

love

Welcome to
SAINT MARK'S

The Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year B
December 24, 2023 at 9:00 AM

+ --Appropriate place to make the "Sign of the cross"

BCP—The "Black" Book of Common Prayer

Hymnal—The "Red" Hymnal 1982

LEVAS—Music from Lift Every Voice and Sing Hymnal (Episcopal)

WLP—Music from Wonder, Love, and Praise Hymnal (Episcopal)

VF—Music from Voices Found Hymnal (Episcopal)

Please silence your cell phone

Welcome to Saint Mark's Church. The central figure in today's liturgy is the Blessed Virgin Mary and her vocation as the human instrument of the Incarnation. Today's Gospel is the account of the Annunciation, when Gabriel announced to the Virgin that God had chosen her to be the mother of the Messiah. Mary's humble obedience, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it done unto me according to thy word..." is the model for Christian living. The first reading today is the promise God made to David to establish his line as kings over God's people. This promise to raise up a new king of David's lineage was understood by Jews in the first century as a promise to send the Messiah. In the second reading today Paul concludes his letter to the Church in Rome. He expresses the early Christian proclamation that in Christ the clouded meaning of the Old Testament prophecies has been revealed. In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, God's plan has been made clear and the hints of that plan in the writings of the prophets have been fulfilled. Christians gather in the liturgy to remember our story: a story which goes back through the ages. The central actor is always God, who acts in history to lead all the creation into the Kingdom. God, who acted in the lives of people in the past such as David and the blessed Virgin, continues to act today in our lives. The Eucharist is the moment of encounter with God in which, like Mary, we respond, "Yes, let it be done to me according to your word."

From The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year. Copyright © 2009 by Michael W. Merriman. Church Publishing Incorporated, New York.

Prelude

God's People Gather Together

Processional Hymn

O come, O come, Emmanuel

Hymn 56 verses 1-6



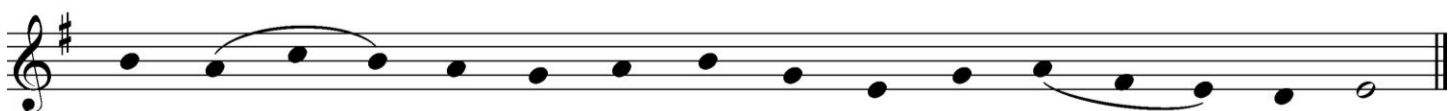
(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 (Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
 (Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 (Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from
 (Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
 (Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us
 (Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the
 (Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
 3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to
 5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
 6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
 7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions
 8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
 3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
 4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
 6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
 7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.
 8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath – *Week Four is Love*

Celebrant When the angel Gabriel visited Mary, announcing God’s plan for her to conceive and give birth to the Messiah, “Mary said to the angel, ‘How can this be, since I am a virgin?’” (Luke 1:34) And yet, only a few months later, Mary sings to Elizabeth, My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me – holy is his name (Luke 1:46-49).

LEM We, like Mary, hear God’s call to be part of making God’s dream for our salvation and flourishing a reality, and we question, “How can this be? I am only...” Yet, like Mary, the “onlys” that make us hesitate are gifts God can and will use as God’s love transforms us into bearers of good news.

All: *We wait as people who have encountered divine Love that disrupts the status quo and ushers us into abundant life marked by mutual love and peace that flows from the flourishing of all people.*

Celebrant We light these candles as signs of our shocking hope, our just peace, our fierce joy, and the love that transforms us. May Love grow within us, transforming us into bold witnesses of God’s salvation with our voices and our lives. *Amen.*

Light the four outer candles of the Advent wreath.

The Advent Wreath Hymn – *Candle of Love*

LYONS 10.10.11.11 ("O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!")

*The candle of love tells what we are worth:
God loves us so much, God came to the earth!
An angel brought news of a child who would be
The one who would save us and set us all free.*

Celebrant + Blessed are you, holy and living One.

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

Collect for Purity

(BCP p. 355)

Celebrant and People

*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.*

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

The Collect for The Fourth Sunday of Advent

(BCP p. 212)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Together, 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 people sit.

The Word of God

First Reading

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

A reading from the second book of the Prophet Samuel.

¹Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²the 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." ³Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you." ⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: ⁵Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? ⁶I 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. ⁷Wherever 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?" ⁸Now 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; ⁹and 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. ¹⁰And 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, ¹¹from 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. ¹⁶Your 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 15: The Song of Mary (Luke 1:46-55)

*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 promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as
it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

The people stand as they are able.

Sequence Hymn

Mary Gladly Told Her Cousin
IRBY 8.7.8.7.7.7 ("Once in Royal David's City")

1. *Mary gladly told her cousin, "Praise the Lord! My spirit sings!"
Young and humble, she'd been chosen! God was surely changing things!
God of love, her words ring true As we sing her prayer to you:*
2. *"Now my soul is gladly singing At the greatness of the Lord.
I rejoice, for God is bringing His salvation to the world.
All who live will say I'm blest Even in my lowliness.*
3. *"God is mighty, just and holy, And he's done great things for me.
Those who fear him know the mercy That God gives us endlessly.
Mighty ones are brought down low; Lowly ones find blessings flow.*
4. *"God has filled the poor and hungry, And he's sent the rich away.
God is active here in history, In a real and wondrous way.
God has promised, and I'm blessed, For I know God's faithfulness."*

Biblical Reference: Luke 1:39-56 Tune: Henry John Gauntlett, 1849 ("Once in Royal David's City") Text: Copyright © 2009 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. Included in **I Sing to My Savior: New Hymns from the Stories in the Gospel of Luke** (2022) and **God's World is Changing: New Hymns for Advent and Christmas** (2022). Email: carolynshymns@gmail.com New Hymns: www.carolynshymns.com/

The Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

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



²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He 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. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said

to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The 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. ³⁶And 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. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then 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.

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

The Sermon

+ *May the words of my mouth and the meditations of all our hearts be always acceptable in your sight, O Lord, our strength and our Redeemer. Amen.*

The people sit.

After the Sermon, the people stand as they are able.

The Affirmation of Faith – The Nicene Creed

(BCP p. 358)

*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.*

Prayers of the People

Celebrant

In the hushed anticipation of your coming, O Lord, let your will be done with us according to your word, that we might be vessels of your Presence, and eager to pray: Come Lord Jesus, *and hear our prayer.*

Lay Eucharistic Minister

O God, in days to come the mountain of your house will be established, and your joy shall reign. We pray for the church especially for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, Lawrence, Geralyn, Daniel, and William our bishops, and for Chris our priest. We pray that you might teach us your ways and that we might walk in your paths. Come Lord Jesus, *and hear our prayer.*

Out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and you, O God, shall judge between the nations. We pray for our nation, and all nations, that your peace would be manifest in every corner of the earth. Come Lord Jesus, *and hear our prayer.*

In your Kingdom, O Lord, wolves lie down with lambs and children play with serpents without fear. We pray for the sick, the suffering, and those in distress of any kind especially the people of Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, Armenia, the United States, and those on our prayer list. *(The people may add petitions for any need or concern.)* We pray that you would heal all injuries, comfort all grief, and settle all wrongs. Come Lord Jesus, *and hear our prayer.*

For all those who have died. *(The people may add petitions for those they wish to remember.)* In the fulness of time, O God, you sent your son, to be born of our sister Mary. And his name was Emmanuel: God With Us. We thank you for your Presence with us, and we pray that you might be always present with those whom we love but see no longer. Come Lord Jesus, *and hear our prayer.*

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. *(The people may name their own thanksgivings.)* We also give thanks to God this week for Jennifer Marwood who is celebrating her birthday and to Steve and Donna Turner who are celebrating their wedding anniversary.

For a Birthday

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on Jennifer as she begins another year. Grant that she will grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen her trust in your goodness all the days of her life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Anniversary of a Marriage

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send your blessing upon Steve & Donna that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their lives together may be a witness to your love and forgiveness, and that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Rosemary of Remembrance on the Altar are given to the Glory of God by Fr. Chris & Carol Jubinski in thanksgiving for their parish family and by Pete & Lori Williams dedicated to their family and all the blessings received by God.

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Mary the Mother of Jesus, and all the saints and angels, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. *To you, O Lord our God.*

ALL: Blessed Emmanuel, God with us, hear our prayers, let your Holy Spirit dwell among us and be born anew in the lives of your people, that we may be filled with the fullness of Christ, to the honor and glory of your Holy Name. Amen.

The Confession

(BCP p. 360)

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence may be kept.*

Celebrant and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution.

+ 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 eternal life. *Amen.*

The Peace

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

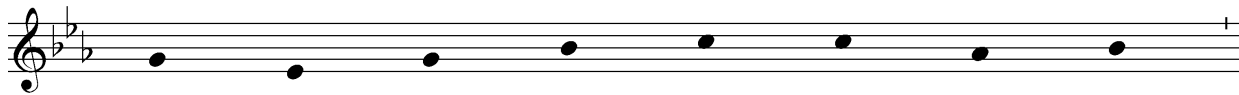
Offertory Sentence

But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *Hebrews 13:15, 16*

Offertory Hymn

Creator of the stars at night

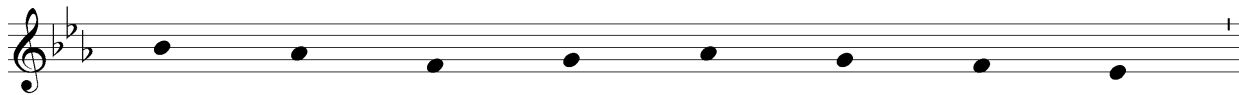
Hymnal 60



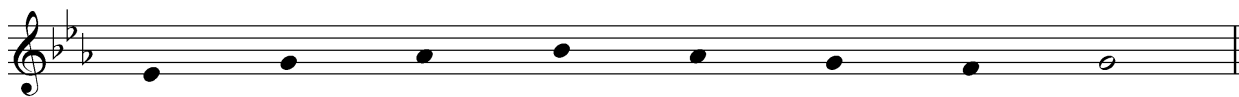
1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse
3 When this old world drew on toward night,
4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now
5 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,
* 6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,



1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,
2 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,
3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,
4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
5 re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;
6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,
2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free
3 not as a mon - arch, but the child
4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,
5 de - fend us while we dwell be - low
6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



1 we pray you hear us when we call.
2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.
3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.
4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.
5 from all as - saults of our dread foe.
6 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

The Presentation of Gifts

The Doxology

Em G C D7 G D G C G
Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise God, all crea - tures

5 Am Bm7 Em Am Em B7 Em A7 D Em
here be - low. Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host. Praise

10 D Bm G C Am D7 G D Em Bm G
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Re - jice! Re - jice! Em -

15 C D7 Em D G C G Am Em Bm Em
man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674
Music: 15th Century French

VENI EMMANUEL
LM with Refrain

Text and tune adapted by Dean McIntyre, The United Methodist General Board of Discipleship, PO Box 340003, Nashville TN 37203-0003. Telephone 615-340-7073. Website <http://www.umcworship.org>. Email address: music@gbod.org. Text and tune are public domain.

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (*Eucharistic Prayer from the Angel's Song – Advent 4B*)

Celebrant The Lord is here.

People ***His Spirit is with us.***

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.***

Life-giving and breath-taking God, we delight to give you thanks and praise, because nothing is impossible with you.

You were with Abraham in the promise of a people
and with Jacob in the promise of a land
and with David in the promise of a house to dwell in.

As Israel had been your place to abide,
so the blessed Virgin Mary became the temple in which the Holy Spirit
made your Son Jesus Christ flesh among us.

Just as Elizabeth brought forth the wonders of your mercy,
so we look to you to bring out of the barrenness of our lives
the wondrous fruits of your grace.
Our sin took your Son to the cross,
yet from the tomb you raised him in the glory of resurrection.

And so with Gabriel and all the angels
and the whole company of earth and heaven, we magnify your name.

Sanctus

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.

The people stand or kneel as they prefer

Holy God, you dwelt in ark and temple,
and in the fullness of time you became incarnate in the presence of Jesus Christ among us.
In him you promise to come among us whenever two or three are gathered
and be made known in the breaking of the bread.

Send down your Holy Spirit,
that your church may be dependent on you
like your Son's tiny body in Mary's womb.
Send that same Spirit upon this bread and this cup that they may be for us
the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Who, at supper with his disciples, took bread,
gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying,
'Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup.
Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'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.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Glorious God, look with favor on the lowliness of your servants;
show mercy on those who fear you.

Where your children have grown proud,
scatter them in the imagination of their hearts;
where your people are hungry, fill them with good things.
Where the powerful are bent on oppression,
bring them down from their thrones;
where the rich have no mercy, send them empty away.

For in Christ, you, the mighty, came down from your seat and became humble,
that in him the meek might inherit the earth.

Reshape your people in the image of Mary,
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace,
until that day when sorrow and tears are no more,
and you are all in all, ever one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, praying in the words that Jesus taught us,

People and Celebrant

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 – Agnus Dei

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.

Invitation to Communion

(BCP p. 364)

Celebrant The Gifts of God for us the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving. *Amen.*



Communion Norms--We welcome our guests this morning. All are welcome at the Lord's table. You may stand or kneel (whichever you prefer). You are invited to eat the wafer and then drink from the cup. We regret that you are not permitted to intinct (dip the wafer) at this time. The people respond after receiving the bread or the wine by saying "Amen." If you prefer not to receive the cup, please cross your arms over your chest. If you do not want to receive communion, you are still welcome to come forward, cross your arms over your chest, and receive a blessing from the priest. Gluten free wafers are available. Please notify Fr. Chris at the Communion Rail.

Communion Hymn

The angel Gabriel from heaven came

Hymnal 265

1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came,
2 "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head,
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born

his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee,
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,
in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,

"All hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,
thy Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name."
and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say—

most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!

The Post Communion Prayer for the Fourth Sunday of Advent (*Church of England*)

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised savior: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

Be people of love.

Let love live in your heart and share the love of Christ with all you meet.

Share love by loving those you see regularly. Start by loving your community.

Share love by loving those you do not know.

How do your actions affect the rest of God's creation?

Share love by praying for our world.

In this Advent season, we need to see, feel, and share love.

As you go out into the wonder of God's creations,

share love, joy, peace, and hope with those you meet.

And the blessing of God Almighty, + the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon and remain with you forever. *Amen.*

The Announcements





THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

- Monday, 12/25** **9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Service - No Coffee Hour**
Christmas Day **Parish Office Closed thru January 2nd**
- Wednesday, 12/27** 7:30 p.m. Alanon Meeting (Atwater Room)
- Saturday, 12/30** 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Winter Farmer's Market (Parish Hall)
- Sunday, 12/31** 9:00 a.m. Lessons & Carols in the Church with Brunch following in the Parish Hall
New Year's Eve

Participating in Today's Service	
Sunday at 9:00 a.m.	
LEM	Rob Perdock
Lector	Tom Hadlock
Usher	Pete Williams & Sandy Wyman
Altar Guild	Victoria Garcia
NO COFFEE HOUR	
December Birthdays	
Carol Smith	12/06
Rob Perdock	12/08
Ashley Lueck	12/11
Pamela Kern	12/12
Spencer Moyle	12/13
Trevor Moyle	12/13
Richard Caccavano	12/18
Michael Warner	12/18
Elizabeth Horan	12/23
Jennifer Marwood	12/24
December Anniversaries	
Larry & Candace Andria	12/07
Bill & Madeline Glover	12/19
Steve & Donna Turner	12/30

Last Week's Attendance

Sunday 12/17 8:00 am 25
 Sunday 12/17 10:00 am 56
 Total: **81**

(38 Households prayed with us online)

12/21 Advent Study **6**
 12/21 Healing Service **3**
 12/17 Blue Christmas **11**

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

- 12/24 5:00 p.m.** Family Christmas Service
 with Brass Quintet
- 9:00 p.m.** Christmas Eve Service
- 12/25 9:00 a.m.** Christmas Day Service
- 12/31 9:00 a.m.** Christmas Lessons & Carols with Holy
 Eucharist followed by Brunch

The Church Office will be closed from Monday, December 25th thru Monday, January 1st, 2024. Staff will return to the office Wednesday, January 3rd. Father Chris will be away until late on December 30. In case of emergency, please call Diane Stewart or Sandy Wyman.

Please Pray for Your Parish Every Day at 12:00 Noon. And remember the People of Israel, Palestine, Sudan, Armenia, Ukraine and the United States of America too!

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Year End Donations - All donations must be postmarked by 12/31 in order to count for your 2023 taxes. Thank you for your generous support of St. Mark's throughout this past year!

Pardon our mess while we give birth to a new pipe organ. We have purchased a pipe organ from Saint Paul's Episcopal Cathedral in Buffalo, NY. The project is expected to be completed around Easter 2024.

Covenant Class for those who wish to be Confirmed, Received or to learn more about the Episcopal Church will start in the new year.

Coffee Hour: There is a sign-up sheet outside of the parish hall. Host/hostesses are needed to assist Diane Stewart on December 31st and for the 10 a.m. services in January. Your help will be very much appreciated.

Altar Flowers - If you would like to dedicate flowers for the Altar contact Laura Bott at 631-722-4749 or email her at Laura.bott17@gmail.com. In January there are two vases available January 14 & 28 and one vase available on the 7th and 21st. The vases are \$40.00 each.

Mark Your Calendar:

December 31 – 9:00 a.m. Lessons & Carols Service with Pot-Luck Brunch following.

January 6 – 9:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast at Echart's Luncheonette

February 11 - 6:00 p.m. Chili Cookoff and Superbowl Party

February 13 – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (Time TBD)

We ask that you remember those for whom prayers are requested:

Noah Berger (Req. by Jenn Kast), **Stan Billie** (Req. by Jenn Kast), **Deana Chiusano** (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **David Fridae**, **Nancy Fraser** (Req. by Ki Nobiletti), **Roberta Good** (Diane Stewart's Sister), **Jason Gordon** (Req. by Kate Gabrielsen), **Elaine Hanes** (Req. by Kate Gabrielsen), **Barbara Ireton** (Req. by Carol Smith), **Gretchen & Jim Jubinski** (Fr. Chris' Parents), **Cole LoRusso** (Marj Kulesa's Nephew), **Fred Meyer** (Parishioner), **Jock McLean** (Parishioner), **Sean McLean** (Req. by Jock McLean), **Sudie Nostrand** (Carol John's Sister), **Paul Oele** (Parishioner), **Cassie Panzarino** (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **Joan Petrella** (Parishioner), **Jean Scopinich** (Parishioner), **John Stewart** (Parishioner), **Sarah Witters** (Req. by Victoria Garcia), **Owen Foster** (Diane & John Stewart's grandson), **John Martinelli** (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **Marilyn Dorsa** (Req. by Drew Clark), **Michele Parks** (Req. by Marjorie Kulesa), **Fred Rees Garcia** (son of Victoria Garcia), **Christina Kouris** (Req. by Sandy Wyman), **John Saladino** (Req. by Victoria Garcia).

If there are any names that can be removed, kindly contact Kate in the church office 631-288-2111.

We pray for those serving in the Armed Forces: Amanda E. Degener, Kyle M. Degener, George L. Degener, Jesse Fritz, Nicholas LoRusso, Joshua Rudd, Rob Scribner and James Mercready.

The Rosemary of Remembrance on the Altar are given to the Glory of God by Fr. Chris & Carol Jubinski in thanksgiving for their parish family and by Pete & Lori Williams dedicated to their family and all the blessings received by God.

1. Peo - ple, look East. The time is near of the crown-ing of the
 2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is plant - ed
 3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be
 4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall
 5. An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to

1. year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble, trim the hearth and set the
 2. there: give up your strength the seed to nour - ish, that in course the flow'r may
 3. filled. E - ven the hour when wings are fro - zen God for fledg - ling time has
 4. brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er, bright as sun and moon to -
 5. earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum - ming with the word, the Lord is

1. ta - ble. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the guest is on the way.
 2. flour-ish. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the rose is on the way.
 3. cho - sen. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the bird is on the way.
 4. geth - er. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the star is on the way.
 5. com - ing. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the Lord is on the way.

The Dismissal (Church of England)

LEM As we await our coming Savior, go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude