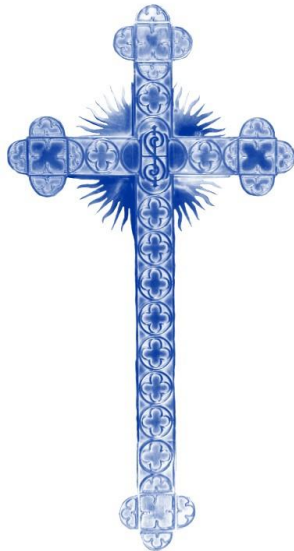


CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

December 22, 2024 ✕ 10:30 am



The Word of God

Voluntary

Advent Wreath Candle Lighting

Reader: O God, we light the fourth candle of Advent.

Reader: We hear your angel Gabriel and we witness the faith of Mary. Fill us with your grace and light. Mary was a young, strong, spiritual woman. Even though her life was not easy, she heard God's voice and said yes. Her song was a prayer that would uplift those who were downtrodden. Her lyrics shattered the proud and called the world to change. She would bear within her the promised child, Jesus, the Light of the World. This Advent, we respond to God's beckoning to us as well.

People: Revealing God, visit us and fill us with your Spirit. Bring your good news to life within us. Give us courage to carry your light into the injustices and shadows of this world. Amen.

Hymn # 267

Praise we the Lord this day

St. George

Opening Acclamation

BCP, p. 355

S-96*

Lord, have mercy (*Kyrie*)

Richard Proulx

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 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 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.

Hymn # 438 (vv.1-3) Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord

Woodlands

The Gospel

Luke 2:8-20

Clergy: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Reader 1:

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Hymn

O little town of Bethlehem

St. Louis

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

Reader 2:

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,
“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

Hymn

Hark! the herald angels sing

Mendelssohn

Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem!

Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel! (*Refrain*)

Reader 3:

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

Hymn

Hark! the herald angels sing (v.3)

Mendelssohn

Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
 Risen with healing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,
 hail, the Sun of Righteousness! hail, the heaven born Prince of Peace!

Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!

Anthem

Away in a manger
 Cherub Choir & Alleluia Singers

Cradle Hymn

*(Cherub Choir and Alleluia Singers sing stanza 1; Congregation joins for
 stanzas 2 & 3)*

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
 The little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head;
 The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
 The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
 But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
 I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
 And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
 Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
 Bless all the dear children in your tender care
 And fit us for heaven to live you there.

Reader 3:

When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Clergy: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Hymn

Go tell it on the mountain

Go tell it on the mountain

Go tell it on the mountain,
 over the hills and everywhere;

go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, through-out the heavens there shone a holy light. (*Refrain*)

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! Above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. (*Refrain*)

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. (*Refrain*)

Homily The Rev. Webster Gibson
The Prayers of the People (*Congregation response: Lord, have mercy.*)
The Peace p. 360

The Holy Communion

The Offertory
Choir Anthem O come, O come, Emmanuel Melody: 15th-cent. French
adap. and arr. Paul Ledington Wright
The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer A) p. 361
S-124* Holy, holy, holy Lord (*Sanctus*) David Hurd
The Lord's Prayer p. 364
S-157* Fraction Anthem: Lamb of God David Hurd
The Invitation p. 364
The Communion of the People

All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Baptized Christians are invited to receive bread and wine; all others are encouraged to come forward for a blessing.

Kneel or stand as able.

Following the direction of the ushers, please come to the rail with pulpit side (right) filling rail from right to center, and lectern side (left) filling rail from center to left. If you need communion brought to you, please alert an usher.

As the clergy distributes the bread, hold both hands out and up.

To receive the wine:

- *To sip from the chalice: Gently take the base of the chalice and guide the chalice to your mouth. Do not grab the main part of the chalice.*

- *To intinct: Hold your wafer up to indicate intinction to the chalice. The chalice will take the wafer from you, dip the edge into the wine and return it to your hand.*

Those who wish to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest.

During Communion

Hymn # 60

Creator of the stars of night

Conditor alme siderum

Post Communion Prayer

p. 366

The Blessing

Hymn # 66

Come, thou long expected Jesus

Stuttgart

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

Voluntary

* “S” Hymns are found in the front section of the hymnal.

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SERVING TODAY

Celebrant & Preacher – The Rev. Webster Gibson

Lay Readers – James Baden, Marty Tabaka

Prayers of the People – Arthur Sperry

Lay Eucharistic Ministers – Clare Dame, Stacy Talbott

Ushers – Ron Bellows, Greg Jacobsen, Marty Tabaka, Sylvia Petrie

Acolytes – Maria Nelson, Jazmine Pellet

Altar Guild – Liz Couture, Ann Elwood

Livestreaming Team – Phil Sargent, Jody Wall

Leadership of Christ Church

Church Staff

The Rev. Webster S. Gibson, *Rector (Ext. 1)*

Jean Lin, *Music Director/Organist*

Margery Wingenbach, *Christian Education (Ext. 7)*

Noelle Creamer, *Communications (Ext. 4)*

Theresa Seitz, *Bookkeeper (Ext. 5)*

Steven “Tuffy” Whitacre, *Sexton*

DeLyn Celec, *Director of Alleluia Singers*

Marsha Baden, *Director, Cherub Choir*

Parish Nurse Team: **Helen Zebarth, Rosalie Lewis,**

Susan Francis *(Ext. 3)*

Members of the Vestry

Senior Warden: Bill Major

Junior Warden: Philip Sargent

Treasurer: Bob Puttock

Register: Stacy Talbott

2025 –Mary Margaret Applin,
Bill Major, Pat Shaner, Joe Wingenbach

2026 –Linda Miles, Philip Sargent,
Stacy Talbott, Dan Gloster

2027 – Ron Bellows, Barbara Downs,
Leslie Harper, Betsy Young

Trustees: Dixon Whitworth,
Robert Mitchell, Pem Hutchinson



CHRIST EPISCOPAL
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