Allain, *Assistant Rector*  
Lay Eucharist Minister: Angela Edgemon  
Minister of Music: Linda Wilberger Egan, SMM  
Soloist: Mason Botts, *tenor*  
Acolyte: Paul Schavland  
Bell Choir: Don Brownlee, Rusty Booth, Sarah Turk-Hofmann

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Thank you for your participation yesterday in our successful **Christmas Drive-Through Outreach**, which collected food and necessities for Action Through Community Service (ACTS) of Prince William County.
- Weather permitting, Pohick will have three outdoor **Christmas Eve services** – 1:30 pm, 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm. We are limited to 50 people per service. The 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm services are booked.
- You are invited to Pohick's **Christmas Day Service** at 9:00 am which will be streamed live on Facebook. Watch website for details!

- Join us at 9:00 am next **Sunday, December 27, for Holy Eucharist Rite II**. The service will be streamed live on Facebook. Visit [pohick.org](http://pohick.org) for link.
- Please mark your calendars for our **Virtual Annual Parish Meeting**, Sunday, January 17, at 11:00 am via Zoom. Details to come.
- The Stewardship Committee thanks Pohick for its early and enthusiastic response. If you haven't done so, please mail your 2021 pledge to the office. If you've misplaced your pledge card, please find another at [Pohick.org](http://Pohick.org).

**Pohick Episcopal Church**

*The Reverend Dr. Lynn P. Ronaldi, Rector*

9301 Richmond Highway • Lorton, VA 22079 • 703-339-6572 • [pohick.org](http://pohick.org)

Home Church of George Washington and George Mason

*Embracing the Past, Welcoming in the Present, Transforming for the Future*