



Apostles

Anglican Church

Advent 4

December 22, 2024

8:30am

Liturgy for the Traditional Service
The Anglican Church of North America

THE PRELUDE *Meditations on "What Child is This?" - R. Lau and S. Drummond Wolff,*
Gwen Frazier Organ

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE BELL *(congregation standing)*


HYMN: My Soul Gives Glory to My God



1. My soul gives glo - ry to my God. My
2. My God has done great things for me: yes,
3. From age to age, to all who fear, such
4. Love casts the might - y from their thrones, pro -
5. Praise God, Whose lov - ing cov - e - nant sup -



heart pours out its praise. God lift - ed up my
ho - ly is His name. All peo - ple will de -
mer - cy love im - parts, dis - pens - ing jus - tice
motes the in - se - cure, leaves hun - gry spir - its
ports those in dis - tress, re - mem - ber - ing past



low - li - ness in man - y mar - ve - lous ways.
clare me blessed, and bless - ings they shall claim.
far and near, dis - miss - ing self - ish hearts.
sat - is - fied, the rich seem sud - den - ly poor.
prom - is - es with pres - ent faith - ful - ness.

THE ACCLAMATION

Minister: Prepare the way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

People: *And all people shall see the salvation of God.*

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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**

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:; You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

KYRIE



Lord, have mercy up-on us. Christ have mercy up-on us. Lord have mercy up-on us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: *And with your spirit.*

Minister: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and as we are sorely hindered by our sins from running the race that is set before us, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS *(congregation seated)*

Micah 5:2-5a

But 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 labour 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *The Word of the Lord.*

Hebrews 10: 1-10

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, you that lead Joseph like a sheep; *
show yourself also, you that sit upon the cherubim.
- 2 Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us again, O God; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be whole.
- 4 O LORD God of hosts, *
how long will you be angry with your people that pray?
- 5 You feed them with the bread of tears *
and give them plenteous tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us again, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be whole.

All: *Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.*

Hebrews 10: 1-10

Since the law has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered year after year, make perfect those who approach. Otherwise, would they not have ceased being offered, since the worshippers, cleansed once for all, would no longer have any consciousness of sin? But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sin year after year. For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel (congregation standing)

Minister: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Luke 1:39-56

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 leapt 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

leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

And Mary said,

'My soul magnifies the Lord,

and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,

for he has looked with favour 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 for ever.'

And Mary remained with her for about three months and then returned to her home.

Minister: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*congregation standing*)

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

*He was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.*

*He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.*

He will come again 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 *(congregation standing or kneeling)*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Almighty and everliving God, we are taught by your holy Word to offer prayers and supplications and to give thanks for all people. We humbly ask you mercifully to receive our prayers. Inspire continually the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all who confess your holy Name may agree in the truth of your holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

We pray that you will lead the nations of the world in the way of righteousness; and so guide and direct their leaders, especially Joe, our President, Andy, our Governor, Linda, our Mayor, that your people may enjoy the blessings of freedom and peace. Grant that our leaders may impartially administer justice, uphold integrity and truth, restrain wickedness and vice, and protect true religion and virtue.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Give grace, heavenly Father, to all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, and especially to your servants Steveour Archbishop, Mark, our Bishop, and all our clergy, that by their life and teaching, they may proclaim your true and life-giving Word, and rightly and duly administer your holy Sacraments. And to all your people give your heavenly grace, especially to this Congregation, that with reverent and obedient hearts we may hear and receive your holy Word, and serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of our lives.

Father, we ask that you continue to bless our search process for a new rector. Raise up for us, we pray, a priest and pastor who will boldly proclaim your Gospel, faithfully administer your sacraments, and serve your people with love and compassion, that we may be a home for spiritual orphans and seekers.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Prosper, we pray, all those who proclaim the Gospel of your kingdom throughout the world, and strengthen us to fulfill your great commission, making disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to obey all that you have commanded.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

We ask you in your goodness, O Lord, to comfort and sustain all who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

We remember before you all your servants who have departed this life in your faith and fear, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we ask you to give us grace to follow the good examples of all your saints, that we may share with them in your heavenly kingdom.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SIN

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.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE *(congregation standing)*

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with your spirit.

THE OFFERTORY

Minister: Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as Head above all.

All things come from you, O Lord,

1 Chronicles 29:11,14

People: And of your own have we given you.

The Doxology *(congregation standing)*

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.***

THE SURSUM CORDA *(congregation standing)*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, our duty and our joy, 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 glory 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Ho -



THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION (*congregation kneeling*)

All praise and glory is yours, O God our heavenly Father, for in your tender mercy, you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption. He made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and he instituted, and in his Holy Gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

So now, O merciful Father, in your great goodness, we ask you to bless and sanctify, with your Word and Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine, that we, receiving them according to your Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

For on the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

Therefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of your dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we your humble servants celebrate and make here before your divine Majesty, with these holy gifts, the memorial your Son commanded us to make; remembering his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and his promise to come again.

And we earnestly desire your fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; asking you to grant that, by the merits and death of your Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his Blood, we and your whole Church may obtain forgiveness of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present to you, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice. We humbly pray that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, be filled with your grace and heavenly benediction, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, because of our many sins, to offer you any sacrifice, yet we ask you to accept this duty and service we owe, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy Name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those

who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

THE FRACTION

This is Jesus, Emmanuel.

God is with us in this sacrament.

Come receive Him, adore Him.

This is Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

*We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your abundant and great mercies.*

*Apart you grace we are not worthy so much as to gather up
the crumbs under your table;
but you are the same Lord
whose character is always to have mercy.*

*Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.*

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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.

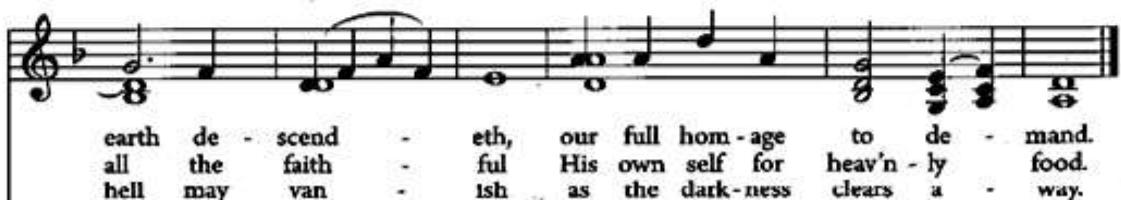
COMMUNION HYMN: Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence



1. Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and
2. King of kings, yet born of Ma - ry, as of old on
3. Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard

trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,
earth He stood, Lord of lords, in hu - man ves - ture,
on the way, as the Light of light de - scend - eth

for with bless - ing in His hand, Christ our God to
in the bod - y and the blood; He will give to
from the realms of end - less day, that the pow'rs of



THE PRAYER OF CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

Almighty and everliving God,

we thank you for feeding us, in these holy mysteries,

*with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;*

and for assuring us, through this Sacrament, of your favor and goodness towards us:

*that we are true members of the mystical body of your Son,
the blessed company of all faithful people;*

*and are also heirs, through hope,
of your everlasting kingdom.*

And we humbly ask you, heavenly Father,

*to assist us with your grace,
that we may continue in that holy fellowship,*

*and do all the good works that you have prepared for us to walk in;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,*

*to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.*

THE BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE RECESSIONAL (*congregation standing*)

HYMN: What Child is This? (*next page*)

HYMN What Child is This?



1. What Child is this Who, laid to rest on Ma-ry's lap is sleep - ing?
2. Why lies He in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3. So bring Him in - cense, gold and myrrh, come, peas-ant, king, to own Him;



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet, while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris-tians, fear, for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
the King of kings sal - va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne Him.

Refrain



This, this is Christ the King, Whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;



haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the son of Ma - ry.

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

People: *Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

THE POSTLUDE *Postlude on "Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending" - Robert Powell,
Gwen Frazier, Organ*