

# The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2023



The Annunciation

**Trinity Church**  
Jacksonville, Illinois



**PRELUDE**

*Magnificat on the Ninth Tone*    Dietrich Buxtehude

# The Word of God

*The Bell is rung; all stand for the Entrance Hymn.*

**ENTRANCE HYMN**

*Come, thou long-expected Jesus (Stuttgart) (H 66)*

**OPENING ACCLAMATION**

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.

Amen.

**COLLECT FOR PURITY AND GREAT COMMANDMENTS**

*The Celebrant says*

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

## OPENING ANTHEM S 91 *Lord, have mercy upon us (Willan) (S 91)*

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And with thy spirit.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

We beseech thee, Almighty God, to purify our consciences by thy daily visitation, that when thy Son our Lord cometh he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

# The Lessons

## FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the Second book of Samuel.

<sup>1</sup>Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, <sup>2</sup>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.” <sup>3</sup>Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you.”

<sup>4</sup>But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: <sup>5</sup>Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>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?” <sup>8</sup>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 to be prince over my people Israel; <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>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, <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>16</sup>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.

## Canticle 3: The Song of Mary

My soul doth magnify the Lord, \*  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

*For he hath regarded \*  
the lowliness of his handmaiden.*

For behold from henceforth \*  
all generations shall call me blessed.  
*For he that is mighty hath magnified me, \**  
*and holy is his Name.*  
And his mercy is on them that fear him \*  
throughout all generations.  
*He hath showed strength with his arm; \**  
*he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.*  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, \*  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
*He hath filled the hungry with good things, \**  
*and the rich he hath sent empty away.*  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, \*  
as he promised to our forefathers,  
Abraham and his seed for ever.

**SECOND READING: Romans 16:25-27**

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>25</sup>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 <sup>26</sup>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—<sup>27</sup>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.

*All stand for the Hymn and the Gospel.*

***O come, O come, Emmanuel (Veni, veni, Emmanuel) (H 56), vss. 7 & 8***

## **GOSPEL: Luke 1:26-38**

*Priest*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People*            Glory be to thee, O Lord.

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>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. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup>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. <sup>36</sup>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. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup>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.

*Priest*            The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*            Praise be to thee, O Christ.

## **THE SERMON (BCP p. 326)**

*All stand for the Nicene Creed.*

### **THE NICENE CREED**

I believe in one God,  
    the Father Almighty,  
    maker of heaven and earth,  
    and of all things visible and invisible;  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
    the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father;  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation  
came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried;  
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;  
and he shall come again, with glory,  
to judge both the quick and the dead;  
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,  
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped  
and glorified;  
who spake by the Prophets.

And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church;  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE IV**

**Celebrant:** Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

**Lector:** 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. We pray for Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Brian our Bishop, for Justin, Carlos, Richard, Zachary, and for all bishops and ministers. Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*



Guide the people of this land, especially Joseph our President, and J B our Governor, and of those in the military and law enforcement, especially Cail, Courtland, Levi, Rankin, and Thomas, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. 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. Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, especially Tim, Claire, Adah, Kenny, Jeff, Jim & Janet, and Jeff & Hilda, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

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

*Hear our prayer.*

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.*

**Celebrant:** Lord, hear the prayers of thy people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*

## **CONFESSION OF SIN (BCP p. 330)**

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

Almighty God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
maker of all things, judge of all men:  
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins  
and wickedness,  
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,  
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,  
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.  
We do earnestly repent,  
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;  
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,  
the burden of them is intolerable.  
Have mercy upon us,  
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and grant that we may ever hereafter  
serve and please thee in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of thy Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Priest stands and says*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto 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.*

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.

*1 John 2:1-2*

*All stand.*

**THE PEACE**

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

*Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

# The Holy Communion

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*The Celebrant says*

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.  
*Ephesians 5:2*

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*The Magnificat* Richard Jeffery

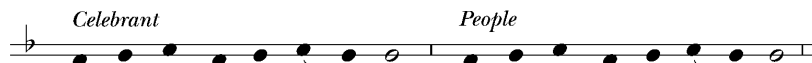
## OFFERTORY HYMN

*Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes (Richmond) (H 72)*

# The Great Thanksgiving

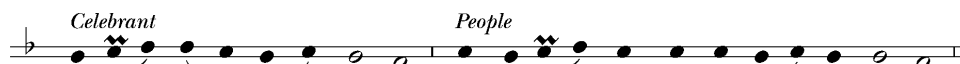
## SURSUM CORDA S 112 *Lift up your hearts*

*Celebrant* *People*




The Lord be with you. And with thy spi - rit.

*Celebrant* *People*



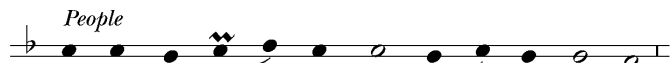
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up un - to the Lord.

*Celebrant*



Let us give thanks un - to our Lord God.

*People*



It is meet and right so to do.

## PROPER PREFACE


*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

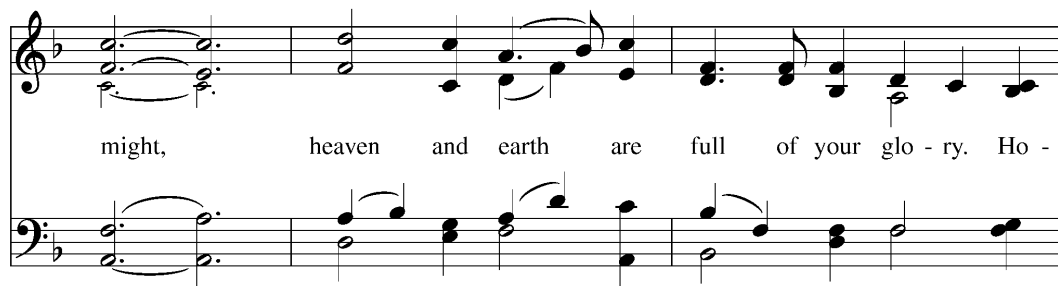
Because thou didst send thy beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

## SANCTUS WLP 858 *Holy, holy, holy (Folk/Pruner) (American folk melody) (WLP 858)*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and



might, heaven 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## CANON OF THE MASS

*The people kneel or stand.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who 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 did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake 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, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy 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.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *AMEN.*

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

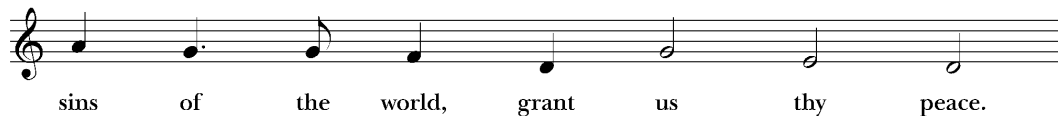
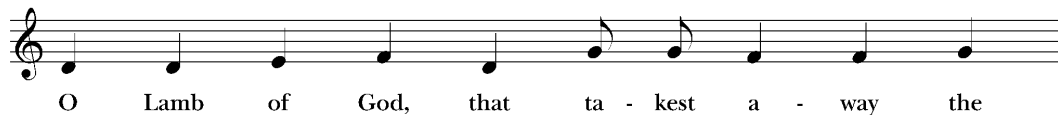
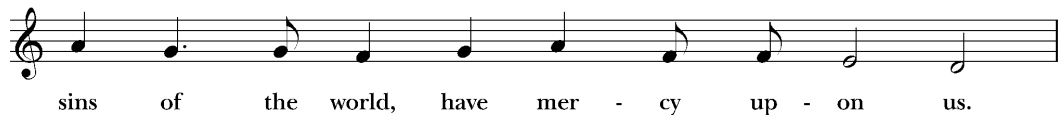
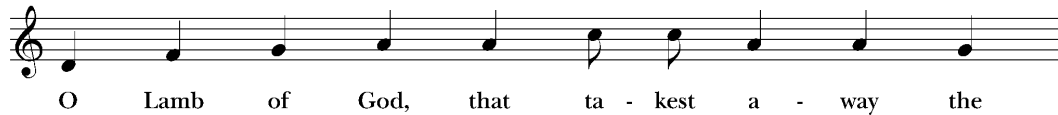
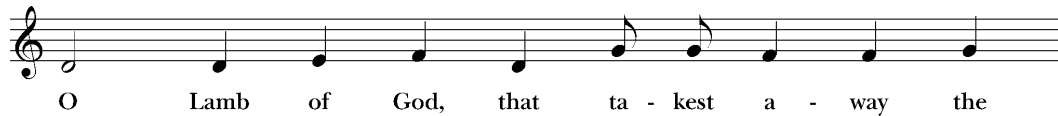
**THE LORD'S PRAYER S 119 *The Lord's Prayer (Traditional) (Plainsong/Douglas)***



Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed  
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our  
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,  
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead  
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us  
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,  
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION HYMN S 157 *O Lamb of God (Merbecke)* (S 157)



## PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

*The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer*

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen.*



## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

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

*The angel Gabriel from heaven came (Gabriel's Message) (H 265)*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*The People may join in saying this prayer*

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

## BLESSING

The peace of God, which passeth 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 Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

*All stand.*

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People*

Thanks be to God.

**RECESSIONAL HYMN**

*The King shall come when morning dawns (St. Stephen) (H 73)*

**POSTLUDE**

*Postlude in B Flat Major*      Johann Kindermann

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## MINISTRY AND CALENDAR

The Very Reverend Zachary D. Brooks, Celebrant  
Organist: Mary Wilson  
Lector: Alice Tracey  
Acolytes: Bruce Evans, Clayton Robb  
Altar Guild: Janet Mitchell, Alice Tracey, Paula Woods  
Ushers: Jim Herget, Volunteer

\* \* \* \* \*

Sunday, December 24: **The Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord** (Principal Feast)  
10:00 p.m. The Holy Eucharist

Monday, December 25:  
**The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ** (Principal Feast)  
10:00 am The Holy Eucharist

Tuesday, December 26:  
**St. Stephen** (Major Feast)  
10:00 am The Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, December 27:  
**St. John** (Major Feast)  
10:00 am The Holy Eucharist

Thursday, December 28:  
**The Holy Innocents** (Major Feast)  
10:00 am The Holy Eucharist

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