



The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2011

9:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Prelude "Comfort Ye" and "He Shall Feed His Flock" from *Messiah* G.F. Handel
Milan Shepherd, Tenor Marty Brady, Alto, Shirley Ratliff, Soprano

The Word of God

Entrance Hymn *Come, thou long-expected Jesus* **Hymnal 66**
Please stand.

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People ***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

The Celebrant continues
 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.***

Hymn of Praise *O come, O come, Emmanuel* **Hymnal 56**
(9:30 a.m., children may follow the cross to Godly Play.) *(Verses 1&6)*

The Collect of the Day

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

First Reading **2 Samuel 7:1-11,16**
Please be seated.

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you." But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep

The Peace

Please stand.

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

Welcome & Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

Celebrant Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

Anthem *The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came* arr. Alan Smith

Presentation Hymn *The King shall come when morning dawns* **Hymnal 73**
Please stand.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People ***And also with you.***
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People ***We lift them to the Lord.***
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People ***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

The Celebrant continues
 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:

Sanctus *Holy, holy, holy Lord* **Hymnal S 128**

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Please remain standing or kneel as you are able.
 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;***

The Celebrant continues
 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.***

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Celebrant and People

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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***
Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

We welcome all who come with faith and reverence to receive communion. If you would like to come forward for a blessing, please kneel placing your arms across your chest and the priest will bless you. Receive the bread in the palm of your hand and eat the bread or wait until the cup comes and dip the bread in the wine. If you prefer to drink the wine from the cup, please guide the cup to your lips.

Communion Hymn *Ye who claim the faith of Jesus* **Hymnal 268**

Post Communion Prayer

Please kneel as you are able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn *Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes* **Hymnal 72**

The Dismissal

Celebrant Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People ***Thanks be to God. Alleluia!***

Postlude

to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Magnificat *The Song of Mary*
Sung by choir and congregation.



My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my/Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his/lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me/blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and/holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who/fear him *
in every/generation.
He has shown the strength of his/arm, *
he has scattered the/proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their/thrones, *
and has lifted/up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with/good things, *
and the rich he has/sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant/Israel, *
for he has remembered his pro/mise of mercy,
The promise he made to our/fathers, *
to Abraham and his child/ren for ever.

Second Reading

Romans 16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

Come now, O Prince of Peace

WLP 795

Please stand.

Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

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

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

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

The Sermon

Ms. Terry R. Edwards
Seminarian

Please be seated.

The Nicene Creed

Please stand.

Celebrant and People

*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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
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 and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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*

The Prayers of the People

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

Leader Sisters and Brothers in Christ, with faith in God’s providence and promises, let us pray.
(Pause)

Leader Blessed Savior, we pray for creation – for all people and every living creature, for landscapes of breathtaking beauty; for this good earth, clean air, and pure water. Help us revere and preserve what you have made.
People **Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done.**
(Pause)

Leader Merciful Messiah, we pray for the nations of the world, for our leaders and all whom they serve; fill us with humility and grant us mutual respect; give us wisdom, and help us make peace, that all your people may thrive and prosper.
People **Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done.**
(Pause)

Leader Gracious Christ, we pray for people in physical, mental, and spiritual distress. Grant us the knowledge, wisdom, and compassion to heal people who are sick and injured, and to restore people who are broken; let none of your children suffer for want of good and loving care.
People **Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done.**
(Pause)

Leader Redeemer and Sanctifier, we pray for your Church: where we are in error, reform us; where we are divided, unite us; where we fail, give us new life; where we are faithful, perfect us. Make us shine with the light of your love, and draw all people to you.
People **Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done.**
(Pause)

Leader Sovereign of Heaven and earth, we pray for loved ones who have died, and for people who are dying now. We commend them to your perpetual care, and praise you for the resurrection of the dead, everlasting life, and the communion of saints.
People **Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done.**
(Pause)

Leader Holy and Eternal God, we offer ourselves to your service. Fill us with your Holy Spirit that we may think what you would have us think, do what you would have us do, and be the people you would have us be, that your perfect will may prevail.
People **Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done.**
(Pause)

Leader Divine Majesty, we praise you, and we thank you, for innumerable blessings, immeasurable love, and unrelenting grace.
People **On earth as it is in Heaven. Amen.**

Confession of Sin

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

Celebrant and People

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.

The Celebrant continues

Almighty God, have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in everlasting life. **Amen.**