

HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH

December 22nd, 2024

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Processional Hymn #101 - Hail To the Lord's Anointed

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Cantor All

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.

Cantor All

Chris - te e - lei - son, Chris - te e lei - son.

Cantor All

Ky - ri - e e lei - son, Ky - ri - e e lei - son.

Collect of the Day:

Heavenly Father, who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour, now fill us with your grace, that we in all things may embrace your will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Children's Focus/Candle Lighting: Love's Pure Light, Music by Pietro Yon, Words and Arranged by Joel Raney

O come, O come, Em - man - u -
el, and end this gloom of night. Bring
hope to the world, bring peace to the
earth, and fill us with love's pure light.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Love's Pure Light". It consists of four staves of music in G major, 3/4 time. The melody is simple and suitable for children's voices. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Responsive Litany

During Advent we see God's love for us embodied in our Saviour's birth.

All: Christ is our light and the source of everlasting love.

Advent calls us to love others with patience and kindness.

All: Christ is our light and the source of everlasting love.

Advent calls us to be slow to anger and quick to forgive.

All: Christ is our light and the source of everlasting love.

Advent reminds us that Christ commanded us to love as he loved.

All: Christ is our light and the source of everlasting love.

Candle Lighting

This morning we light four candles: the candles of hope, peace, joy, and today's candle - love. This candle reminds us that God so loved the world that God sent the only son, so that whoever believes in him should not perish but have life everlasting. Today we celebrate God's gift of love and remember that we have been commanded to love others as God loves us.

All sing: "O Come, O come, Emmanuel..." (as above)

Closing Prayer

Gracious God, as we continue our Advent journey, we are reminded that "Love came down at Christmas - love amazing, love divine." You loved the world enough to send the only Son, and now it's up to us to love others as you loved us. Remind us that Christ is our light, and the true source of infinite, everlasting, pure love. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

A reading from 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.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle - # 362 Tell Out My Soul

A reading from 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.

All: **Thanks be to God**

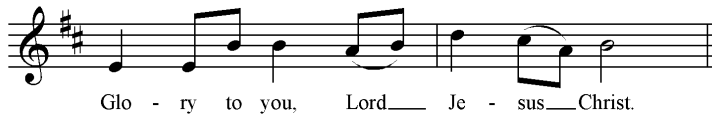
Gospel Acclamation:



The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke **1:39-55**



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 Christ



Gospel Acclamation:



Sermon: The Rev. Rob Key

The Apostles Creed:

Let us confess our faith, as we say,
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the

Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Lord in your mercy...

All: Hear our prayer.

Confession and Absolution

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore, in the light of Christ let us confess our sins. Most merciful God,

All: 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 neighbours 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.

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon you and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

May the God of peace make you completely holy, ready for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn # 269 Heavenly Message

Prayer over the Gifts: Gracious God, by the power of the Spirit who sanctified the mother of your Son, make holy all we offer you this day. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer 3

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

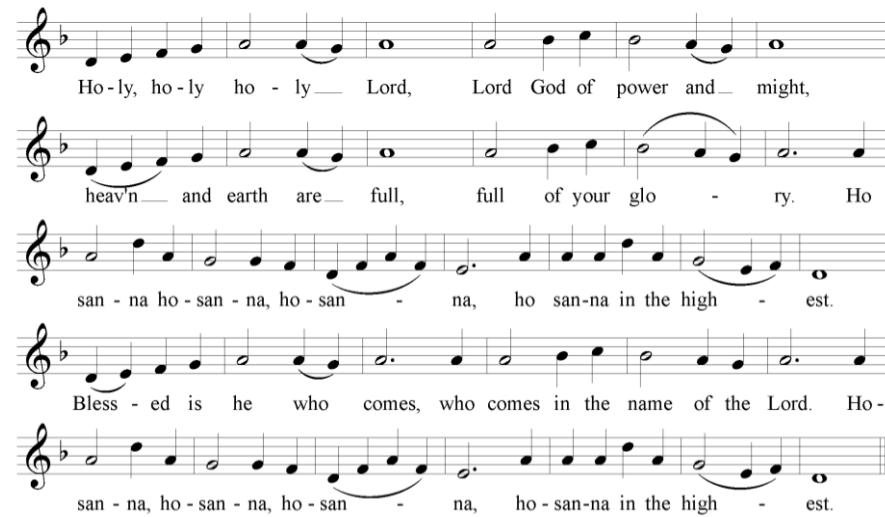
Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our Creator.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eternal God, Source of all being, we give you thanks and praise for your faithful love. You call us into friendship with you and one another to be your holy people, a sign of your presence in the world. When those we trust betray us, unfailingly you remain with us. When we injure others, you confront us in your love and call us to the paths of righteousness. You stand with the weak, and those, broken and alone, whom you have always welcomed home, making the first last, and the last first. Therefore we raise our voices with angels and archangels, forever praising you and singing:



Ho-ly, ho-ly ho - ly Lord, Lord God of power and might,
heav'n and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho
san - na ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho san-na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes, who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed are you, O Holy One: when Hagar was driven into the wilderness you followed her and gave her hope. When Joseph was sold into bondage, you turned malice to your people's good. When you called Israel out of slavery, you brought them through the wilderness into the promised land. When your people were taken into exile you wept with them by the river of Babylon and carried them home.

All: Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

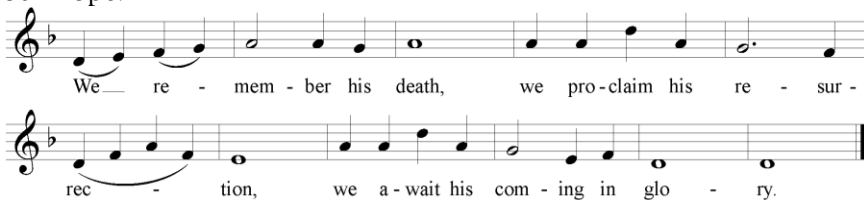
At the right time you sent your Anointed One to stand with the poor, the outcast, and the oppressed. Jesus touched lepers, and the sick, and healed them.

He accepted water from a woman of Samaria and offered her the water of new life. Christ knew the desolation of the cross and opened the way for all humanity into the redemption of your reconciling love.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, gave it to them, and said, "Take and 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."

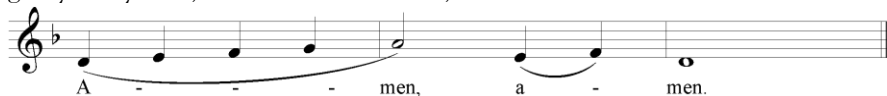
Loving and Holy One, recalling Christ's death and resurrection, we offer you these gifts, longing for the bread of tomorrow and the wine of the age to come. Therefore we proclaim our hope.



Pour out your Spirit on these gifts that through them you may sustain us in our hunger for your peace. We hold before you all whose lives are marked by suffering, our sisters and brothers. When we are broken and cast aside, embrace us in your love.

All: Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O Source of all life, now and for ever.



The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:





pow'r and the glor - ry are — yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

The Breaking of Bread

God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

All: **Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.**

The Communion

The gifts of God for the People of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

The table is set, all are welcome. Our bread is gluten free for all to share in the one bread, one body.

Fraction Anthem



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on us;



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on us;



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, Grant us peace.

Communion Hymn: #117 Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming

Anthem: Gabriel's Message – Gail Lund

Prayer after Communion:

Faithful God, in this sacrament we receive the promise of salvation. May we, like the Virgin Mary, be obedient to your will. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

The Doxology:

Glory to God,

All: whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen

The Blessing

Be people of love. Let love live in your heart and share the love of Christ with all you meet. Share love by loving those you see regularly. Start by loving your community. Share love by loving those you do not know. Share love by praying for our world. In this Advent season, we need to see, feel, and share love. As you go out into the wonder of God's creations, share love, joy, peace, and hope with those you meet - with the blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit, may it live within you today and forever - Amen.

Recessional Hymn #114 Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

Dismissal:

Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Thanks be to God**