

Sunday 18th December 2022

4th Sunday of Advent

Reading 1: Romans 1: 1 - 7

Gospel: Matthew 1: 18 - end

We enter into God's presence to give Him praise.

Acclamation

My soul glorifies the Lord
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
for all his loving kindness to me day by day.

Great is our God and worthy to be praised.

Grace mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Song: Angels from the realms of glory

(Click link) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ywDhJABxBY>

Invitation to Confession:

When the Lord comes,
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.
Therefore, in the light of Christ, let us confess our sins.

Confession:

Almighty God,
long-suffering and of great goodness:
I confess to you,
I confess with my whole heart
my neglect and forgetfulness of your
commandments,
my wrong doing, thinking, and speaking;
the hurts I have done to others,
and the good I have left undone.
O God, forgive me, for I have sinned against you;
and raise me to newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Absolution:

May the Father of all mercies
cleanse us from our sins
and restore us in His image
to the praise and glory of His name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessed be the Lord
for he has heard the voice of our prayer;

Therefore shall our hearts dance for joy
and in our song will we praise our God.

Reading 1: Romans 1: 1 – 7

¹Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷To 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.

*This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

Gospel: Matthew 1: 18 – end

¹⁸Now 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. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But 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. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' ²²All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet ²³'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' ²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

This is the gospel of the Lord. Praise to you O Christ.

Talk by Norman: (click link) https://youtu.be/hdu_FuriuPM

Song: Tell out my Soul <https://youtu.be/gVFqQQFsfeq>

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

The Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

In the hushed anticipation of your coming, O Lord,
kindle in us the desire to remain awake;
that we might be ready for your coming, and eager to pray.

O God, in days to come
the mountain of your house will be established,
and your joy shall reign.
We pray for the church (especially...),
that you might teach us your ways and that we might walk in your paths.
Come Lord Jesus,
and hear our prayer.

Out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and you, O God, shall judge between the nations.
We pray for our nation, and all nations,
that your peace would be manifest in every corner of the earth.
Come Lord Jesus,
and hear our prayer.

In your Kingdom, O Lord,
wolves lie down with lambs
and children play with serpents without fear.
We pray for the sick, the suffering,
and those in distress of any kind (especially...);
that you would heal all injuries, comfort all grief,

and settle all wrongs.
Come Lord Jesus,
and hear our prayer.

In your Kingdom, O Lord,
even the wilderness and dry land are glad and rejoice.
We pray for those who rejoice this week
as they celebrate their birthday (or anniversary, etc);
that they might obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing might flee away.
Come Lord Jesus,
and hear our prayer.

In the fulness of time, O God,
you sent your son, to be born of Mary.
And his name was Emmanuel: God with Us.
We thank you for your Presence with us,
and we pray that you might be always present
with those whom we love but see no longer.
Come Lord Jesus,
and hear our prayer.

Come among us O God, and hear our prayers;
so that when your Son Jesus comes among us
with great might, and in manger mild,
we might recognize his face and his voice,
and come to adore him.

Merciful Father,
accept these prayers
for the sake of your only Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Collect:

Eternal God,
as Mary waited for the birth of your Son,
so we wait for His coming in glory;
bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see,
with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen..

Lord's Prayer:

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
and forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil
For the kingdom the power and the glory
are yours now and forever. Amen.

Blessing:

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your path,
and make you ready to meet Him when He comes in glory ...

... and the blessing of God almighty;
Father Son and Holy Spirit,
be with us, and remain with us
and all those whom we love,
now and forever.
Amen.

Song: I cannot tell, why he whom angel's worship

(Click link) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-K9rlyhg-LQ>

*As we come to the end of this service we can fellowship with each other in Spirit, with tea, coffee
and biscuits, and continuing to pray for each other.*

Post something on the Facebook page to bless others.