



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
IN-GATHERING SUNDAY
DECEMBER 22, 2024 | 10:00 A.M.
HOLY EUCHARIST

HYMNALS WE USE: H82 (Blue); LEVAS (Black and Red); WLP (Green)

PRELUDE

THE WORD OF GOD

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.
People **You come to your people and set them free.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Sing we of the blessed Mother

H82 #278

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant May God 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 FIRST READING

Micah 5:2-5a

A Reading from the Prophet Micah.

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.
Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;

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

then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.
And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of
the LORD, in the majesty of the name of
the LORD his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace.

PSALM 80:1-7

Qui regis Israel

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a
flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon
the cherubim.
2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and
Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to
help us.
3 Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your
countenance, and we shall be saved.

4 O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be
angered despite the prayers of your people?
5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; you
have given them bowls of tears to drink.
6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
7 Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your
countenance, and we shall be saved.

THE SECOND READING

Hebrews 10:5-10

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

When Christ came into the world, he said,

"Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;
in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God'
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

SEQUENCE HYMN

There's a voice in the wilderness crying

H82 #75

THE GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-55

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

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

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Jonathan Eden

THE NICENE CREED

Please stand as you are able.

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE IN THE SEASON OF ADVENT

Intervenor Stir up your whole church, O Lord, and with great might prepare our hearts to receive your Word,
People **That all your people may hear your truth. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, today we remember: the Episcopal Chaplaincy at Harvard, Cambridge; the Lutheran Episcopal Chaplaincy at Mass. Institute of Technology, Cambridge; The Society of St. John the Evangelist, Cambridge; and all Hospital Chaplaincies & Healthcare Chaplains. That their lives and teaching may glorify your name through all the world.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Bring wisdom and patience to all in positions of authority, here and around the world, that a sense of community and harmony may be found in all their decisions and that all their actions may serve the common good.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Cast away the darkness of war in all the world, and teach us to put on the armor of Christ's peace, that, living in unity with one another, all people of the earth may dwell in safety and look with confidence to the coming of your kingdom.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Swell our hearts, Lord Christ, with the love you make known to us in this season, that we may take to heart the care of the poor, the outcast, and all who suffer from any grief or trouble.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send again the message of repentance, preached once by your prophets, and give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins of prejudice, injustice, and greed.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Have mercy, O Lord, on all the sick and those who have requested our prayers, especially Alexis, Marilyn, Marcia, Ken, Emerson, Kenneth, Lynnette, Christina, Carol, Julie, Stanley, Mary, Catherine, Michael, Parker, Sergio, Martha, Anne, Patricia, Maureen, Rachael, Louise, Scott, Kathleen, Paul, Eddy, Christopher, Julie Ann, Joan, Bob and those we now name silently or aloud (*pause*). Enfold them with your healing hands, that they may feel your presence and be made whole.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Remember, O God, all those we love but see no longer, especially, those we now name silently or aloud (*pause*), and all who find their delight in your kingdom, that they may feast forever at a table we hope, one day, to share.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

In this season of waiting, your grace surrounds us and we thank you for all the gifts manifest in our lives and communities, especially those we now name, silently or aloud (*pause*), that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Give us grateful hearts and abundant hope, that we may recognize your hands at work in us and in the world around us.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Prepare us. Purify us. Stir cold hearts and open blinded eyes,

That, watching, we may be ready to receive the gift that even now you prepare for Bethlehem's manger. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Please stand or kneel as you are able

Celebrant And, as we know that without you we cannot please you, hear our prayer of confession that we make before you (*pause*).

People **Have mercy upon us, most merciful God. In your compassion, forgive us our sins, things known and unknown, deeds done and left undone; and lift us by your spirit's presence that we may live to serve you and one another in new life, to the honor and glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant May the power of God, who comes to dwell among us, forgive you all your sins and offenses, prepare your hearts for joy, and embrace you in an eternal kingdom.

People **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY HYMN

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!

Please stand as you are able.

H82 #438

BLESSING OVER THE PLEDGES AT IN-GATHERING

Gracious God, we give thanks for these gifts, the promises of our members for giving in the year to come. We pray that you inspire us with the example of your freely-given love to serve our neighbors, heal the world, and strengthen our community. Bless these intentions, pledges, and promises of our wealth, works, and wisdom To become the ministries and to meet the needs your church. **Amen.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant May God 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 God thanks and praise.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, dear God, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of Mary his mother, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

H82 #S124

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

And so, Most Gracious God, we who have been redeemed by Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our forebears; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Deborah, Hannah, and Rebecca. God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, O God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

A period of silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM

Robinson & Forster

mp
Come, Ho - ly Child of light and be known: be
cresc.
known in bro - ken bread and of - fered lives; be known in this
house as Lord and King; be known in our hearts to - day



Priest The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion at Emmanuel Church.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **O God, who bids us wait in this season of longing: as you have fed us with the body of Christ, make us hungry for your justice in the world; as you have given us drink from the cup of salvation, make us thirsty for the fullness of your kingdom; in these days of expectation, stir our hearts and awaken hope that we may share the gifts of your reconciling love with all creation. Amen.**

BLESSING

May the God who stoops to become incarnate grant us the grace to remember that the world is too broken for anything but truth, and too small for anything but love. **Amen.**

May God take our minds and think through them, take our lips and speak through them, and take our hands and work through them. **Amen.**

May God stir our hearts with yearning for the coming kingdom and open our ears to the voices of the prophets. **Amen.**

And may the blessing of God, who Creates, Redeems, and Sustains us, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates

H82 #436

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Prepare the way, O Zion,

People **and God will raise up a redeemer for us all.**

Celebrant Let us go forth in Peace.

People **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

WELCOME TO EMMANUEL CHURCH

We are glad that you have joined us today, and pray that you will know God's presence through our worship and in this community. Wherever you are in your journey with God or toward God, you are welcome here. Indeed, you are invited and welcome in our pews and in all the things we do as a community each week. We would also love to be in better touch throughout the year. Please reach out to our Priest in Charge, the Rev. Jonathan Eden, at therev.jonteden@gmail.com or at 617.798.0770 for more information.

We meet every Sunday at 10:00 AM for worship. By scanning the first QR Code below, you can follow us on the web, check our e-news, and find out more about who we are and what we're doing.

Your support is very important to us, and crucial to making sure we are always here for you. Scan the QR Codes below on the right to donate easily and quickly on line.

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Celebrant and Preacher
Lector
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Altar Guild
Organist

The Rev. Jonathan Eden
Ken Thelen
Weekly Volunteers
Weekly Volunteers
Esther Kwok

PARISH DIRECTORY

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Vestry Co-Wardens
Treasurer
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Vestry

Cathy McCarthy
Ken Thelen
Kellon Belfon
Anne Jackson
Ed Barrett, Peggy Byrne
Terri Halliday, Gail Halpin-Evans

CALENDAR

Christmas "Pageant" Rehearsal
Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist
Epiphany Party and Service

TODAY! Sunday, December 22, 11:30 a.m.
Tuesday, December 24, 5:00 p.m.
Monday, January 6, 7:00 p.m.

To learn more about our offerings and news, please see our latest Newsletter, on our website under "News & Events."

PARISH PRAYER LIST

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please be in touch with The Rev. Jonathan Eden.