

Look, the young woman is with child and
shall bear a son, and shall name him
Immanuel.

Isaiah 7:14b

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Holy Eucharist
December 22, 2019, 10:30 am

We worship today according to the Holy Eucharist: Rite Two, beginning on
page 355 of the Book of Common Prayer. Congregational responses are in **boldface type**.
The initials "SH" refer to page numbers in the small Supplemental Hymnal in the pew racks.

The Word of God

We begin the service in silence

Lighting the Advent Wreath

We light these candles to remind us that we must prepare
our hearts for the coming of the Christ Child.

We stand for the hymn.

Hymn: *How Bright Appears the Morning Star (we stand)*.....497

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
His mercy endures for ever.

Almighty 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. **Amen.**

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us.....S 91

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
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. **Amen.**

The Lessons (*we sit*)

The First Lesson – 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."

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

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.**

O Lord 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.**

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man 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 Lord God of hosts; *
**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be
saved.**

The Epistle Lesson – 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.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Hymn:

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came (we stand).....265

The Gospel – Matthew 1:18-25

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

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, Lord Christ.

Sermon The Rev. Tiffany Chaney

The Nicene Creed (*we stand*)

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: by the power of

the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

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 and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

Prayers of the People (Form II, page 385 BCP)
(*We stand or kneel.*)

In the course of the silence after each bidding we offer our own prayers, either silently or aloud.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Kee, our Bishop; for Tiffany, our supply priest, for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for our Diocese and its prayerful search for a new Bishop: "God of wisdom and peace, you have gathered your faithful people, men and women of every nation, age, and color, in this diocese to humbly serve you: Look graciously on your Church and so guide the holy imagination of those who shall choose a bishop for this diocese, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries by igniting in us creative compassion and inspiring us to a relentless proclamation of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

Pray for discernment.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. We pray also for Mike Oniffrey, Micah Hart, Dennis Harper, Charlie Hayes, Larry and Pat Sharpton, Troy Warlick, Arnold and Nancy Bush, Dezel Oliver, Tom Haynie, Willodean,

and the others we now name. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for these persons from Beans & Rice yesterday who asked you to hear their request for prayer:

The lay reader reads the names.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for **Ruth Harper** and all the departed, including those we name. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession of Sin (we stand or kneel)

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

The Offertory

Hymn: *Savior of the Nations, Come!*.....54

Hymn *O Come, O Come Emmanuel (we stand)*.....56:1

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

(Eucharistic Prayer B, BCP p 367)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

(The priest says a Proper Preface)

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus: *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord*.....S 130

The people stand or kneel

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

As our Savior Christ
has taught us,
we now pray,

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Join us Christmas Eve! The Rev. Kelley Hudlow will officiate at a Deacon's Mass beginning at 6:30 pm, with refreshment time to follow in the Little House.

And mark your calendar for our annual meeting on Epiphany Sunday, January 5, 2020. After worship, we will feast on a pot luck lunch in the Little House (Jimmy's providing a ham) and elect two new vestry members.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem: *Christ Our Passover*.....S 156

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people

After Communion, the people stand or kneel and the Celebrant says

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

Hymn: *Hark! The Glad Sound!*.....72

Alleluia, Alleluia. Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Serving at Epiphany this week:

Ushers: Darrell and Suzy Wilson
Altar Guild: Lavonne Hart
Lay Reader: Betty Weldon
Lay Eucharistic Minister: Laura Williams
Refreshments: Lee and Amanda Borden

And on Christmas Eve:

Ushers: Mike Rallo and Maurice McCord
Altar Guild: Lee Borden
Lay Reader: Laura Williams
Lay Eucharistic: Lavonne Hart