



SAINT MARK'S
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 21, 2025

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 level 5 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 Three Baroque-era settings of *Nun komm der Heiden Heiland*
(Tune of Hymn 54, “Savior of the nations, come!”)

1. From the *Lüneberger Orgeltabulatur* (ca. 1650)
2. J. S. Bach (BWV 660)
3. Dieterich Buxtehude (BUXWV 211)

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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

All stand, as able.

HYMN 54 *Savior of the nations, come!* ♦ *The Hymnal 1982*

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

Enriching Our Worship 1, p. 50

Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

Assembly Glory to God for ever and ever.

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.

The Gloria, or some other song of praise, centers the service on the Holy One we gather to praise in our worship.

TRISAGION *sung by all 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 God 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 *Isaiah 7:10-16*

AGAIN the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be 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.**

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.

PSALM

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

Plainsong, Tone IV.4

The cantor introduces the Antiphon, all repeat it.

The cantor chants the verses, all repeat the Antiphon as indicated.



Qui regis Israel

Hear, 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. **ANTIPHON**

O 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. **ANTIPHON**

Let your hand be upon the anointed one at your right hand *
the one 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 God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved. **ANTIPHON**

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 1:1-7

PAUL, 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.**

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.

SEQUENCE HYMN *My soul cries out*



1. My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the God of my heart is great,



and my spir - it sings of the won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.



You fixed your sight on the ser - vant's plight, and my weak - ness you did not spurn,



so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?



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

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 *Matthew 1:18-25*

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

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

NOW 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.

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

The Reverend Canon Richard C. Weyls

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

Enriching Our Worship 1, p. 56

Deacon Let us confess our sins to God.
You are invited to stand or kneel for the confession.

Deacon God of all mercy,
All we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. 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 Christ 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 worshipping 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*

Words and Music: Traditional English Carol, harm. 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:

*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 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 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 four;
 To see her own son, Jesus Christ,
 To read the bible o'er:

Refrain

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 six;
 To see her own son, Jesus Christ,
 Upon the crucifix:

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 2**Enriching Our Worship 1, p. 60**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 We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

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

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

David Hurd

The musical notation consists of two staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "Holy, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna". The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: "in the high - est. Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the high - est." The melody is simple and melismatic, with long notes and ties.

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 Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with Mary, Mark, and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

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

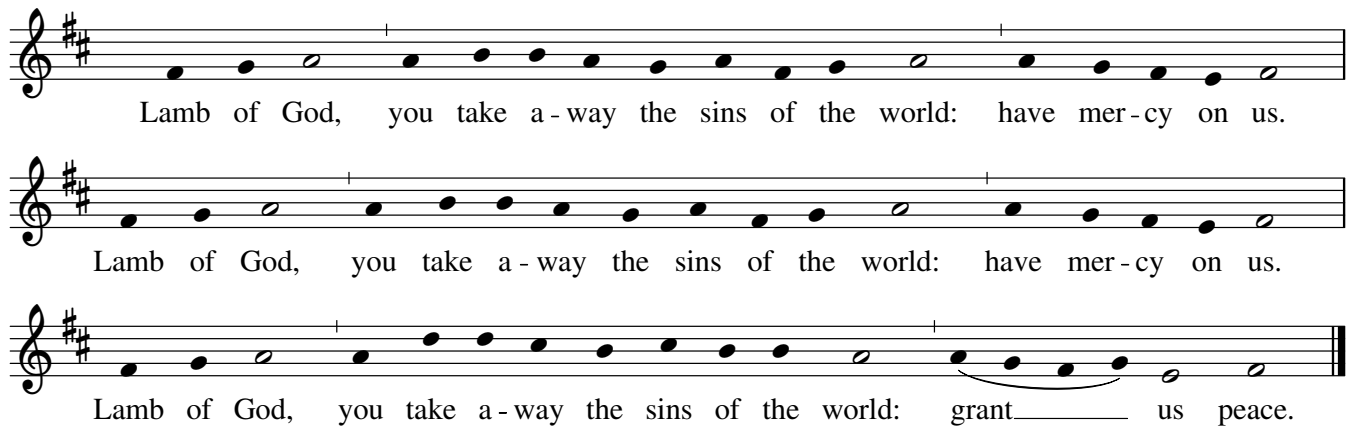


Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-lowed be your Name, your king-dom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heav-en. Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as we for-give
those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of trial, and de-liv-er us from e - vil.
For the king-dom, the pow-er, and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

ANTHEM *How lovely are the messengers, from St. Paul, Op. 36*

Words: Romans 10: 15, 18
Music: Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

How lovely are the messengers
that preach us the Gospel of peace!
To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words,
throughout all the lands their glad tidings.

HYMN 265 *The angel Gabriel from heaven came (verses 1 & 2) ♦ The Hymnal 1982*

Gabriel's Message

After communion, 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

Enriching Our Worship 1, p. 69

Presider God of abundance,

All **you have fed us
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us
with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. 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 Deacon 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

The Very Rev. Steven L. Thomason

PREACHER

The Rev. Canon Richard C. Weyls

DEACON

The Rev. Alison Leary

ASSISTING LAY MINISTER

Cinda Madonna

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

The Rev. Adam Conley, Norm Harris, Re Knack, The Rev. Canon Emily Griffin

VERGER

Theresa Barker

ACOLYTE

Alexander Snow

WREATH LIGHTERS

TBD

GREETER

Carolyn Blount

USHERS

Ralph Ermoian, Don Sutkus

OBLATION BEARERS

The Judd-Herzfeldt family

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Re Knack

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The Senior Choristers and Schola of Saint Mark's Choir School, Rebekah Gilmore, *director*
Saint Mark's Singers

Canon Michael Kleinschmidt and John Stuntebeck, *organists*