



SAINT MARK'S
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 24, 2023

9:00 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. Ushers (wearing the purple welcome lanyards) can answer your questions or concerns, or provide a hearing assist device. All-gender restrooms are available in the northwest stairwell and on the 5th floor of Cathedral House, accessible by 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

The service usually begins with an organ prelude or other music designed to call us into worshipful presence.

PRELUDE Meditation on the first verse of the Song of Mary (*Magnificat*: “My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord”), from *Fifteen Pieces for Vespers of the Holy Mother*, Opus 18 Marcel Dupré

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

As a gathered community, we join together in praising God in song.

All stand, as able.

HYMN

My soul cries out

Star of County Down



1. My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the God of my heart is great,
2. Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
and my spir - it sings of the won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
and your mer - cy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
You fixed your sight on the ser - vant's plight, and my weak - ness you did not spurn,
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
Refrain
My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.
Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Words: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Song of Mary, *Magnificat*. Copyright 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.
Music: *Star of County Down*, trad. Irish

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Presider My soul proclaims the greatness of God
Assembly my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

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 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.
All Amen.

TRISAGION *sung three times*

Archangelsky

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and might-y, Ho - ly Immortal One, have mer - cy up-on us.

The collect is the prayer designated for each Sunday that “collects” or captures the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scriptures for the day.

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.

The first reading is usually drawn from the Hebrew Scriptures, inviting us to trace our heritage in God's historical covenant with the People of God.

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.**

The Psalm is a sung response to the previous reading. Psalms are the songbook of the Hebrew Scriptures. They express every emotion known to humankind.

CANTICLE *The Song of Mary ♦ Cantic 15*

Simplified Anglican Chant (Kennedy)

The organist plays through the chant once, then all join in chanting the cantic.



Magnificat

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 gene-/ ration.
He has shown the strength of his / arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their con-/ ceit.

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 / forebears, *
to Abraham and his children for / ever.

This reading, taken from the New Testament, is typically from a letter (epistle) to the early Church, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Revelation to John.

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.**

The sequence hymn or Gospel acclamation moves us toward the summit of the Liturgy of the Word—the reading of the Holy Gospel. Gospel means “good news”—specifically the “good news of Jesus Christ.”

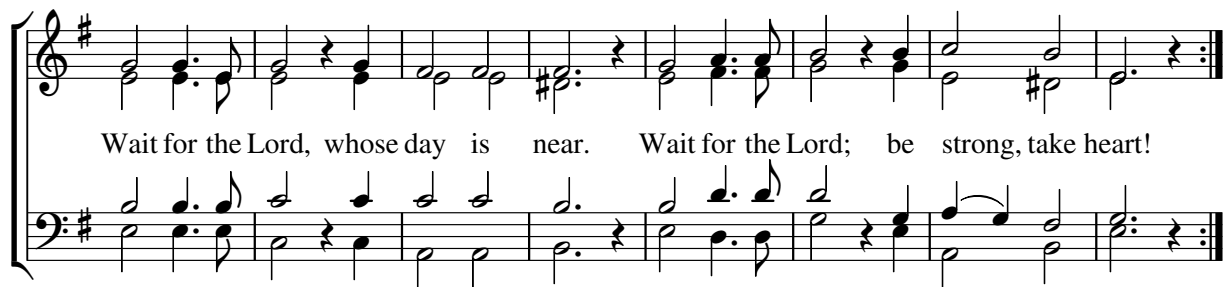
All stand, as able.

Children are invited to join the Gospel Procession, and gather around as the Gospel is proclaimed. Children ages 3-8 are then invited to Children's Chapel in Thomsen Chapel. They will return at the Peace. Parents are welcome to join their children.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Taizé

Sung by all three times.



This reading is taken from one of the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John), which depict the life, teachings, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. We stand for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance placed on Jesus's words and actions.

THE HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 1:26-38*

Deacon 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.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The homily directly follows the Gospel because it is grounded in the scriptures. It illuminates the scriptural readings and relates them to daily life.

HOMILY

Alison Estep

Following the homily, the assembly is invited into a period of silence, reflecting on the scriptures and sermon. Please stand, as able, when the Presider stands as the liturgy continues.

The word “creed” comes from the Latin “credo” for “I believe.” First formulated at the Council of Nicaea in 325 CE and confirmed in 381 CE, the Nicene Creed is said at the Holy Eucharist and reflects what Christians believe regarding the relationship between the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit: The Holy Trinity.

THE NICENE CREED

Authorized for use by the 1997 General Convention

**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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.**

We pray for ourselves and particularly on behalf of others. Each week, we pray for the Universal Church, the nation and its leaders, the welfare of the world, the concerns of our community of faith, including those who are in need or suffer, and for the departed. We are reminded in prayer that we are part of a larger fellowship, the Church—the Body of Christ.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *After each petition:*

Intercessor We look to you in hope;
Assembly **come among us, O Christ.**

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

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

The Book of Common Prayer 1979, p. 360

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

You are invited to stand or kneel for the confession.

Deacon 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 exchange of peace within the gathered community is an ancient Christian practice. It is a sign of reconciliation, love, and renewed relationships prior to coming to God's table for Eucharist.

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

Having listened to the Word of God, affirmed our faith, confessed our sins, received forgiveness, and shared in the peace, we are prepared for the mystery and miracle of the Holy Communion. At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and in the money we give.

OFFERTORY

An offering of money is received. Everyone participating in worship is invited to make an offering in gratitude for God's generosity. Together, these gifts make possible this community of welcome, reconciliation and service. Those worshiping in person may to place their offering in baskets as they are passed through through the rows.

Visit saintmarks.org/give, or use the Venmo mobile app (@SaintMarksCathedralSeattle, or scan the code at right). If Venmo asks you for a four-digit code, enter 2076.



ANTHEM

Joys Seven

Medieval English Carol, arr. Martin Shaw

The first good joy that Mary had,
It was the joy of one;
To see the blessed Jesus Christ
When he was first her son:

The next good joy that Mary had,
It was the joy of four;
To see her own son, Jesus Christ,
To read the bible o'er: *Refrain*

*When he was first her son, good friends:
And blessed may he be,
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
To all eternity.*

The next good joy that Mary had,
It was the joy of five;
To see her own son, Jesus Christ,
To bring the dead alive: *Refrain*

The next good joy that Mary had,
It was the joy of two;
To see her own son, Jesus Christ,
To make the lame to go: *Refrain*

The next good joy that Mary had,
It was the joy of six;
To see her own son, Jesus Christ,
Upon the crucifix: *Refrain*

The next good joy that Mary had,
It was the joy of three;
To see her own son, Jesus Christ,
To make the blind to see: *Refrain*

The next good joy that Mary had,
It was the joy of sev'n;
To see her own son, Jesus Christ,
To wear the crown of heav'n: *Refrain*

In the Great Thanksgiving, we do what Jesus himself asked us: thank God and recall all that God has done for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. The Great Thanksgiving, or Eucharistic Prayer, is a lengthy prayer with several intentions. We recount the story of Jesus at the Last Supper, where he took, blessed, broke, and gave bread and wine as sacraments of his body and blood. We begin the Great Thanksgiving with the *Sursum corda*, meaning “Lift up your hearts.”

All stand, as able.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *Eucharistic Prayer B*

The Book of Common Prayer 1979, adapt., p. 360

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 every where to give thanks to you, the Maker of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in Christ 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:

The Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) is the hymn of praise that never ceases before God and is based on Isaiah 6:3.

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

Hurd

Holy, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna

in the high - est. Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the high - est.

We recall God's acts of salvation history. The presider says the "Words of Institution" that Jesus said at the Last Supper. At the Memorial Acclamation we remember Christ's death, resurrection, and promise to return at the end of the age.

During the prayer, the Holy Spirit is invoked to bless and sanctify the gifts of bread and wine.

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. Through Mary's Holy Child, you have delivered us from evil and made us worthy to stand before you. 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, Jesus 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, 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 shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O God:

***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, Dear One; 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, gather all things into the circle of Christ's love, and bring us to that heavenly country where with Mary, Mark, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of all your children; through Jesus Christ, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Most Blessed One, now and forever.

The Great Amen unites the congregation in one great voice as we concur with all that the presider has prayed. It is the only "AMEN" in all capitals found in the Book of Common Prayer, signifying the importance of the congregation's response.

***All* AMEN.**

We pray together the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray. The link between our daily bread and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is an ancient connection.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

McNeil Robinson

Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-lowed be your Name, your king-dom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heav-en. Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as we for-give
those who sin a-against us. Save us from the time of trial, and de-liv-er us from e-vil.
For the king-dom, the pow-er, and the glo-ry are yours, now and for ev-er. A-men.

In silence, the Presider breaks the consecrated bread.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD *Lamb of God*

Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All may be seated for the time of Communion. All seeking God are welcome at Christ's Table.

Please follow the directions of the Liturgical Ministers. Bread and wine are distributed at standing stations at the head of three aisles. The bread will be placed into your outstretched palm. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, simply ask for one at the time of Communion. If you wish to receive a blessing instead, please cross your arms in front of your chest.

Intinction (dipping the bread in the wine) is not available at this time. If you do not wish to drink from the common cup, please cross your arms in front of your chest as you pass by the chalice. The full grace of the sacrament is received with only the bread.

VOLUNTARY *Organ improvisation*

HYMN 265 *The angel Gabriel from heaven came* ♦ *The Hymnal 1982*

Gabriel's Message

After singing the hymn, the assembly is invited to remain seated for a period of silence, contemplating the gifts of God given and received.

From the earliest days of the Church, members of the congregation took bread to those who were ill or could not be present in person.

All stand, as able.

SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Presider One body are we.

Assembly **For, though many, we share one bread and one cup.**

Deacon Go in peace, bearing holy gifts for holy people.

Before concluding the service, we give thanks to God for the gifts received, and the Presider pronounces a blessing in God's name upon the assembly. A closing hymn and the dismissal conclude the liturgy.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

The Book of Common Prayer 1979, p. 365

Presider Eternal God, heavenly Father,

All **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.*

DISMISSAL*The Deacon dismisses the assembly; all respond: 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 Rev. Canon Jennifer King Daugherty

PREACHER

Alison Estep

DEACON

The Rev. Robert Stevens

ASSISTING LAY MINISTER

Marc Aubertin

WREATH LIGHTING

Heather Millar

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Jon Achee, Re Knack, Emily Meeks, The Rev. Linzi Stahlecker, The Very Rev. Steven L. Thomason

ACOLYTE

Allen Barnes

GREETERS

Carolyn Blount, Sam Herring

USHERS

Dave Harms, Don Sutkus

OBLATION BEARERS

Russ Crosbie

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Christopher Brown

LECTORS

Maris Olsen, Christopher Brown

INTERCESSOR

Maris Olsen

SOUND BOARD

Michael Perera

MUSICIANSSaint Mark's Singers;
Canon Michael Kleinschmidt and John Stuntebeck, *organists*