



SAINT MARK'S
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 24, 2023

8:00 AM





LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT & WELCOME

Saint Mark's Cathedral acknowledges that we gather on the traditional land of the first people of Seattle, the Duwamish People, who are still here, and we honor with gratitude the land itself and the life of all the Coast Salish tribes.

QUESTIONS?

Please ask one of the liturgical ministers. Restrooms are available in the narthex; all-gender restrooms are available in the northwest stairwell of the nave and on the 5th floor of Cathedral House, accessible by the elevator or southwest stairwell.

NEW TO SAINT MARK'S?

Welcome to Saint Mark's Cathedral. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here! We invite you to complete a newcomer form, visit saintmarks.org/newcomers or connect with one of the clergy.

ABOUT THE LITURGY

Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. We encounter God within worship and are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the hallmarks of the Episcopal Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy literally is "the work of the people," and refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PRELUDE Recitative and Rhapsody (Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord, let it be with me according to your word.”) Rebecca Groom te Velde

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

All stand, as able.

HYMN 56 *O come, O come, Emmanuel* (sts. 1, 2, 7) ♦ *The Hymnal 1982* *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Presider O Wisdom, you came forth from the mouth of the Most High; and reach from one end of the earth to the other, mightily and sweetly ordering all things:

Assembly **Come and teach us the way of prudence.**

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Book of Common Prayer (1979), p. 355

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

Assembly **And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Presider **A**LMIGHTY 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.

All **Amen.**

TRISAGION*The Book of Common Prayer (1979), p. 356*

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

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

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

COLLECT OF THE DAY *Fourth Sunday of Advent**The Book of Common Prayer (1979), p. 212*

Presider The Lord be with you.

Assembly **And also with you.**

Presider 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.

All **Amen.**

Please be seated for the readings.

READING *2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16*

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

Assembly **Thanks be to God.**

Please join the lector in reading the Canticle aloud, starting after the first asterisk.

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.. ♦

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 Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
Assembly **Thanks be to God.**

All stand, as able.

THE HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 1:26-38*

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

Assembly **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.

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

Assembly **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

HOMILY

Alison Estep

All stand, as able.

THE NICENE CREED

The Book of Common Prayer 1979, 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

After each petition:

Intercessor We look to you in hope;
Assembly come, Lord Jesus, come.

The Presider concludes the prayers with a collect. All respond: Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
You are invited to stand or kneel for the confession.

Presider Most merciful God,

All 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 Presider pronounces God's forgiveness of our sins. All respond: Amen.

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.
Assembly **And also with you.**

All greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

OFFERTORY

An offering of money is received. All worshipping in person are invited to place their offering in the plates as they are passed through through the rows.

For electronic giving options, visit saintmarks.org/give, or use the Venmo mobile app (@SaintMarksCathedralSeattle, or scan the code at right),

or visit this link on your mobile device: <https://venmo.com/saintmarkscathedralseattle>.

If Venmo asks you for a four-digit code, enter 2076.



All stand, as able.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *Eucharistic Prayer B*

The Book of Common Prayer (1979), p. 367

Presider The Lord be with you.

Assembly **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

Assembly **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Assembly **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Presider 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:

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

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Presider 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,

**All We remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

Presider 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 Mary, Mark, and 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.

All AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Presider Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

Assembly **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All seeking God are welcome at Christ's Table.

If you need communion brought to your seat, please let any of the liturgical ministers know.

Rice wafers for those who do not eat wheat are available; simply ask for one at the time of communion.

- ◆ *You are welcome to stand or kneel to receive communion.*
- ◆ *Hold out your hand to receive the bread and then eat. Guide the chalice of wine to your mouth and then drink.*
- ◆ *Intinction (dipping the bread in the wine) is not available at this time.*
- ◆ *To receive a blessing instead of the bread or wine, simply cross your arms over your chest.*

All stand, as able.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

The Book of Common Prayer 1979, p. 365

Presider Eternal God,

All **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 *The Presider asks God's blessing on the Assembly. All respond: Amen.*

HYMN 66 *Come, thou long expected Jesus ♦ The Hymnal 1982*

Stuttgart

DISMISSAL

Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
Assembly **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY *Nun komm der Heiden Heiland* (Tune of Hymn 54, "Savior of the nations come!"), BWV 599

J.S. Bach

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

PRESIDER

The Very Rev. Steven L. Thomason

PREACHER

Alison Estep

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER

Alison Estep

LECTOR & INTERCESSOR

Kerry Allman

ORGANIST

John Stuntebeck

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