

Love



December 20, 2020  
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Gathering Song: O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

*REFRAIN*

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.

2. O come, Desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of all mankind;  
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease, And be Thyself our King of Peace.

*TO REFRAIN*

Greeting

Priest sings/says: In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All sing/say: A-men.

Priest: The grace and peace of God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Penitential Rite

Priest: Before hearing the Word of God  
and sharing the Bread of Life,  
sing praise to Christ, the Alpha and Omega

Lord, Jesus.....Lord Have Mercy.

All: Lord have mercy.

Christ, Jesus.....Christ Have Mercy.

All: Christ have mercy.

Lord, Jesus.....Lord Have Hecry.

All: Lord have mercy.

Opening Prayer: **Priest:** Let us pray....forever and ever. **All: A-men!**  
**AMEN! AMEN! AMEN! O COME TO US, EMMANUEL!**

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

**1st Reading from the second Book of Samuel (7:1-5,8b-12, 14a, 16)**

**Psalm Response: "And holy, holy, holy is His name."**

**Second Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans (16:25-27)**

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, Alleluia... Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Verse is sung. When finished, repeat above.

The Gospel Reading

Deacon/ Priest: A reading from the holy gospel according to **Luke (1: 26-38)**

**ALL: Glory to you, Lord.**

The gospel is read. When the reading is over:

Deacon/Priest: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**All Sing: Alleluia! Alleluia!... Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Homily*

## LITANY OF LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES (week 4)

**Lector:** God is making the final preparations for an amazing thing!  
Now the Advent of the long-awaited Messiah, our bringer  
of hope, Prince of Peace and cause for joy.

*People: We are a people of hope, a people of peace, a people of joy,  
a people of love.*

**Lector:** We celebrate the coming of Christ with the lighting of the  
Advent candles.

*People: At first there was the frail light of a single candle of hope  
daring to pierce through the darkness of despair.*

**Lector:** Then there was the candle of peace, the gentle and persistent  
fire, the one that calls out the violent forces and lets in God's  
deep and tranquil Spirit.

*People: Then there was the candle of joy, the light that reminds us to  
find revelation not solely in the past nor live only for the future  
but to rejoice in the present where all time is joined together.*

**Lector:** Today we light the candle of love. No other work so adequately  
captures the spirit and goal of our faith. No other work so  
completely describes what we know of our God.

*People: For God so loved the world that a child was given. A savior was  
made in the form of Love Incarnate. And love was allowed to live  
on.*

**Lector:** We give thanks for a love that passes understanding, and we  
await the dawning of God's faithful and enduring love once  
more this Christmas Season. Amen.

## **The Lighting of the Advent Wreath:**

*All sing:*

**1. God of light, we are waiting for you.**

**God of light, we are waiting for you.**

**God of hope and mercy, God of power and peace,**

**God of light we are waiting for you.**

**2. We shall call you Emmanuel. We shall call you Emmanuel.**

**Behold a Virgin shall give birth to a son.**

**We shall call you Emmanuel.**

**3. You shall save all your people from sin.**

**You shall save all your people from sin.**

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel,**

**You shall save all your people from sin.**

**4. Prepare for the reign of our Lord.**

**Prepare for the reign of our Lord.**

**God's rule will be without end, amen.**

**Prepare for the reign of our Lord.**

**Sign Of Peace: Priest: Lord, Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles: I leave you peace.....forever and ever. All: Amen.**

**Priest: The Peace of the Lord Be with you always. All: And also with you.**

**Deacon/Priest: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.**

## **LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

**Offertory Song: LET THE VALLEYS BE RAISED**

### **Refrain**

**Let the valleys be raised  
and the mountains made low  
Ev'ry meadow and field overturn  
Make the pathway straight  
and the highway run smooth  
for the coming of God in our day**

**1 . God has come to His people  
as He promised of old  
He has raised up a Saviour  
in the sight of us all  
Refrain**

**2. You, little child, go before Him  
like the prophets of old  
Bringing news of His coming  
by the mercy of God  
Refrain**

**3. God has come like the morning  
on the darkness of night  
As a light to the people,  
like the breaking of day  
Presentation of the Gifts**

Presider: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation..... It will become for us the bread of life. **All: Blessed be God forever!**

Presider: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.....  
It will become our cup of salvation. **All: Blessed be God forever.**

*Presider: Pray my brothers and sisters that our sacrifice.....*  
**ALL: MAY THE LORD ACCEPT THE SACRIFICE AT YOUR HANDS,  
FOR THE PRAISE AND THE GLORY OF HIS NAME,  
FOR OUR GOOD AND THE GOOD OF ALL HIS CHURCH.**

*Eucharistic Prayer*

*Introductory Dialogue*

*Preface*

*Presider: The Lord be with you. ALL: AND ALSO WITH YOU.*  
*Presider: Lift up your hearts. ALL: WE LIFT THEM UP TO THE LORD.*  
*Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.*  
**ALL: IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE GOD THANKS AND PRAISE.**

### The Holy

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blest is he, blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna in the highest!**

*Words of Consecration:*

**"TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT IT.  
THIS IS MY BODY WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU."**

**"TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT.  
THIS IS THE CUP OF MY BLOOD, THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND  
EVERLASTING COVENANT. IT WILL BE SHED FOR YOU AND FOR ALL  
SO THAT SINS MAY BE FORGIVEN. DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME**

**The Memorial Acclamation**

**Christ has died, Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues, then concludes with:*

**Doxology**

Through him, with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, forever and ever. Amen. Amen. Amen.

**COMMUNION RITE**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Lamb of God**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

*Celebrant: Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.*

*Happy are they to be called to this supper.*

**All: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

## On Spiritual Communion by Mother Diane Smith

Spiritual Communion has been experienced by the people of God for centuries during times when coming together as community for Mass has not been possible. Together we are in such a difficult time right now. Our most loving acts to one another can occur by staying apart. Christ's loving presence can be known by each of us while we are absent one from another unable to physically receive Communion.

God loves us so much that He reaches out to us in Spiritual Communion. St. Teresa of Avila, mystic and doctor of the church, says, "When you do not receive Communion and you do not attend Mass, you can make a Spiritual Communion, which is a most beneficial practice; by it the love of God will be greatly impressed on you."

This prayer is commonly used by those seeking Spiritual Communion: "My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you

sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen." (St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

Communion Song: MARANATHA!

**REFRAIN:**

***MARANATHA! MARANATHA!***

***O COME TO US, EMMANUEL!***

***1. Keep watch and pray; keep watch and pray.***

***You know not when the Lord shall come again. Mara....***

***2. A voice cries out: "Prepare a way for God!"***

***Make straight the way that God may come to us!" Mara....***

***3. The parched land blooms, the desert shall exult,***

***And all behold the glory of our God. Mara.....***

***4. Be patient, friends, and let your hearts be strong,***

***For soon shall be the coming of our God. Mara....***

***5. Rejoice in God! Again I say, "Rejoice!"***

***And do not be afraid: the Lord is near. Mara.....***

## CONCLUDING RITE

Communion Meditation: Music Ministry

Prayer after Communion

Dismissal

Closing Song: EMMANUEL

### Refrain

Come, come, Emmanuel!

Son of God, appear.

Heaven and earth, rejoice!

Salvation is drawing near.

Salvation is drawing near.

1. O come, Desire of nations, bind  
In one the hearts of humankind;  
Make all our sad divisions cease,  
And be for us the King of Peace.

### REFRAIN

*"We are an emergent church, practicing an ancient faith in new ways;  
a church of inclusivity where ALL ARE WELCOME!"*

*+Peter Hickman*

*God bless you all!*