

Grace Episcopal Church
December 22, 2024: The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Grace's Mission

We are disciples of Jesus, helping one another be the hands and feet of Christ
by sharing God's love with the world.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Love)

Look now, see what the Lord is doing! A young woman conceives and bears a son. He is called Immanuel: God with us.

The first candle was the candle of hope. The second candle was the candle of peace. The third candle was the candle of joy. This is the candle of love. It reminds us that God loves the world so much that Jesus was sent to be its Savior.

(four candles are lit)

Let us pray.

Loving God, in Jesus we have seen how much you love us. In him we see all that we can become. You are always with us, to guide and strengthen and lead us. Help us to live our lives with confidence, as we seek to do your will. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Proclamation:

Rejoice! Rejoice, believers

Hymnal (blue) #68

Holy Eucharist Rite Two

BCP (red) p 355

Kyrie Eleison

Musical score for Kyrie Eleison. The score is written for two staves. The top staff is in G major, 6/4 time, and the bottom staff is in G major, 5/4 time. The lyrics are: Kyr-i-e, e-lé-i-son, Chris-te, e-lé-i-son, Kyr-i-e, e-lé-i-son, Kyr-i-e, Chris-te.

The Collect

BCP p 211

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 Lessons

BCP 357

A Reading from the Book of 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.

Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 15 Page 91, BCP The Song of Mary *Magnificat*

Luke 1:46-55

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.*

A reading from the 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.

Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

Hymnal #76(vs.1, 4&5)

The Holy Gospel according to Luke 1:39-45(46-55)

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."]

The Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

Fr. J. Jeffrey Baker

The Nicene Creed

BCP p 358

Prayers of the People

Form III

BCP p 387

A Prayer for Change: Lord, give us the courage to view the future with hope and expectancy and, most of all, with faith. In the face of change, help us set aside our fears, and urge us to seek and see your hand at work, while opening our hearts to recognize that change brings new life. *Amen.*

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. Especially we pray for Aaron Lephart, Valerie Lephart, Margaret, Gerald and Nancy Brothers, Karl Kramp, Ray, Beth, Belle, Cheri L., Bill, Janet, Chris, Matthew and Janice, Jeanne K., Dorothy Ferguson, Pat & Ray Newyear, Sheila S., Deb B., Carolyn Stacks, George & Sandra Luther, Chuck Yaichner, Chris Junda, Tim Mackey, John and Joyce Hoste, Bev & Ken Schutt, Susan S., Mark S., Mary, Tara T., Teddy Trump, Frank Burkacki, Lucille P., Kathy Hill, Julie M., Caroline H., Jeanne Schupp, Debra Z., Shirley Wilkes, Jennifer M., Clint N., Kevin Fries, Susan Shepard-Krysiak, Dick Dearborn, Jamie, Jodi, Jess, Patty and Mike. Joe, Amelia Nash, Karen, Sarah, and Margaret G., Drake, Willow, Luke B., Bill Lang, Cathy Waller, Bob, Katana E., Jeannine Wendorff, Fred B., Geri, Sue, Paul, Mike and Riley Gumto.

We celebrate the birthdays of Carol Burke, Meredith Velez, Dorothy Ferguson and the flowers are given by Phil and Bobbin Davis in celebration of December family birthdays.

The Confession

BCP p 360

The Peace

Announcements

Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn

Grace Choir

The Doxology

Refrain

The King of glo - ry comes, the na - tion re - joic - es.
O - pen the gates be - fore him, lift up your voic - es.
Who is the King of glo - ry? What shall we call him?
Repeat refrain
He is Im - man - u - el, the prom - ised of a - ges.

Sanctus

Ho-ly, ho-ly,
 ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of
 might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry.
ff Ho-san-na in the high-est.
mf Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
ff Ho-san-na in the high-est, *fff rit.* ho-
motto rit. san-na in the high-est.

The Great Amen

All: f A-men, a-men, a-men!
ff A-men, a-men, a-men!

The Breaking of the Bread

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, grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn

O come, O come, Emmanuel

Hymnal #56(1-4)

The Post-Communion Prayer

BCP p 366

The Blessing

Closing Hymn

Soon and very soon

Praise Book #19

The Dismissal

BCP 366