

Christ Church Trumbull
The Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 22, 2024, Year C
9am and 10am Services

Opening Hymn 59 “Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding”

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed are you, holy and living God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People: **You come to your people and set them free.**

The Confession and Absolution

Celebrant: The Sun of Righteousness has dawned, bringing light to things now hidden in darkness. Let us come to the light of Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith. (*silence*)

All: **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.**

Celebrant: 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.

All: **Amen.**

Hymn No. 56 (v. 1-2)..... “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Celebrant 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.

All **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Old Testament **Micah 5:2-5a**

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
 who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
 one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
 from ancient days.
Therefore he shall give them up until the time
 when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
 to the people of Israel.
And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,
 in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
 to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace.

 If the Assyrians come into our land
 and tread upon our soil,
we will raise against them seven shepherds
 and eight installed as rulers.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80:1-7 (*Responsively by whole verse*)

Reader Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
 you who lead Joseph like a flock!

All **You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth
 before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.**

Reader Stir up your might,
 and come to save us!

All **Restore us, O God;
 let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

Reader O Lord God of hosts,
 how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

All **You have fed them with the bread of tears,
and given them tears to drink in full measure.**

Reader You make us the scorn of our neighbors;
our enemies laugh among themselves.

All **Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

The New Testament Hebrews 10:5-10

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,
'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;
in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, "See, God, I have come to do your will, O God"
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).'

When he said above, 'You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings' (these are offered according to the law), then he added, 'See, I have come to do your will.' He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn LEVAS 14 "Soon and Very Soon We are Goin' to See the King"

The Gospel Luke 1:39-55

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

And Mary said,

'My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,

and holy is his name.
His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
All Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon..... The Rev. Kathleen Liles

The Nicene Creed

**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.**

The Prayers of the People

Celebrant As we begin this time of Intercession and Thanksgiving, I bid your prayer requests for any special concern.

Celebrant offers a prayer and concludes the petitions:

Celebrant: Lord in your mercy
All **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: As once the eternal, invisible God assumed our flesh and made a home among us, we await the time when he will come again to judge and redeem the world. Let us now pray that he will also call us closer day by day through the power of his Holy Spirit.

Leader: For the church, graced with the Holy Spirit and called to discern God's purpose;
People: **May we embrace God's will, however mysterious or surprising.**

Leader: For the nations of the world;
People: **May they grow weary of war and be generous in forgiveness.**

Leader: For those who await with joy the coming holidays and for those who face them with anxiety.
People: **May they know the patience and confidence of Mary.**

Leader: For those who have asked for our prayers, especially Sophia, Jake, Evan, Rachel, Debbie, Stephen, George, Carolyn, Tori, John, Tom, Trish, Nathan, Andrea, Angela, Liam, Candace, Dennis, Jackie, Ginnie, Susan, Lucy, and Dick.
And for those who suffer whose names we do not know.
People: **May they trust in God's saving purpose.**

Celebrant: Make us, O God, as generous as Mary in embracing your holy will and as confident as Joseph in welcoming the unfolding of your purpose. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who was, and is, and is to come, your Son our Savior, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

Announcements

Christmas Eve Service at CCT: will be held on Tuesday, December 24th at 4pm. Please join us for a festive choral service! All are welcome!

Lessons and Carols Service: will be held on Sunday, December 29th at 9:30am and will be a eucharist service led by Mother Kathleen. There will be one service on this day.

Readers Needed! If you'd like to be a part of the worship service on Sundays with Rev. Kathleen and Deacon Lee, we'd love for you to be a reader. If interested, please contact the parish office for more information.

Coffee Hour Volunteers: We have open dates for volunteers to bring goodies to Coffee Hour. Please contact the parish office if you'd like to take a Sunday.

Celebrant Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Please stand

Offertory Hymn 90 "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharist Prayer B

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant continues

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

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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:

All.....**Sanctus S 130**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

The Celebrant continues

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,

All **We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

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 St. Nicholas, and 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.

All Amen.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Hymn Piano Solo “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

Please stand. Say together

Post-Communion Prayer

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 Advent Blessing

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

Closing Hymn WLP 724.....“People, Look East”

Dismissal

Deacon: **Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.**

All **Thanks be to God.**