

Second Sunday of
ADVENT



Hannah Garrity © A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
December 8, 2024

Artist Reflection

Prophecy

Oil paint, charcoal, and copper leaf on canvas

By Hannah Garrity

This painting engages the flow of Zechariah's prophecy. I painted in oil on canvas; the copper leaf represents God's healing love. Copper has qualities that interact with its surroundings. When coiled, it can harness electricity out of thin air. When used in body wrapping, it can support internal self-repair. When used in pots and pans, it disperses heat evenly. When used in the womb, it causes the blood to flow monthly. When used in piping, it allows clean water to flow.

Over the years, I have been drawn to taking away plastics in my artwork. It is not always possible because acrylic paint and PVC pipe are such accessible media. But the natural materials draw me in physically, emotionally. In my work, I return to copper to hold banners up, to build sculpture, to create motion, and to capture light in an installation. It is a natural material that is prevalent in buildings. You can buy it at your local hardware store.

Here, the copper represents aspects of discipleship. It represents the presence of God in our lives and our actions – the presence of God in Zechariah's prophecy and in John's life and work. The image is inspired by waters meeting one another. This intersecting flow portrays Zechariah's words meeting John the Baptist's life. It is a crashing toward, a central meeting place, a potential energy meeting a kinetic being.



Your presence today is a blessing to this parish. This bulletin has been created from the prayers found in *The Book of Common Prayer*, and it contains most of the spoken parts of worship. The blue Hymnal 1982 in your pew rack contains most of the hymns that are sung. You'll find words to the hymns that come from supplemental hymnals printed in this bulletin.

Voluntary

Announcements

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Entrance Hymn *All stand.* Hymnal 1982 – 59
Hark! a thrilling voice is crying *Merton*

Opening Acclamation BCP p. 355

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen.**

Collect for Purity

BCP p. 355

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: 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.

Trisagion *See pew card for music.* Alexander Archangelsky

The following is sung three times, all standing.

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One, Have mercy on us.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people sit.

The Lessons

Malachi 3:1-4

A Reading from the book of Malachi.

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight – indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

Canticle 16: The Song of Zechariah

Remain seated. The choir first introduces the Antiphon, then the congregation joins the choir in singing the Antiphon each time.

ANTIPHON: Prepare the way of the Lord



From *A HymnTune Psalter, Revised Common Lectionary Edition* © 2007 by Carl P. Daw, Jr. and Kevin R. Hackett. Church Publishing Incorporated. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *

he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *

born of the house of his servant David. **ANTIPHON**

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,

that he would save us from our enemies, *

from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers *

and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, *

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear, *

holy and righteous in his sight

all the days of our life. **ANTIPHON**

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
To give his people knowledge of salvation *
by the forgiveness of their sins. **ANTIPHON**

In the tender compassion of our God *
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of
death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace. **ANTIPHON**

The people remain seated.

Second Reading: Philippians 1:3-11

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Philippi

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the

compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

All stand.

Sequence Hymn

Hymnal 1982 – 54

Savior of the nations, come

Nun komm, Der Heiden Heiland

The Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

All stand.

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of

Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;

and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

The Reverend Nancy L.J. Cox

The Nicene Creed

All stand.

**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.**

All remain standing.

The Prayers of the People

From Hear Our Prayer, by Jon White and Lisa Graves

Intercessor: Holy God, wherever we are, you are there. Stir our hearts wherever we may go that we may see you and offer thanksgiving for the life you have given us. Hear these prayers we offer as we say, “*Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*”

For the church in every place: May we be ever mindful of the richness of the family of God’s

people, those next to us here, those in neighborhood churches, and those worshipping today across the globe. Help us to grow into a unity of mission and ministry in our common devotion to Christ that we might be faithful witnesses of your love. *Silence.*

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: For those in civil authority: That they be guided by hope and not fear. *Silence.*

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: For this faith community; amid joys and sorrows: May we remember those who have gone before us; those who have sacrificed for us. May we give thanks for this gathering of God's people and for the renewal of life we are given. *Silence.*

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: For the gifts of creation, for the sun that lights our day and the moon and the stars that shelter the night: May our eyes be open to the beauty around us. Help us to protect and nurture the creation and

ever proclaim its wonders. *The people are invited to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence.*

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: For those at greatest risk among us: May we pray for those who are lonely or neglected, and for those facing illness and disability. *The people are invited to add their petitions, followed by silence.*

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: For those who have died, for those who are dying, and for those who grieve, that they might find hope in your promise of lasting life. *Silence.*

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant adds the concluding collect.

Celebrant: Lord, gather up our prayers with those of all your people in every place and time, and guide us to Christ, preparing the way for us by making every valley filled and every mountain low. *Silence.*

People: **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

BCP p. 359

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister 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.**

The Absolution

The Priest stands and says

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.**

Peace

BCP p. 360

All stand

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

People: **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

A note about receiving Holy Communion: In the Episcopal Church, we understand that Christ is “really present” in the bread and wine provided from God’s table. All who claim Christ as Lord are always welcome to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion in this church. Children are welcome to receive communion at the discretion of their parents. Come forward at the direction of the ushers. Receive the consecrated wafer in the palm of your outstretched hand from the first person who comes to you. To receive a gluten-free wafer, please cross your hands palms down. You may drink from the larger cup/ chalice which the next person will offer you. Receive the consecrated wine by guiding the offered cup to your lips and sipping, or by intinction: lightly dip the wafer into the wine. Those who distribute the wine will wipe the chalice with a food safe sanitizer and turn it for the next person after each person receives. You may also decide to take the wafer only. If you choose not to receive communion, you may cross your arms over your chest and receive a blessing as your presence is a blessing to all of us. Once you have been blessed or received communion, you may offer a short prayer and then return to your seat. If physical limitations make it difficult to come forward, please let an usher know that we may have the honor of bringing communion to you.

Offertory Sentence

BCP p. 376

The Celebrant says

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

Offertory Anthem

Comfort, comfort ye my people

Freu dich sehr O meine Seele/arr. Robert J. Powell

Comfort, comfort ye my people,
speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
comfort those who sit in darkness,
mourning 'neath their sorrow's load;
speak ye to Jerusalem
of the peace that waits for them;
tell her that her sins I cover,
and her warfare now is over.

For the herald's voice is crying
in the desert far and near,
bidding all men to repentance,
since the kingdom now is here.
O that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way!
Let the valleys rise to meet him,
and the hills bow down to greet him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked,
make the rougher places plain:
let your hearts be true and humble,

as befits his holy reign,
For the glory of the Lord
now o'er the earth is shed abroad,
and all flesh shall see the token
that his word is never broken.

St. James Music Press. Licensed permission. User ID #6813

Presentation of Gifts

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord.

People: **And of thine own have we given thee.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Sursum Corda

BCP p. 367

The People remain standing.

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 him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus *See pew card for music.* Russian Orthodox

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us

from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Memorial Acclamation

Russian Orthodox

See pew card for music.

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory.**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 363

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem: Agnus Dei

Russian Orthodox

See pew card for music.

Jesus, Lamb of God, **have mercy on us.**

Jesus, bearer of our sins, **have mercy on us.**

Jesus, redeemer of the world, **give us your peace.**

Invitation

BCP p. 364

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Spiritual Communion Prayer

A prayer for those worshipping virtually to be unified in Communion with Christ.

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. **Amen.**

Communion Hymns

O day of God, draw nigh

Hymnal 1982 – 601

St. Michael

O heavenly Word, eternal Light

Hymnal 1982 – 63

Verbum supernum prodiens

Lay Eucharistic Minister Prayer *(as needed)*

Celebrant: In order that all may receive Holy Eucharist,
_____ will take the Eucharist to _____ today.

All: In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one body because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.

The Post-Communion Prayer

BCP p. 366

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you**

**as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

Blessing

BCP p. 366

Post-Communion Hymn

WLP – 724

People, look East

Besancon Carol

1 People, look East. The time is near
of the crowning of the year.

Make your house fair as you are able,
trim the hearth and set the table.

People, look East and sing today:
Love the guest is on the way.

2 Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
one more seed is planted there:

Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
that in course the flow'r may flourish.

People, look East and sing today:
Love the rose is on the way.

3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build,
guard the nest that must be filled.

Even the hour when wings are frozen
God for fledgling time has chosen.
People, look East and sing today:
Love the bird is on the way.

4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
one more light the bowl shall brim,
shining beyond the frosty weather,
bright as sun and moon together.
People, look East and sing today:
Love the star is on the way.

5 Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look East and sing today:
Love the Lord is on the way.

Dismissal

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary

Scripture quotations are from New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

2024-25
Advent to Epiphany
SCHEDULE

December 8 – Second Sunday of Advent

9 & 11:10 AM Services

Evening Prayer in the Spirit of Taizé – 5 PM

December 14 – Advent Quiet Morning – 8:30 AM

December 15 – Third Sunday of Advent

9 & 11:10 AM Services

Advent Lessons and Carols – 5 PM

EYC White Elephant Party

December 21 – Service of Light – 7 PM

December 22 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

9 & 11:10 AM Services

EYC Cookie Sale

Hanging of the Greens

EYC Family Caroling

December 24

Christmas Eve Family Service – 4 PM

Nativity of our Lord – 5:30 PM

Nativity of our Lord – 9 PM

December 25

Christmas Day Service – 10 AM

December 29

First Sunday after Christmas – Holy Eucharist – 10 AM

January 5 – Epiphany

Holy Eucharist – 10 AM

Gathering with Grace Lutheran for Chili Cook Off, Service of

Epiphany & Burning of the Greens – 5:30 PM



CLERGY

RECTOR

The Reverend Nancy L.J. Cox
ncox@allsaintsconcord.org

PRIEST ASSOCIATE

The Reverend Dr. James (Jim) B. Bernacki
jbernacki@windstream.net

PRIEST ASSOCIATE

The Reverend Mary Elizabeth Reese
revmaryreese@gmail.com

DEACON

The Reverend Vern Cahoon
vernjcahoon@gmail.com

STAFF

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Stephanie Trosper
admin@allsaintsconcord.org

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Tiffany Fulton
tfulton@allsaintsconcord.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & COORDINATOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Brian Sapp-Moore
bsapp@allsaintsconcord.org

COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT

Ruth Brown
announcements@allsaintsconcord.org

VESTRY & LIASION AREAS

Martin Ericson, *Sr. Warden, Finance*

Rhonda Kovar, *Jr. Warden,
Christian Formation: Youth*

Guy Antonides, *Lockhart CDC*

Al Bonnyman, *Building & Grounds*

Randy Brantley, *Stewardship*

Chuck Collier, *Christian Formation: Adults*

Jennifer Cook, *Parish Life*

Nate Ernst, *Communications*

Melissa Goodwin, *Newcomers*

Andrea Holdren, *Worship*

Jan Millar, *Pastoral Care*

Beth Simpson, *Outreach*

REPORTING TO THE VESTRY

Victor Clark, *Treasurer*

Kim Gordick, *Vestry Clerk*

For announcements and information,
scan the QR code to view
All Saints' Weekly Word.



525 Lake Concord Road NE, Concord, NC 28025

www.allsaintsconcord.org | 704-782-2024 | All Saints' WiFi password: JesusLovesYou