



SAINT MARK'S  
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 21, 2025

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 level 5 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](http://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** *Thème, Plainte*  
from Variations on the Chorale “*Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*”  
(Tune of Hymn 54, “Savior of the nations, come!”)

Denis Bédard

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

*All stand, as able.*

**HYMN 54** *Savior of the nations, come!* ♦ *The Hymnal 1982*  
(verses 1 & 2)

*Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*Presider* Restore us, O God of hosts;  
*Assembly* **Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

## 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.

**P**URIFY 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** *Isaiah 7:10-16*

**A**GAIN the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be as deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

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

*Assembly* **Thanks be to God.**

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

**H**EAR, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*  
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, \*  
stir up your strength and come to help us.

Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

O LORD God of hosts, \*  
how long will you be angered  
despite the prayers of your people?

You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

You have made us the derision of our neighbors, \*  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, \*  
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

And so will we never turn away from you; \*  
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved. ♦

**READING***Romans 1:1-7*

**P**AUL, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

*Assembly* **Thanks be to God.**

*All stand, as able.*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL** *Matthew 1:18-25*

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

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

**N**OW THE BIRTH of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

*Presider* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**HOMILY**

The Reverend Canon Richard C. Weyls

*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 among us, O Christ.

*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](https://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**.*



**CHANT** *Ave Maria*

Words from Luke 1

Music: traditional Offertory chant proper to the Fourth Sunday of Advent

*Ave Maria, gratia plena,  
Dominus tecum.  
Benedicta tu in mulieribus,  
et benedictus fructus ventris tui.*

Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with you.  
Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

*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 72** *Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes (verses 1 & 4) ◆ The Hymnal 1982*

*Richmond*

**DISMISSAL** *The Presider dismisses the Assembly. All respond: Thanks be to God.*

**VOLUNTARY** *Toccata*  
from Variations on the Chorale "Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland"  
(Tune of Hymn 54, "Savior of the nations, come!")

Denis Bédard

# MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

**PRESIDER & PREACHER**

The Rev. Canon Richard C. Weyls

**CHALICE BEARER**

Kerry Allman

**LECTOR & INTERCESSOR**

Phyllis MacCameron

**ORGANIST & CANTOR**

John Stuntebeck

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