

Sunday, December 20

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Digital Worship Aid



**Entrance Song: Come,
Emmanuel (Huck/Alonso)**

Verse Response:

Come, O come, Emmanuel.

**Rejoice! Rejoice, Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.**

First Reading:

2 SM 7:1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16

When King David was settled in his palace,
and the LORD had given him rest from his enemies on every side,
he said to Nathan the prophet,

“Here I am living in a house of cedar,
while the ark of God dwells in a tent!”

Nathan answered the king,

“Go, do whatever you have in mind,
for the LORD is with you.”

But that night the LORD spoke to Nathan and said:

“Go, tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD:
Should you build me a house to dwell in?’”

“It was I who took you from the pasture
and from the care of the flock

to be commander of my people Israel.

I have been with you wherever you went,
and I have destroyed all your enemies before you.

And I will make you famous like the great ones of the earth.

I will fix a place for my people Israel;

I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place
without further disturbance.

Neither shall the wicked continue to afflict them as they did of old,
since the time I first appointed judges over my people Israel.

I will give you rest from all your enemies.

The LORD also reveals to you

that he will establish a house for you.
And when your time comes and you rest with your ancestors,
I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins,
and I will make his kingdom firm.
I will be a father to him,
and he shall be a son to me.
Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me;
your throne shall stand firm forever.”

Responsorial Psalm:

PS 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29

Cantaré eternamente las misericordias del Señor. Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

The promises of the Lord I will sing forever; through all generations my mouth shall proclaim your faithfulness. For you have said, “My kindness is established forever;” in heaven you have confirmed your faithfulness.

I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to David my servant: forever will I confirm your posterity and establish your throne for all generations.

He shall say of me, “You are my father, my God, my Rock, my savior.” Forever I will maintain my kindness toward him, and my covenant with him stands firm.

Second Reading:

ROM 16:25-27

Brothers and sisters:

To him who can strengthen you,
according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ,
according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages
but now manifested through the prophetic writings and,
according to the command of the eternal God,
made known to all nations to bring about the obedience of faith,
to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ
be glory forever and ever.

Amen.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia.

The kingdom of God is near. The kingdom of
God is at hand. Repent and believe in the Good
News!

Gospel:

LK 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary.

And coming to her, he said,

“Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you.”

But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

Then the angel said to her,

“Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

“Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus.

He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

But Mary said to the angel,

“How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?”

And the angel said to her in reply,

“The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.

Therefore the child to be born
will be called holy, the Son of God.
And behold, Elizabeth, your relative,
has also conceived a son in her old age,
and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren;
for nothing will be impossible for God.”

Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.
May it be done to me according to your word.”
Then the angel departed from her.

Creed:

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
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.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Preparation of the Gifts: Blessed and Beloved (Montgomery)

Blessed and beloved, you, the poor and lowly, you are blessed and holy in the sight of our God. Blessed and beloved, you who mourn in sorrow. You shall dance tomorrow in the joy of the Lord.

Blessed and beloved, you, the lost and hopeless, Christ will be your solace and your light in the dark. Walk beside your neighbor, welcome in the stranger, then you'll find your brother, Jesus Christ the Lord.

Rejoice and be glad for you are not forgotten. Great will be the treasure that awaits you now in heaven. Rejoice and be glad for you are not forgotten. Blessed and beloved are you.

Blessed and beloved, you who work for justice, standing as a witness to the mercy of God. Shine your light for others, sisters and brothers, so your deeds may glorify the Lord, our God.

Rejoice and be glad for you are not forgotten. Great will be the treasure that awaits you now in heaven. Rejoice and be glad for you are not forgotten. Blessed and beloved are you.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Holy Mary, Reveling Your Son (Manalo)

Verse Responses:

1-5: Blessed are you.

6-7: Praise be to God

8-9: Blessed are you.

Refrain

**Holy Mary, revealing your Son. Sacred the hearts that beat as one.
Holy Mary, Christ's vict'ry is won. Sacred the gift of your Son.**

There Is A Longing

There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal yourself to us. There is a longing in our hearts for love we only find in you, our God.

For justice, for freedom, for mercy: hear our prayer.
In sorrow, in grief: be near, hear our prayer, O God.

For wisdom, for courage, for comfort: hear our prayer.
In weakness, in fear: be near, hear our prayer, O God.

For healing, for wholeness, for new life: hear our prayer.
In sickness, in death: be near, hear our prayer, O God.

Lord save us, take pity, light in our darkness. We call you, we wait: be near, hear our prayer, O God.

Meditation after Communion: A Voice Cries Out (Joncas)

Console my people, the ones dear to me; speak to the heart of Jerusalem: the time of your mourning is ended now, the Lord of life will come.

A voice cries out in the wilderness: “Prepare a way for the Lord!” A voice cries out in the wilderness: “Make straight a highway for God!”

Ev’ry valley is made a plain, ev’ry mountain is leveled; the glory of God shall then be revealed, and the nations will sing in praise.

Zion, shout from the mountain top, lift up your voice, O Jerusalem, and say to the people of God’s own land, “Behold, behold your God!”

The Lord will appear as a shepherd, holding his lambs in his arms, keeping his flock so close to his heart, leading them all old and young.

Sending Forth: People, Look East

People, look East. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able. Trim the hearth and set the table. People, look East, and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad, though earth is bare. One more seed is planted there; Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow'r may flourish. People, look East, and sing today: Love, the Rose, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch when night is dim. One more light the bowl shall brim. Shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look East, and sing today: Love, the Star, is on the way.

Please continue to support our parish by giving
online at:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/stthomas>