

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2025

Announcements

The Reverend Ashley Wright

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Gloria in Excelsis

You are invited to stand
Insert

Celebrant

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People

Glory to God forever and ever.

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.**

Gloria in Excelsis

Celebrant

God be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

Advent IV, BCP page 235

The Lessons

Please be seated

The First Reading

Isaiah 7:10-16

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

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 God 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.
 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
 O LORD God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?
 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
and son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

The Second Reading

Romans 1:1-7

A Reading from the Letter to the Romans.

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which God promised beforehand through the prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning God's 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 and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

You are invited to stand
 Hymnal #56 vs. 1

The Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

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.

The Sermon

The Reverend Ashley Wright

Reflection Music

The Choir

The Nicene Creed

BCP page 358

St. Luke's Community Prayer

The Prayers of the People

BCP page 383

Pray for **Claudia & Rick++++** (Giacoma) **Leo++++** (Ludwick) **Adeline++++** (daughter of Ashley) **Peggy++++** (Hanson) **Larry++++** (brother of Barbara) **Mary++++** (McEntire) **Sarah++** (daughter of Wendy) **Meg++++** (sister of Brad) **Phyllis++++** (mother of Shana) **Sherry+++** (friend of Meredith) **Kathy++++** (sister of Danamichele) **Nancy++++** (Conrow) **Leila++++** (sister in law of Teresa) **Ken++++** (cousin of Myra) **Michael++++** (friend of Beth) **Gina++++** (friend of Meredith) **Chuck++++ & Mary Lou++++** (husband and friend of Paddy) **Ed++++** (Fiscus), **Mic+++** (friend of Meredith and Michael) **Vanessa++** (step-daughter of Beckie)

We remember and celebrate the birthdays of **Tom** Sander on Monday, **Charlie** Thompson and **Augustus** DePaul on Tuesday, and **Frank** Buckler on Wednesday, beloved members of our parish community.

Confession of Sin

BCP page 360

The Peace

Celebrant

The peace of Christ be always with you.

People

And also with you.

The Holy Communion

You are invited to stand

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our lives and labor to God.

The Doxology

Hymnal #380, v. 3 (adapted)

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

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.**

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

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

Insert

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out

for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ’s Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with Saint Luke and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and 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,

for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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

Dona Nobis Pacem

Insert

The Post Communion Prayer

You are invited to stand

Let us pray.

God of abundance,
you have fed us
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us
with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth
in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

Recessional Hymn

Blest Be the King

Hymnal #74

The Dismissal

*Deacon
People*

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



We Are Grateful For Those Serving Today

Vestry Person Of The Day: John DePaul

7:45 AM

Altar Guild:

10:30 AM

Altar Guild: Myra Herzog, Kate May, Debbie Murray, Iris Thompson

Layreader

Ted Clayton

Sub-Deacon

Crucifer

Tellers

John DePaul, Sherry Stohler

Sound Technician Don Wood

Children's Ministry Laura Nickerson

Ushers/Greeters Dudley McIlhenny, Teresa McMillan

Prayers of the People

Chalice Bearers Robyn Ramsey, Harriet Stephens

Hospitality Hour Nickerson Family

Video Recorder Barry Heywood

Youth Director/Youth Group Gabe Bielma

ANNOUNCEMENTS



CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve Family Eucharist: December 24, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Choral Eucharist: December 24, 2025 at 8:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Morning Prayer Service: December 25, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

(This service will be casual - no music or bulletins. We will use the Book of Common Prayer.)

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The parish office will be closed December 20th - January 4th for the holidays. Reverend Ashley+ and Beckie will not receive emails or phone messages during that time.

Reverend Ashley+ will be present at worship on Sunday, the 21st, on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, and on Sunday, January 4th. Reverend Deacon Sandra Jones will lead the service on December 28th.

There will be no newsletters on Friday, December 26th, or Friday, January 2nd.

If you have an immediate need during that time, please call Reverend Ashley at home or contact our Senior Warden, Ted Clayton.



EARLY SERVICE CANCELLED - DECEMBER 28

The early service is cancelled on Sunday, December 28th. The Reverend Deacon Sandra Jones will be leading the congregation in Morning Prayer at 10:30 a.m.

MORNING PRAYER

Led by Reverend Deacon Sandra Jones - Sunday, December 28, 2025

Reverend Deacon Sandra Jones will lead the congregation in Morning Prayer on Sunday, December 28th at 10:30 a.m.

Note: there will only be one service that day, and the service will be taken directly out of the Book of Common Prayer (there will be no bulletins). Come, enjoy a quiet morning of prayer and reflection.



