



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
A SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION
DECEMBER 22, 2024, 10:30 A.M.



Welcome to Grace Episcopal Cathedral!

If you're new here, there's more information for you on the back of this service bulletin.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PRELUDE: Evensong

Derek K. Hakes

The Cathedral Ringers

Silent procession. Please stand as able.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Alexander Kastalsky (1856-1926)



Ho - ly, God, — Ho-ly and migh - ty, Ho-lyand im-mor-tal, have mer-cy on us

Trisagion sung three times, the first time by the choir.

The Cathedral Choir: You called Mary to be the mother of your Son; she responded to your call with joy. Help us share in your great work of love and healing, and bless your children who long for your coming.

ACCLAMATION AND SALUTATION

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

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.**

Congregation is seated.

THE FIRST READING: Micah 5:2-5a

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

After the reading, Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE 15: S 242 Magnificat

Sung by the choir

THE SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:5-10

When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

After the reading, Thanks be to God.

Please stand as able.

THE GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-55

Before the Gospel, ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

After the Gospel, Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED *BCP 358 Standing as able.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

May our hearts leap for joy as we assemble in prayer to await the Lord's coming. With Mary, let our souls proclaim God's greatness.

Let us pray for the Church as the celebration of your incarnation draws near. Today we remember our Presiding Bishop Sean, our own Bishop, Cathleen, and the many ways your revelation is lifted up in the world. We pray also for our siblings in Christ throughout the world: St. Thomas the Apostle, Overland Park, and the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York City; and especially for those whose very faith endangers their lives. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

For an end to violence, oppression, and injustice. As you lead us, Lord, from darkness to light, may we be among those who exalt the lowly and fill the hungry with good things, rooting out the proud of heart and drawing courage from the power of your Spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

For our own spirits: May this season of Advent stir in us such faith that we exert ourselves to be your light in a darkened world.

Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

For this community: may we be enriched by welcoming the stranger and be drawn to a bright future and service to you, while also remembering and honoring those in the past who guided us into faith.

Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

For the sick and suffering, the weary and wounded: may they find healing and peace in your continual presence, especially Kay, Kitty, Janet, Arceile, Judy, Mike, Jenny, Connie Adams, Tom, Jan, and Katie.

Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

For the faithfully departed: may they and we be welcomed into the place of glory our Lord has prepared for us. In our Permanent Flower Memorial today, we pray for G.W. Snyder, Dennis Murphy, Al Adams, Evelyn Meade, George Groshong, Mary Millspaugh, and Adam Lucas.

Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Celebrant: Lord, we gather up the prayers of this household, confident in your promise to be with us. Always guide us in wisdom and faith that we may live into the life created for us, trusting in your will. All this we ask through your Son, our Redeemer Jesus, who is your Christ.

CONFESSION OF SIN *BCP 360, kneeling if able*

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS *Congregation is seated.*

OFFERTORY SENTENCE: It is not sacrifice and offerings the Lord desires, but that you give yourself and do God's will. Blessed are you if you understand and do these things.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: Magnificat

Rob Laudes

The Cathedral Choir

Magnificat. My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
who has looked with favor upon His lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer D, *BCP 372, Standing as able.*

THE SANCTUS S 127

Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow - er and might, — hea - ven and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. —

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD: Fraction Anthem (S 166)

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

Je - sus, Lamb of God: Have mer - cy on
us. Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: Have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world: Give us your peace.

COMMUNION

All are welcome! Communion is available at the altar rail or at the crossing. To receive a blessing from the priest, come forward and cross your arms over your chest. Signal a server if you need to remain in your pew but wish to partake. After receiving communion, Prayer Ministers will be in St. Mary's Chapel for private prayer.

Please stand as you are able.

POSTCOMMUNION HYMN 268: Ye Who Claim the Faith of Jesus

JULION

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Eternal God, 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.

THE BLESSING

PROCESSION HYMN 74: Blest Be the King Whose Coming

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

THE DISMISSAL Let us go forth in the name of Christ!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: III. O Emmanuel from *Canticum*

Naji Hakim (b. 1955)

MINISTERS TODAY

Celebrant: The Reverend Jody Carroll, *Canon*

Preacher: The Very Reverend Torey Lightcap, *Dean*

Deacons: The Reverend Don Chubb and The Reverend Sarah Shipman

Vergers: George Webb, Kent Wingerson

Ushers: Team 6, Bob Horton, *Capt.*

Acolytes: Team 1, Michael Wilson, *Capt.*

Organist: Donald Livingston

Eucharistic Ministers: Kitty Fapp

Choirmaster: Dr. Eduardo García-Novelli

Alan Johnson, Linda Park

Associate Choirmaster: Zachary Cope

Lector: Sam Carkhuff

Sound/Lights: Mason Vosburgh

Altar Guild: Group B, Linda Gallaway, *Capt.*

Livestream: Michael Massey

CATHEDRAL PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Forum, December 22 and 29: *Grief and the Holidays* with The Reverend David Jenkins
The Adult Forum meets at 9:30 a.m. in All Saints Hall.

Advent Mitten Tree: Throughout December, you'll see our "Mitten Tree" on the Cathedral's east side. All Cathedral members are invited to help decorate the tree with new mittens, gloves, hats and scarves. After Christmas, the items will be given to those who could use the extra warmth this winter.

Current year's pledge: Please check the status of your 2024 pledge. Tuesday, December 31 will be the last day that your payments will count for the 2024 tax year. However, please make every effort to get your payments in before Christmas as the last week of the year is very busy for our Finance Administrator. You can call Kent in the Cathedral office (235-3457) if you are not sure where you are on this year's pledge. Thank you!

The Cathedral office will be closed December 26 and 27 for the Christmas holiday.

New offering envelopes are here: If you use offering envelopes to pay your pledge, we have a set for you. They are available on the west side of the Cathedral nave. Please begin using the envelopes the first Sunday of 2025. You should discard any envelopes from previous years since the numbers change each year.

If you don't see a box for you, please contact Kent Wingerson in the Cathedral office.

Upcoming Memorial Service: A service to celebrate the life of Margaret McGillivray will be held at Grace Cathedral on Saturday, January 4 at 10:30 a.m.

Gospel of Luke Study: The Women's Study Group at Grace Cathedral will be resuming their twice-a-month meetings in January with a new study on the Gospel of Luke. This group is open to all women. They meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. in the Robyn Room. If you have any questions, please contact Karel Ramsey, 785-232-1452.

Sharing Table Donations: Thank you to everyone who is supplying the necessary, daily items that most of us take for granted. Please know that your gifts, which we distribute each first Saturday, are helping our neighbors in need. They are so thankful for your generosity.

You are invited to visit us the first Saturday of the month to see what goes on and to meet some of our neighbors. We are looking for a few more volunteers for our rotating schedule. Currently each volunteer works three Saturdays per year for about three hours each time. If you have questions, contact Melissa Weikel, 785-215-0501 or Ministry Coordinator Ruth Ohm.

In the interest of creating a peaceful and prayerful space for worship, at five minutes before worship begins, or just before the prelude, a bell will ring. This is the signal to refrain from conversation so that you and others may prepare for worship through prayer, meditation and thoughtful silence.

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) = red book Hymnal = blue book

We'd love to connect with you. Please fill out a visitor information card from the pew rack and drop it in the collection box on your way out today.

Sound equipment for the hearing-impaired is available. Inquire with an usher.

Restrooms are located in the hallway to the west. Next to the nursery you will find a family restroom with a changing table.

A staffed nursery is available today, down the hallway to your right. You can ask an usher to assist you.

Connect with us and learn more about who we are at www.gracecathedraltopeka.org.

To make a gift, visit www.GiveToGrace.org.



Special Note: Please be aware that this service will be live-streamed on YouTube and Facebook.

GRACE EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

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