



Holy Eucharist ~ Sunday, December 18, 2022

## *The Fourth Sunday of Advent*

**St. Luke's Episcopal Church**

North Main at Fourth Street, Jamestown, New York

**The Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe, Bishop**

The Rev. Luke Fodor, Rector; The Rev. Deacon Cathy Smith;

Mr. Paul Johnson, Verger; Canon Ron McEntire, Minister of Music;

The Rev. Deacon Jessica Frederick, Curate for Children, Youth & Family Ministry

www.stlukesjamestown.org ~ email: [stlukes@stlukesjamestown.org](mailto:stlukes@stlukesjamestown.org)

*The mission is simple: to **Connect** all people, help them **Discover** God's love, empower them to **Serve** and watch them **Grow**."*

### WELCOME TO ST. LUKE'S

We welcome you this morning to St. Luke's Church and are delighted to have you join us for worship today. If you are **visiting** for the first time, or are looking for a church home, please fill in a **pew card** and place it in the offering plate.

At the time of Communion, all are invited to God's Table. In addition to the altar rail, at the 10 a.m. service a floor-level Communion station is made available, and includes gluten-free wafers and grape juice, please indicate your preference.

Available to children is a visit to the Children's Corner, or the use of a "Children's Activity Bag" found near the front of the church nave (ask an usher).

Join us downstairs for refreshments. All are welcome! Audio transmitters are available for those who have difficulty hearing the service; please ask an usher.

~ Copies of today's sermon are available at the doors. ~

**PRELUDE**

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

- arr. by Joseph Martin

### **LIGHTING AND BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

*Come, O Holy One, as the beloved child Emmanuel! Soften our hearts and open our arms for your daily arrival, that we may offer a place worthy and warm, kindly and safe, for all your children. We pray through Jesus Christ our incarnate Lord. **Amen.***

**OPENING HYMN # 475, God himself is with us**

- 1982 blue pew Hymnal

### **ADVENT ACCLAMATION**

*Celebrant:* Blessed are you, holy and living One.

*People:* **You come to your people and set them free.**

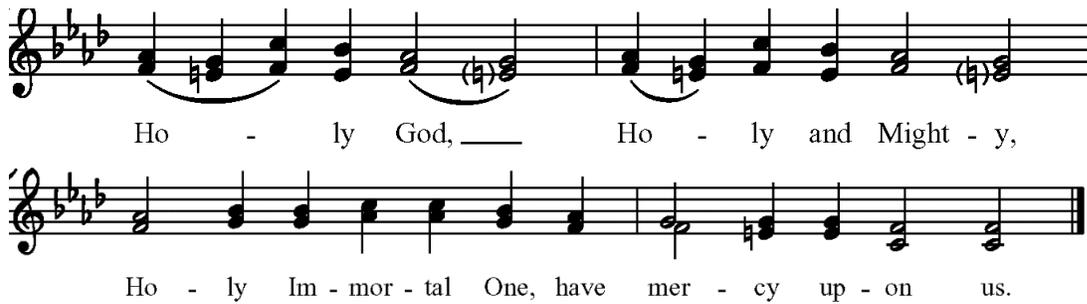
**COLLECT FOR PURITY**, *said by all*

**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.****

**TRISAGION** (3x)

*music next page, or see front pages of the Blue pew Hymnal, S-102*

**Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.**



**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY:** The Lord be with you. *Response: And also with you.*

*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 FIRST READING IS FROM THE PROPHET 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."

The Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18, please join in saying the Psalm in unison** - *The Saint Helena Psalter*

- 1 Hear, 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 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.**
- 16 Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, \*  
 the one you have made so strong for yourself.**
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you, \*  
 give us life, that we may call upon your Name.**

**18 Restore us, O God of hosts; \***

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

**THE SECOND READING IS FROM 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.

The Word of the LORD. ***Thanks be to God.***

## GOSPEL SEQUENCE

# Joseph Heard the Troubling News

TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM 7.6.7.6 D ("Gentle Mary Laid Her Child")

1. Jo - seph heard the troub-ling news: Ma - ry was ex - pect - ing!  
2. "Go take Ma - ry as your wife; Jo - seph, don't you fear it—  
3. God of love, we too must face times of doubt and trou - ble.

What should he, a just man, do? He sought God's di - rect - ing.  
God has formed a pre - cious life, by the Ho - ly Spir - it!  
May we know your dai - ly grace, ev - en when we strug - gle.

Jo - seph thought to send her home— leave her, with - out blam - ing;  
Ma - ry soon will bear a son; you shall name him Je - sus.  
Just as Jo - seph an - swered, "Yes!" with new de - di - ca - tion,

then an an - gel in a dream spoke of joy pro - claim - ing;  
When the pro - phet spoke of him, he said, 'God is with us!'  
we re - joice, for we've been blessed by your in - car - na - tion.

Biblical Text: Matthew 1:18-25

Tune: *Piae Cantones*, 1852. Arr. by Ernest C. MacMillian, 1930

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## THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 1:18-25

*Response before the Gospel: 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.

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

**SERMON**

*The Rector*

**NICENE CREED**, *said by all, standing as able*

**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.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. *Silence*

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

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. *Silence*

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

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. *Silence*

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

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We pray for the Episcopal Partnership churches of St. Peter's, Waterford, PA; St. Peter's, Westfield, NY; Calvary, Williamsville, NY; and The Anglican Church of Korea.

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

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation.

We pray for Jim Walton, Greg Fenn, Jeanne Green, Barbara Slumsky, Sharon Drennen, Beth Snow, Carol Yaggie; Sonja Stahlman; Mark Bender; Ron McEntire; Joe and Julienne; Jane; Edward; Tim Pickett; Tom Small; Bill Haberman; Matteo Dominick; Christi Carson and her family; Kirk and Deb Cardone; Donald Ruland; Pete Nagle; Joyce Crate; Mary Holton; Barbara Lissfelt; and those others we now name... *Silence*

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

Remembering *Richard Stahlman and Jim Hooven*, we commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

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

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

**CONFESSON OF SIN**, *said by all, kneeling as able*

**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.**

**ABSOLUTION**

**THE PEACE** *Let us exchange the Peace of Christ with one another!*

The peace of the Lord be always with you. *People* **And also with you.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**OFFERTORY HYMN # 82, *Of the Father's love begotten***

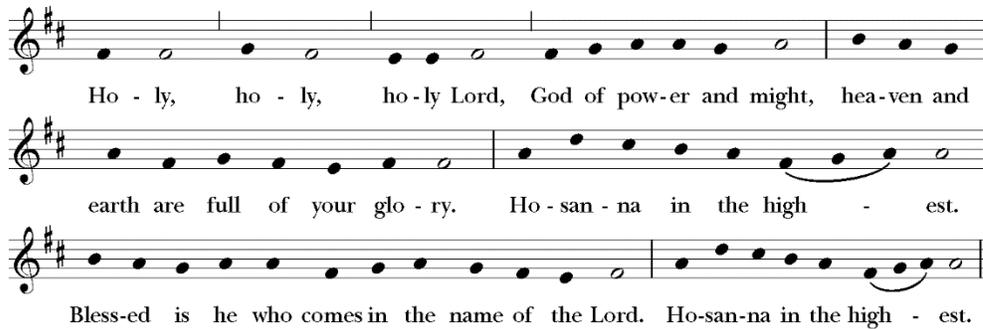
*- 1982 blue pew Hymnal*



## Hosanna in the highest.

All

join in singing the  
SANCTUS



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

*The Celebrant continues*

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;**

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 Saint Luke 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 pray,

**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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD** *Silent moment*

***Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.***

**THE COMMUNION**

*Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, all are invited to receive Communion.  
Gluten-free wafers, as well as grape juice, are available, please indicate your preference;  
the 10AM service, available at the floor communion station.*

*If you have difficulty coming forward, communion can be brought to you at your seat.*

*You are invited to light a candle for a person or concern in your prayers.*

*A candle station is located at the rear of the Chapel; and to the right of the sermon pulpit in the Church.*

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

**HYMN # 56, *O come, o come Emmanuel***

*- 1982 blue pew Hymnal*

***Emmanuel***

*# 81, Voices Found*

Jesus, name above all names, beautiful saviour, glorious Lord;  
Emmanuel-God is with us, blessed Redeemer, living word.

The image shows three staves of musical notation for the hymn 'O come, o come Emmanuel'. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody starts with a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B-flat4, and a quarter note C5. The lyrics 'Je - sus, name a - bove all names, beau - ti - ful sav - iour, glo - rious' are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody with a half note D5, a quarter note E5, a quarter note F5, and a quarter note G5. The lyrics 'Lord; \_\_\_\_\_ Em - man - u - el - God \_\_\_\_\_ is' are written below. The third staff concludes the phrase with a quarter note A5, a quarter note B-flat5, a quarter note C6, and a quarter note B5. The lyrics 'with us, bless - ed Re - deem - er, liv - ing word.' are written below. Triplet markings (a '3' above a bracket) are placed over the notes G4-A4-B-flat4, D5-E5-F5, and A5-B-flat5-C6.

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER, *said by all***

**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.**

**BLESSING**

**SENDING HYMN # 497, *How bright appears the Morning Star***

*- 1982 blue pew Hymnal*

**DISMISSAL** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!  
*Response: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!***

**POSTLUDE** *Savior of the Nations, Come* - J. S. Bach

*The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of  
Robert Bergreen, father, by Lynn Bergreen.*