

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Ushers :: Jerry Jacobson & Friend
Lectors :: Sandi Orbell & Kim Still
Acolytes :: Karen Fabiano

PRELUDE | **Toccata on Picardy** | *Gordon Young*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN | **#56 v.1-4**
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel | *Venni, Veni, Emmanuel*

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.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT | **MICAH 5:2-5a**

*Y*ou, 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 RESPONSE | **PSALM 80:1-7**

Qui regis Israel

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

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

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

4 O Lord God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered

despite the prayers of your people?

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

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

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

THE EPISTLE | 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.

W 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.

GRADUAL HYMN | #66

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

| *Stuttgart*

THE GOSPEL | LUKE 1:39-55

*I*n 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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon Dear People of God, Advent is a season of waiting and expectancy, of light, of promise, of love and hope. In our darkest time of the year, seasonally, and in the most painful part of the year for some of us, let us join our hearts and prayers together, holding tightly to each other, to our faith, and to our God as we pray,

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For this world, Lord, that you have given us in so much love. For Mother Earth with her mountains and rivers, her oceans, her animals, her abundance of plants and rocks, and her people. For all the peoples of this world of so many voices, so many strengths and so many weaknesses. For the love and hope that are embodied in this very planet. May we take excellent care, acting always in love. Hear our prayer for this Earth.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For this church, Lord. For her ministers and leaders, for her people of great faith and little faith and no faith, for all the love and hope that is embodied in the great cathedrals and the little chapels in the woods. For those who enter with singing and for those who never enter. For your church, Lord, and for all the love and hope that it can bring in its reach to the world. Hear our Prayer for the church.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the leaders of this world, for those who lead big countries and little towns, for those who speak loudly and those who speak softly, for those leaders who lead by push and pull, and for those who guide carefully, we pray for an extra measure of love and hope for them. May their efforts be for good, may their words be honest and wise, and may their leadership reflect the example of Jesus, our servant leader. Hear our prayer for the leaders.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those around us and those far from us who stand in need of love and hope and health and abundance. For the ill, the destitute, the prisoner, for the new born and the nearly dead, for the young and the elders, for all those who utterly lack hope, for those who have none to love or who are loved by no one, we pray today. Open our eyes and our hearts that we may bring your love to every single soul on this planet. Hear our prayer for your people.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For whom else shall we pray today? I invite your intercessions and thanksgivings. Hear our prayer for those in our hearts.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those who have gone before us. For those who were strong in their faith and for those whose faith was known only to You, may they rest in your Presence and live life eternal. For those of us left without them, may we fill their places with a sense of peace and healing. May we rest in your love for us and for them. Hear our prayer for those who have died.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant Hasten, O Father, the coming of *thy* kingdom; and grant that we *thy* servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold *thy* Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

OFFERTORY HYMN | #S185
My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord

| *Plainsong*

RECESSIONAL HYMN | #54 v.1,2,4
Savior of the Nations, Come!

| *Nun Komm der...Heiland*

POSTLUDE | Noel

| *Louis C. Daquin*

Parish Events | See our newsletter, Tune-Up, for details

Online				In Person			
Dec. 18	10:30	Sunday School	Zoom	Dec. 18	17:30	Eucharist, Rt. II	Sanctuary
	10:30	Eucharist, Rt. II	YouTube		13:30	Cont. Prayer	Sanctuary
Dec. 19	19:00	Blue Christmas	Zoom	Dec. 19	8:00	Eucharist, Rt. I	Sanctuary
Dec. 21	19:00	Bible Study	Zoom		9:15	Bible Study	Yellow Rm.
Dec. 22	19:00	Episcopal 101	Zoom		10:30	Eucharist, Rt. II	Sanctuary
Dec. 24	8:30	Silent Prayer	Zoom		15:00	Ed. for Ministry	Yurt
					19:00	Blue Christmas	Sanctuary
				Dec. 22	13:00	HSK Packing	Yurt
					19:00	Episcopal 101	Yellow Rm.