

December 21, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Advent



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

+Peter

OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP
(a liturgical aid to today's Mass)

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Prelude &

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, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who orderest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.**

TO REFRAIN

**3. O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times once gave the law
In cloud and majesty and awe.**

**4. O come, Thou Rod of Jesse's stem, from ev'ry foe deliver them
That trust thy mighty pow'r to save, And give them vic'try o'er the
grave.**

TO REFRAIN

**5. O come, Thou Key of David, come, And open wide our heavenly
home;
Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery.**

**6. O come, Thou Dayspring from on high, And cheer us by thy
drawing nigh, Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's
dark shadow put to flight.**

TO REFRAIN

**7. 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

Rejoice!

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 Book of the Prophet Isaiah
(7: 10-14)**

**Psalm Response:
“AND HOLY, HOLY, HOLY IS HIS NAME.”**

**Second Reading from beginning of the Letter of Paul to the
Romans (1:1-7)**

Gospel Acclamation *please stand*

Alleluia, Alleluia... Alleluia! Alleluia!

Verse is sung. When finished, repeat above.

The Gospel Reading

Deacon: A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew(1-18-24)

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 *please be seated*

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 or 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 -
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 pervasive and enduring love once
more this Christmas Season. Amen.

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath:

MARANATHA!

REFRAIN:

MARANATHA! MARANATHA!

O COME TO US, EMMANUEL!

**Be patient, friends and let your hearts be strong.
for soon shall be the coming of our God!**

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.**

**O Mother of Jesus, of all mothers blest,
to you may our praises and prayers be addressed.
AVE MARIA, AVE MARIA! AVE MARIA, AVE MARIA!**

**2. O Mary, you trusted God's promise was true,
and wisdom eternal was made flesh in you.
AVE MARIA, AVE MARIA! AVE MARIA, AVE MARIA!**

**3. You treasured in faith and in love all you heard;
your heart and your body gave birth to God's Word.
AVE MARIA, AVE MARIA! AVE MARIA, AVE MARIA!**

**4. When time claimed your body and held your last breath,
God raised you to glory, beyond pain and death.
AVE MARIA, AVE MARIA! AVE MARIA, AVE MARIA!**

**5. O Mary, all beautiful clothed in the sun,
With you many we share in the vict'ry Christ won.
AVE MARIA, AVE MARIA! AVE MARIA, AVE MARIA!**

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.

The Eucharistic Prayer continues.....

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.

Communion

Communion Song: WE SHALL PREPARE

REFRAIN: ALL

**WE SHALL PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR NEW LOVE.
WE SHALL PREPARE OUR EYES FOR THE BLINDING LIGHT.
WE SHALL PREPARE OUR FAITH
TO BREAK THE DARK OF NIGHT.
WE SHALL PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD.**

1. Cantor: An angel appeared to him in a dream:

ALL: "JOSEPH, DO NOT BE AFRAID."

Cantor: "The virgin conceived and will bear you a son:

ALL: HIS NAME, EMMANUEL!"

REFRAIN

2. Cantor: Mary, your Son, he will be one

ALL: HE SHALL BE NAMED "GOD WITH US"

Cantor: We'll wait with you, joining your song

ALL: OF THE SPIRIT, THE SPIRIT OF GOD!

REFRAIN

3. ALL: MY SOUL WILL REJOICE, MY SPIRIT FIND JOY

A SAVIOR SHALL BE BORN TO US.

OFFER YOUR HAND, OFFER YOUR HEART

TO THE PEOPLE, THE PEOPLE OF GOD!

REFRAIN

**Communion Meditation: LET ALL MORTAL FLESH
CONCLUDING RITE**

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