



ST. FRANCIS
IN THE FIELDS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We invite you to join us as an active participant in the same worship that Anglicans have been celebrating for centuries. Our service is from The Book of Common Prayer. Children of all ages are welcome in our worship services today.

ST. FRANCIS IN THE FIELDS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HOLY EUCHARIST ~ RITE I

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday, December 22, 2024 ~ 11:15 a.m.

The people's responses are in bold.

✠ Indicates a place where the people make the sign of the Cross.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

VOLUNTARY "Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland"

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

Please stand as you are able.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 72 *Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes*

RICHMOND

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP p. 323

✠ Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins;
His mercy endureth for ever.

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

TRISAGION S-102

setting: after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924)

The choir and congregation sing together, repeating twice.

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

We beseech thee, Almighty God, to purify our consciences by thy daily visitation, that when thy Son our Lord cometh he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Micah 5:2-5a

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; 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE SONG OF MARY *Magnificat*

setting: *Evening Canticles in D*, George Dyson (1883–1964)

*My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.*

Sung by the choir

*For he hath regarded
the lowliness of his handmaiden.*

*For behold from henceforth
all generations shall call me blessed.*

*For he that is mighty hath magnified me,
and holy is his Name.*

*And his mercy is on them that fear him
throughout all generations.*

*He hath showed strength with his arm;
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.*

*He hath put down the mighty from their seat,
and hath exalted the humble and meek.*

*He hath filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he hath sent empty away.*

*He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel,
as he promised to our forefathers,*

Abraham and his seed for ever.

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;*

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen.*

Words: Luke 1:46-55

THE SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 10:5-10

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

At this time, all children are invited to Children’s Chapel.

Please stand as you are able.

SEQUENCE HYMN 268

Ye who claim the faith of Jesus

JULION

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-55

The People turn to face the Gospel Book during the Proclamation.

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

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Please be seated.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Clint Wilson

Please stand as you are able.

THE NICENE CREED

BCP p. 358

I believe in one God, **the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.**

And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church; I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, ✠ and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BCP p. 328

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Please kneel as you are able.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants ✠ departed this life in thy faith and fear, *especially Molly Sutherland*, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

Almighty God, **Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, ✠ have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1:15*

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. *1 John 2:1-2*

Please stand as you are able.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And with thy spirit.

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

“Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. Therefore you must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

Matthew 24:44

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: “There is no rose”

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

*There is no rose of such virtue
As is the rose that bare Jesu;
Alleluia.*

*For in this rose contained was
Heaven and earth in little space;
Res miranda. (A wonderful thing)*

*By that rose we may well see
That He is God in persons three,
Pari forma. (Of the same form)*

*The angels sungen the shepherds to:
Gloria in excelsis Deo:
Gaudeamus. (Let us rejoice)*

*Now leave we all this worldly mirth
And follow we this joyful birth;
Transeamus. (Let us go)*

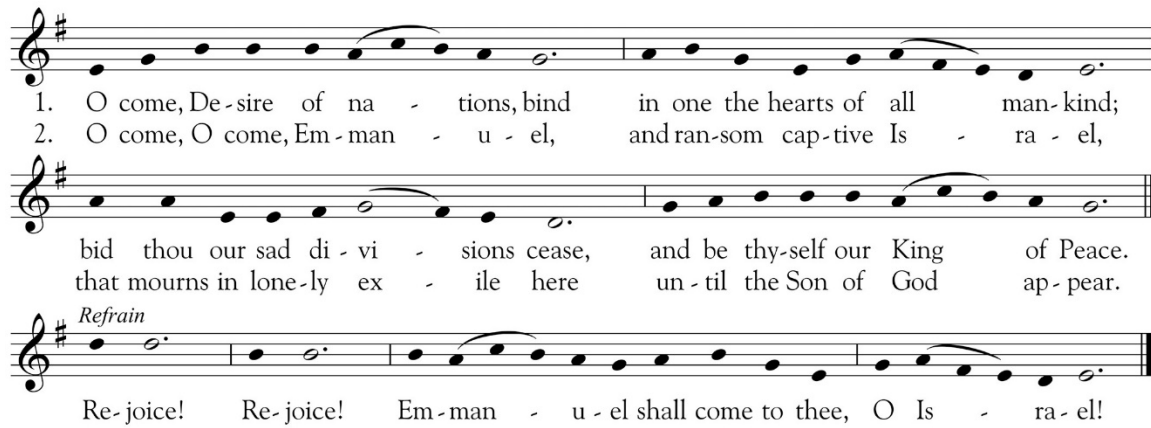
Words: Anonymous, c. 1420

The people stand as representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings to the altar.

PRESENTATION HYMN

O come, O come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL



1. O come, De-sire of na-tions, bind in one the hearts of all man-kind;
2. O come, O come, Em-man-u-el, and ran-som cap-tive Is-ra-el,
bid thou our sad di-vi-sions cease, and be thy-self our King of Peace.
that mourns in lone-ly ex-ile here un-til the Son of God ap-pear.

Refrain
Re-joyce! Re-joyce! Em-man-u-el shall come to thee, O Is-ra-el!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer I, BCP p. 333

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.


It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, because thou didst send thy 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 with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS S-117

setting: James McGregor (b. 1930), after Hans Leo Hassler (1564–1612)



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and
earth are full of thy glo-ry. Glo-ry be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Bless-ed is he that com-eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Please kneel as you are able.

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or 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

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly ✠ benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

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

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.

AGNUS DEI

setting: J. McGregor, after Hassler

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

O Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy up-on us, have mer-cy up-on us. O Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy up-on us, have mer-cy up-on us. O Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sins of the world, grant us thy peace, grant us thy peace.

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All baptized persons are invited to receive Holy Communion. Please come forward to the altar rail at the appropriate time. If you are not baptized or do not wish to receive communion, you are invited to come forward for a blessing; you may indicate you are not receiving communion by crossing your arms across your chest. Those desiring baptism are encouraged to speak to one of our priests. During the administration of communion, the people may be seated. For those who wish to have a gluten free wafer, please close your hand and alert the priest when you are at the altar.

Those who would like to receive healing prayer are invited to the Chapel after receiving communion. You may enter the Chapel (through the door to the left as you face the altar), and a trained healing prayer minister will pray for you.

COMMUNION ANTHEM: "A Hymn to the Virgin"

Benjamin Britten (1913–1976)

*Of one that is so fair and bright
Velut maris stella, (like a star of the sea)
Brighter than the day is light,
Parens et puella: (mother and maiden)
I cry to thee, thou see to me,
Lady, pray thy Son for me
Tam pia, (such a virtuous one)
That I may come to thee.
Maria! (Mary)*

*All this world was forlorn
Eva peccatrice, (through Eve, the sinner)
Till our Lord was y-born
De te genetrice. (of thee, the mother)
With ave it went away
Darkest night, and comes the day
Salutis (of salvation)
The well springeth out of thee.
Virtutis. (of virtue)*

*Lady, flow'r of ev'rything,
Rosa sine spina, (rose without thorn)
Thou bare Jesu, Heaven's King,
Gratia divina: (by divine grace)
Of all thou bear'st the prize,
Lady, queen of paradise
Electa: (chosen one)
Maid mild, mother es Effecta.
Effecta. (you are made)*

Words: Carol Christopher Drake (b. 1933), alt.

COMMUNION HYMN 55

Redeemer of the nations, come

VENI REDEMPTOR GENTIUM

Please kneel as you are able.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP p. 339

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE 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 constant 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.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 54

Savior of the nations, come

NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

Toccata on “Savior of the nations, come”

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

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