Holy Eucharist The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2023-10:00 a.m.



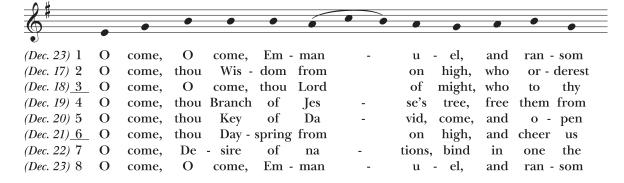
Saint Luke's Episcopal Church

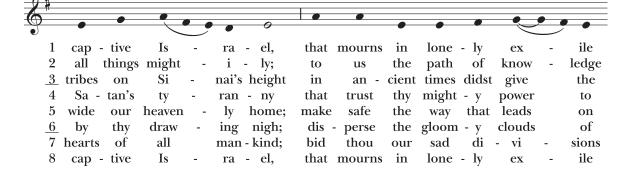
Los Gatos, California

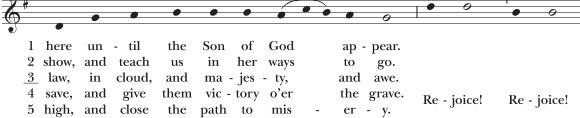
The Holy Eucharist

Opening Hymn 56

"O come, O come, Emmanuel"







6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.
8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Celebrant Our King and Savior now draws near.

People O come, let us adore him.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God of joy and salvation, you sent your Son to bring us to new life: Evermore gladden our hearts this Advent Season with the prospect of your arrival, newlycome yet ever-present, that we may always be prepared to welcome you in love, when you come again in glory this Christmas and in the age to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

The Penitential Order

The Celebrant says Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

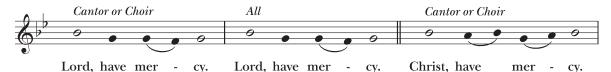
Silence may be kept.

Said by all
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 Celebrant then 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**.

Kyrie Eleison S 95





Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Music: From the Litany of the Saints; adapt. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

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**.

The Liturgy of the Word

The First Lesson

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

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.

The Second Lesson

Romans 16:25-27

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.



Tune: RAQUEL, 8 7 8 7 D; Skinner Chávez-Melo, 1944–1992, © 1987, Estate of Skinner Chávez-Melo Words: Roland F. Palmer

The Holy Gospel

Clergy The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Luke 1:26-38

Clergy The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Nayan McNeill

The Nicene Creed

Said by all

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:

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human.

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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

Prayers of the People

Form II

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Lucinda, our Bishop; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence.

The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant concludes with a suitable Collect.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

Prayer from Hansel and Gretel **Englebert Humperdinck**

When at night I go to sleep,
Fourteen angels watch do keep,
Two my head are guarding,
Two my feet are guiding;
Two upon my right hand,
Two upon my left hand.
Two who warmly cover
Two who o'er me hover,
Two to whom 'tis given
To guide my steps to heaven.

Prayers Over the Gifts

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendor, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own have we given you. Amen.

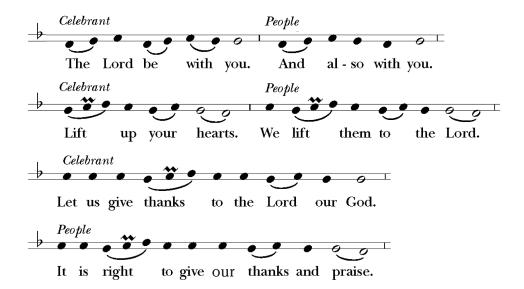
Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation; through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the Bread of Heaven. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation; through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the Cup of Salvation. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Pray, friends, that this our sacrifice may be acceptable to God the Father Almighty. May the Lord receive this sacrifice at your hands, to the praise and glory of God's Name, both to our benefit and that of all God's Holy Church. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

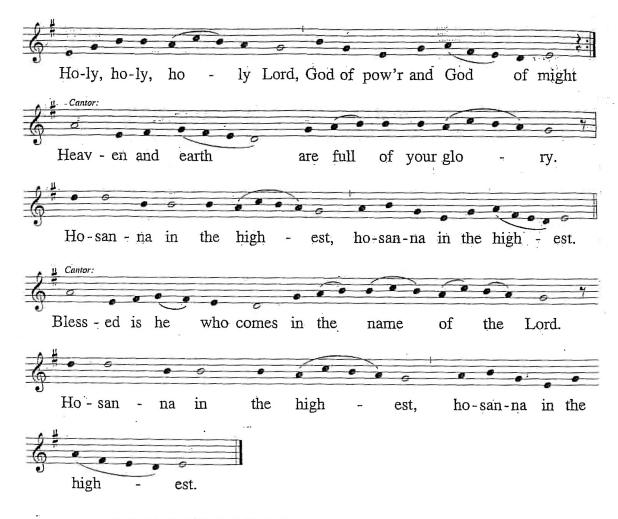
Eucharistic Prayer B



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 167



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, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

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 the blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Joseph, blessed Luke, and 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

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

Said by all
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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Those receiving Holy Communion may partake of both bread and wine or in just one kind. If partaking from the chalice, please only drink, do not dip your wafer into the cup. You may also touch the wafer to the outside of the chalice if desired. If you wish to receive a Blessing rather than Communion, come forward and stand or kneel with your arms crossed over your chest.

Communion Anthem

Gabriel of high degree, he was sent from the Trinity, to Nazareth in Galilee. Nova, nova.

He met a maiden in that place: there he knelt down before her face and said, "Hail Mary, full of grace." Nova, nova.

When the maiden heard his song, she was filled with confusion strong and feared that she had done a wrong. Nova, nova.

Said the angel, "Have no fear, by conception without compare the Savior Jesus shall you bear." Nova, nova.

"There are yet but six months gone since Elizabeth conceived John, to be herald of God's son."
Nova, nova.

Said the maiden, "Verily, I am your servant right truly, the handmaid of the Lord now see." Nova, nova.

Post Communion Prayer

Said by all
Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Advent Blessing

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen**.

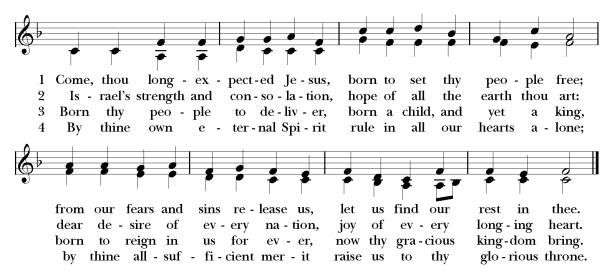
May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and untiring in love. **Amen**.

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen**.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn 66

"Come, thou long expected Jesus"



Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: Stuttgart, melody from Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesange, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

The Dismissal

The Celebrant dismisses the people, and they respond

Thanks be to God.



Servers—December 24, 2023

Celebrant The Very Rev. William S. Stafford

Preacher The Rev. Nayan McNeill

Lay Assistant Roger Fleming Acolyte Olivia French

Lectors Walker French & Mark French

Organist Laura Green

Cantors Joanie Smith & Janet Souza

Live-streaming Director Art Feather

Usher Kenna French

Altar Guild Carol Graham & Gigit Fait

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Cover: The Annunciation by John William Waterhouse (1849–1917) b. Rome

St. Luke's Episcopal Church is a place of peace, beauty, and relationship that reflects God's saving presence through our rich Tradition, our intellectual curiosity, and our work in the wider community.

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