



Holy Eucharist ~ Saturday, December 18, 2021  
5:00 P.M. ~ *Remembering a Blue Christmas*

**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; Mr. 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**.*"

PRELUDE                      *Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming*                      Variations #1 - 4                      - Martha Sobaje

**Lighting the Advent Wreath and Prayer**

*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    *O come, O come, Emmanuel, vss. 1 - 2***

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!***

**O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.**                      *Refrain*

**OPENING ACCLAMATION**

One: For you, O God, our souls in silence wait.

**All: Truly our hope is in you.**

**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.**

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

*Let us pray:* God of abundant mercy, you have given us grace to pray with one heart and one voice, even though our hearts may be broken and our voices tremble with grief and sorrow. Comfort, comfort, Lord, your Holy people. Comfort those of us who sit in darkness, mourning 'neath our sorrow's load. Speak to us of the peace that awaits us, of the balm of healing for our weary and wounded souls. We ask all this, trusting in the promise you have made to hear the prayers of two or three who have gathered in the Name of your Holy Child, Jesus. **Amen.**

## **A Reading from 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 Word of the LORD. ***Thanks be to God.***

## ***O come, O come, Emmanuel, vss. 3 and 6***

**O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times didst give the law, in cloud, and majesty, and awe.**

***Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!***

**O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.**

*Refrain*

## **A Reading from *Psalm 23, remaining seated, said in unison***

**The Lord is my shepherd; \* I shall not want.**

**He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; \*  
he leadeth me beside the still waters.**

**He restoreth my soul; \* he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness  
for his Name's sake.**

**Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil; \***

**for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.**

**Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; \*  
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.**

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \*  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

## **THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, ACCORDING TO LUKE 1:39-55**

*Response before the Gospel: **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.***

**SERMON**

*The Rev. Luke Fodor, Rector*

***Iona Creed** , an Affirmation of faith, said by all, standing as able*

**We believe in God,  
Who conceived all that is created,  
God, who fathers and mothers all people.**  
**We believe in Jesus Christ God's firstborn and only Lord of the earth.**  
**He came from both heaven  
and the womb of the virgin Mary;  
he lived in solidarity with humankind,  
befriending, teaching,  
healing and restoring;  
he was denied and betrayed by his friends;  
and was done to death by the state.**  
**He descended to the place of oblivion,  
rose to life again on the third day,  
and ascended to heaven  
where he sits at God's right hand.**  
**This same Jesus will come again in glory  
to judge the living and dead.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 whose dynamic presence can make all things new.  
 And we believe in the holy catholic church,  
 the communion of saints,  
 the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body  
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*CANDLE LIGHTING LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE*

Reader: God who is with us, in this season of looking forward, of anticipating the celebration of your Son's birth and return in glory, we often find ourselves uncomfortable, uneasy, worried and sad. The lights and gaiety, the music, the bright joy around us, often make us more unquiet, more out of step, feeling even more disconnected and different.

*Ubi caritas et a-mor*  
 (Live in charity and steadfast love)

*Ubi caritas Deus i-bi est*  
 (Live in charity God will dwell with you.)

U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,  
 Live in char - i - ty and stead - fast love,

The musical score is in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line has lyrics: "U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor, Live in char - i - ty and stead - fast love,". The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.

u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i <sup>3</sup> bi est.  
 live in char - i - ty; God will dwell with you.

The musical score continues in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line has lyrics: "u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i <sup>3</sup> bi est. live in char - i - ty; God will dwell with you." The piano accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines.

Setting: Jacques Berthier, from *Songs and Prayers from Taizé* © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.  
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Reader: Some of these feelings come from false expectations. Others come from real situations and issues that face us or those we love. Some are from events we may influence and some are beyond our control. Trusting in your grace and provision, we name these situations and face the pain and dislocation they cause us. We claim your promise to companion us in bearing them. We claim your steadfast love for us, knowing you will help us find peace for our troubled spirits. We claim your wise and merciful power, that you will meet each need as is best for us.

*Ubi caritas Deus i-bi est*  
 (Live in charity God will dwell with you.)

Reader: God of Light and Life, we light this candle for all those who are struggling with issues involving physical or mental health. We especially remember those struggling with cancer, depression, or thoughts of suicide. May its light remind us all of the healing available to us in Christ Jesus. Hear our prayers that anguish be minimized and your good plan fulfilled for each who suffer.

*Ubi caritas Deus i-bi est*

*(Live in charity God will dwell with you.)*

*Reader:* We light this candle for all those who are struggling with issues involving financial concerns, job loss, seemingly insurmountable debt. May its light remind us all that you are the Great Provider, you will give us our daily bread. Empower us to take the steps we need to solve these problems. Draw us to the right people and programs to help us.

*Ubi caritas Deus i-bi est*

*(Live in charity God will dwell with you.)*

*Reader:* We light this candle for all those who grieve. You know our deepest need, you understand our pain- lost dreams, lost opportunities, the separation of death. May its light remind us that we are not orphaned, we are not alone. Grant us grace that in pain we may find comfort, in sorrow hope, and in death resurrection.

*Ubi caritas Deus i-bi est*

*(Live in charity God will dwell with you.)*

*Reader:* We light this candle for all those who wrestle with the chains of addiction. Help us to name that which enslaves us and face it: food, alcohol, drugs, pornography, shopping, escapism, self medication, and self abuse in all its forms. May this candle bring your light to those secret, and not so secret, activities of imprisonment. Hear our prayers for deliverance and freedom; help us and those we love break the hold of these evils.

*Ubi caritas Deus i-bi est*

*(Live in charity God will dwell with you.)*

*Reader:* We light this candle for all those who are victims of violence in any of its forms. May its light lead us to peace, safety, and truth. Pour forth encouragement to claim your help in healing physically and spiritually, to trust in your justice, to find assistance, to resist blaming ourselves, to be confident in the future you have planned for us, a future full of hope.

*Ubi caritas Deus i-bi est*

*(Live in charity God will dwell with you.)*

*Reader:* We light this candle for all those who are experiencing the pain of broken relationships with family, children, spouses, and friends. May its light remind us of the pure communion you desire for all your creation. Our desire for this same communion makes estrangement so painful. Lead us to relinquish the hold broken relationships have on us, to forgive ourselves for our contribution to the breach, to forgive those who have hurt us, to take the steps to mend that relationship, if possible. Lord, we know that sometimes we suffer from a broken relationship with someone who is now dead. Help us to prayerfully examine, receive and extend forgiveness in that situation, that we may live again.

*Ubi caritas Deus i-bi est*

*(Live in charity God will dwell with you.)*

*Reader:* We light this candle for all those who are suffering the consequences of war, famine and unbridled disease. May its light remind us of your holy calling to every one who believes you are the light of the world. Change the hearts of all who resort to violence, who seek revenge. Protect those who find themselves far from home serving their nations or the needy. We know you are in the midst of those in anguish and pray that your healing presence will be seen, felt, and embraced. Reveal to us how to join in your saving work-

to make tangible gifts to alleviate suffering, to support those on the front lines of natural and manmade disasters, to pray unceasingly for peace in our families, our neighborhoods, our world.

*Ubi caritas Deus i-bi est*  
(Live in charity God will dwell with you.)

*Reader:* We light this candle for all those who are estranged from you, who are besieged with doubts, who are overwhelmed by the world and do not claim your presence in their lives. We pray for them, and therefore ourselves, for we confess that each of us knows this condition. Lord, may the light of your love lead us all home to you.

*Ubi caritas Deus i-bi est*  
(Live in charity God will dwell with you.)

We ask all these things in the strong name of Jesus. **Amen.**

**THE PEACE** *Let us exchange the Peace of Christ with one another!* *Please remain at your seat*  
The peace of the Lord be always with you. *Response* **And also with you.**

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

**OFFERTORY** *We Cannot Measure* - *Known/Unknown*

**We cannot measure how you heal or answer every sufferer's prayer;  
yet we believe your love responds when faith and doubt unite to care.  
Your hands, though bloodied on the cross, survive to hold and heal and warn,  
to carry all through death to life and cradle children yet unborn.**

**The pain that will not go away, the guilt that clings from things long past,  
the fear of what the future holds are present as if meant to last.  
But present too is love which tends the hurt we never hoped to find,  
The private agonies inside, the memories that haunt the mind.**

**So some have come who need your help, and some have come to make amends  
as hands, which shaped and saved the world, are present in the touch of friends.  
Lord, let your Spirit meet us here to mend the body, mind and soul,  
to disentangle peace from pain, and make your broken people whole.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:** *Eucharistic Prayer B*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, 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 triumph 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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

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 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 say,

**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, now and for 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 at the floor communion station; please indicate your preference.*

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

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

*The candle station is located to the right of the sermon pulpit.*

**MUSIC AT COMMUNION      *Love Came Down at Christmas***

**Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, love divine;  
love was born at Christmas: star and angels gave the sign.**

**Worship we the Godhead, love incarnate, love divine;  
worship we our Jesus, but wherewith for sacred sign?**

**Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine,  
love to God and neighbor, love for plea and gift and sign.**

**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**

**DISMISSAL      Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

*Response: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!***

**POSTLUDE              *Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming      Variation # 5                              - Martha Sobaje***

**LOVE in Advent**

The fourth Sunday of Advent is for LOVE. Four words summarize for us the four weeks of Advent: HOPE, PEACE, JOY, and LOVE. Advent is the beginning of the church's new year, so happy new year, and may you have a Christmas season filled with hope, peace, joy and love.

**Christmas Services,**

**Dec 24<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Eve - 4:00 pm Family Services with Children's Pageant**

**11:00 pm Festival Eucharist** where we celebrate the majesty and wonder in candle-light splendor.

On **Christmas day, December 25<sup>th</sup> at 10am** we unwrap the message of incarnation.

On Sunday the 26<sup>th</sup>, we'll have a special service of Christmas Lessons and Carols.

**During the COVID-19 Pandemic**, please be advised that we will be keeping the windows in the church open during the winter months to create air ventilation. We ask you to dress accordingly for your own comfort.