

**Worship for Sunday December 20, 2020**  
**The Fourth Sunday of Advent – 10:00 am**

**THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II**  
**THE WORD OF GOD**

**Prelude**

*The people standing, the Presider says*

BCP 355

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

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

*The Presider may say*

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.**

*When appointed, the following hymn or some other song of praise is sung or said, all standing*

**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 Collect of the Day**

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.**

**A Prayer for the Calling of a New Rector**

BCP 818

*Presider and Congregation together*

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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.

*Lector* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## The Psalm

Psalm 89: 1-4, 19-26

- 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.'**

## The Second Lesson

Romans 16:25-27

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.

*Lector* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Sequence Hymn # 66

Come thou long expected Jesus

*Stuttgart*

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,  
born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us,  
let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art:  
dear desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,  
born a child, and yet a king,  
born to reign in us for ever,  
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit  
rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all-sufficient merit  
raise us to thy glorious throne.

## The Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

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

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

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.

*Gospeler* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## The Sermon

The Rev. Mandy Brady

*A period of silence is kept after the sermon*

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

*Intercessor*

Lord Jesus, as we prepare anew for the celebration of your birth we await in joyful hope for your coming in glorious majesty. Our world is sorely hindered by our sad divisions. Pray, come speedily to help and deliver us.

*People*

**O come, O come Emmanuel,**

*Intercessor*

Come Emmanuel to your church: Help us to put on the armor of light, that we might walk with you in the light of the Lord. During this season of Advent waiting, may we stay aware and awake, and always ready to proclaim that your Kingdom has come near.

*People*

**O come, O come Emmanuel**

*Intercessor*

Come Emmanuel to this nation: teach our leaders your statutes that they might walk in your ways, and govern your people with wisdom and justice. As we prepare for your coming, O Prince of Peace, teach us how to beat our swords into plowshares and our spears into pruning hooks.

*People*

**O come, O come Emmanuel**

*Intercessor*

Come Emmanuel and heal this broken world: We long for God's promise to be fulfilled— for the wilderness and desert to rejoice and bloom, for the calf and lion and fatling to lie together, and for that time when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, nor study war any more.

*People*

**O come, O come Emmanuel**

*Intercessor*

Come Emmanuel to this city and county: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy and uphold us with your grace, that we may live in harmony with one another and serve the common good.

*People*

**O come, O come Emmanuel**

*Intercessor*

Come Emmanuel and hear our prayers for those in any need or trouble. We pray for N. and N, for all those on our parish prayer list, and for all in need of prayer, that they may live in joy, health and peace.

*People*

**O come, O come Emmanuel**

*Intercessor*

Come Emmanuel to guide to your heavenly courts the souls of those who have died, [especially N] that they may be with you this day in Paradise. And provide comfort for those who mourn.

*People*

**O come, O come Emmanuel**

*Intercessor*

Come Emmanuel as we rejoice, lifting our voices in praise and thanksgiving for your many blessings in our lives. Particularly for N who are celebrating birthdays this week.

*People*

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

*The people are invited to add their own prayers of intercession and thanksgiving.*

*The Presider adds a concluding collect.*

## **The Confession and Absolution**

BCP 360

*Presider 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 presider 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.**

**The Peace**

BCP 360

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**The Presentation Hymn #56** (v. 1,6,7,8) O come, O come, Emmanuel

*Veni, Veni, Emmanuel*

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Dayspring from on high,  
and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadow put to flight.

O come, Desire of nations, bind  
in one the hearts of all mankind;  
bid thou our sad divisions cease,  
and be thyself our King of Peace.

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

**The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B**

BCP 367

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

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

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

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

*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The Presider proceeds*

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:

*Presider 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 Presider 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.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Presider is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

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,

*Presider and People*

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

*The Presider 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.**

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

*People and Presider*

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**

*The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung or said*

[Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]**

## **The Distribution**

*The congregation is asked to stay at their seats. The eucharist will be brought to you at your chair.*

## **For those Not Receiving the Sacrament**

*The People gathered virtually pray together*

Adapted from  
Saint Augustine's Prayer Book  
by the Rev. Mandy Brady

**Blessed Jesus,**

**in union with the faithful of every place and people and nation,**

**I join in offering the sacrifice of my praise and thanksgiving to you.**

**I believe that you are truly present in the Bread that has been blessed, broken and given.**

**Since I cannot now receive this holy sacrament,**

**I pray that you will come again into my heart.**

**Abide with me, that I may embrace you entirely,**

**and submit myself to your love and mercy.**

**Let me never be separated from you,**

**that in my waking and in my sleeping**

**I may know the comfort of your presence.**

**I ask this for the sake of your love. Amen.**

*The Presider responds*

Loving and gracious Father, look with mercy upon the members of this parish family in these uncertain times. May they know that neither walls nor distance can separate us from the love and prayers of this community. And that no circumstance can separate us from your presence and power. We entrust ourselves to your care and keeping this day, and in the days to come; in your holy name we pray. **Amen.**

## **The Post Communion Prayer**

BCP 365

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 Blessing**

## **The Dismissal**

BCP 366

*Presider* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God**

## **Postlude**

*Flowers are given to the glory of God, and in thanksgiving for the opportunity to assemble as the  
Body of Christ to receive the Body of Christ.*