

**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
18 December 2016 at 10:30 a.m.  
**THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II**

**THE PEOPLE GATHER**

*This service is based on the Order for Holy Eucharist: Rite II found in the red Book of Common Prayer. Hymns and service music are found in the blue Hymnal 1982 and in the red and black Lift Every Voice and Sing.*

**THE WORD OF GOD**

*The people stand to sing*

**HYMN H-269** Ye who claim the faith of Jesus *Den des Vaters Sinn geboren*

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

**HYMN H-56** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (verses 7 & 8)

**ACCLAMATION**

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
People *And blessed be his kingdom now and forever. Amen.*

*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.*

**LORD HAVE MERCY** *Kyrie* S96

**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 people sit for*

**THE LESSONS**

**The First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16**

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test." Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the

good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

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

**The Psalm: Psalm 80: 1-7, 16-18**

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

*In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.*

Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved,

*Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?*

You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

*You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.*

Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

*Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.*

And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

*Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.*

**The Epistle: Romans 1:1-7**

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

*The people stand for the singing of the Sequence Hymn and the reading of the Gospel. Verses 1 & 2 are sung before the readings and verses 3 & 4 are sung after.*

**HYMN H-66** Come, thou long expected Jesus *Stuttgart*

**The Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25**

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, According to Matthew.  
People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will

save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

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

**THE SERMON**

The Rev. Stephen Secaur

*The people stand to say*

**THE NICENE CREED**

*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.*

*The people are led in*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, FORM III**

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;  
*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons, for Michael our Presiding Bishop; for Mark our bishop; for Steve and Caroline our priests, and for all the clergy and people.

*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest: ...

*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others....

*The celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

*The people kneel for*

**CONFESSION OF SIN**

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

*Celebrant 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 Celebrant pronounces absolution*

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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
People *And also with you.*  
*All greet one another in the name of Christ.*

## PRAYERS OF SPECIAL INTENTION

*The people may come forward to receive a special prayer or blessing*

## PLACING OF CHRISMONS

The Children

*The people are seated for the*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Children’s Sermon

## ALTAR PREPARATION

*The congregation is invited to join in singing*

**HYMN L-11** Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord *James E. Moore, Jr.*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### OFFERTORY

*The people stand to sing*

**At the Presentation:** The Doxology (Hymn 380, verse 3) Old 100<sup>th</sup>

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:** Eucharistic Prayer B S120

Celebrant The Lord 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 our thanks and praise.*

*Celebrant*

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:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord** Sanctus S125

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,

*Celebrant and People*

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

*The Celebrant 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 the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Joseph her spouse, Blessed Bartholomew 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.*

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

*Celebrant and people*

*Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.*

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

**Fraction Anthem** Jesus, Lamb of God S164

Celebrant 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.

## THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*All baptized people—whether Episcopalian or not—are welcome to join in the sacrament of Holy Communion. Children of all ages are included in this invitation. If you wish to receive a healing blessing from the Celebrant, when you come to the rail for Communion, fold your hands in prayer.*

**COMMUNION H-304** I come with joy to meet my Lord *Land of Rest*

## THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

*Celebrant and people*

*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

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.*

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

*The people stand to sing*

**HYMN L-13** My Lord, what a morning

## THE DISMISSAL

*The Celebrant dismisses the people, and the people respond  
People Thanks be to God.*

## Saint Bartholomew EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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