

Fourth Sunday of Advent



*"Blessed are you who believed
that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."*

(Cycle C)

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Opening Hymn

Behold a Virgin Bearing Him



1. Be - hold a Vir - gin bear - ing him Who comes to
2. Be - hold our hope and life and light, The prom - ise



1. save us from our sin; The proph - ets cry: "Pre -
2. of the ho - ly night. We lift our prayer and



1. pare his way!" Make straight his path to Christ - mas Day.
2. bend our knee To his great love and maj - es - ty.

Greeting

∇. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

℞. Amen.


∇. The grace and peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ,
the Love of God
and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

℞. And also with you.

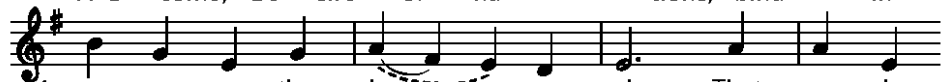
Closing Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel


Verses



1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And
 2. O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who
 3. O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who
 4. O come, Thou Rod of Jes - se's stem, From
 5. O come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come, And
 6. O come, Thou Day-spring from on high And
 7. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In




1. ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in
 2. or - d'rest all things might - i - ly; To us the
 3. to thy tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient
 4. ev - 'ry foe de - liv - er them That trust thy
 5. o - pen wide our heav - 'nly home; Make safe the
 6. cheer us by thy draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the
 7. one the hearts of all hu - man - kind; Bid thou our




1. lone - ly ex - ile here Un - til the Son of
 2. path of knowl - edge show, And teach us in her
 3. times didst give the law, In cloud and maj - es -
 4. might - y pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry
 5. way that leads on high, And close the path to
 6. gloom - y clouds of night, And death's dark shad - ow
 7. sad di - vi - sions cease, And be thy - self our

Refrain



1. God ap - pear. Re - jice! Re - jice! Em - man - u -
 2. ways to go.
 3. ty and awe.
 4. o'er the grave.
 5. mis - er - y.
 6. put to flight.
 7. Prince of Peace.



el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

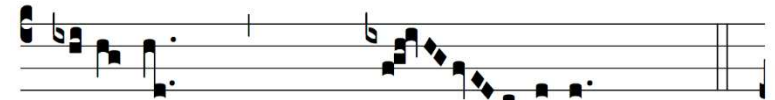
PENITENTIAL RITE

Invitation to reflect on our faults and failings.

∿ To prepare ourselves to celebrate these sacred mysteries, let us call to mind our faults and failings and ask our heavenly Father in his mercy for his healing and forgiveness.


Pause for silent reflection.

∿ Lord Jesus, you are Mighty God and Prince of Peace:



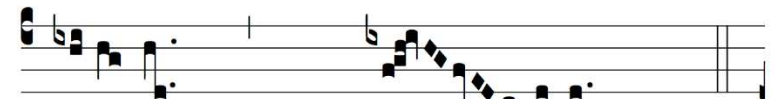
Ký-ri- e * e- lé- i-son. ij.

∿ Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary:




Chris-te e- lé- i-son. ij.

∿ You will come in glory with salvation for your people:



Ký-ri- e * e- lé- i-son. ij.



Ký- ri- e * e- lé- i-son.

∿ May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

∞ Amen.

The Gloria is not said during the Sundays of Advent

Opening Prayer

Father, all-powerful God,
your eternal Word took flesh on our earth
when the Virgin Mary placed her life
at the service of your plan.

Lift our minds in watchful hope
to hear the voice which announces his glory
and open our minds to receive the Spirit
who prepares for his coming.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1 (*Mi 5:1-4a*)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Micah

Thus says the LORD:

You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah

too small to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel;
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient times.

Therefore the Lord will give them up, until the time
when she who is to give birth has borne,
and the rest of his kindred shall return
to the children of Israel.

He shall stand firm and shepherd his flock
by the strength of the LORD,
in the majestic name of the LORD, his God;
and they shall remain, for now his greatness
shall reach to the ends of the earth;
he shall be peace.

℣. This is the Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Prayer after Communion

Lord,
in this sacrament
we receive the promise of salvation;
as Christmas draws near
make us grow in faith and love
to celebrate the coming of Christ our Savior,
who is Lord for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

CONCLUDING RITES

Prayer over the People (3)

℣. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

Lord,
may all Christian people both know and cherish
the heavenly gifts they have received.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

R. Amen.

℣. And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit,
come upon you and remain with you for ever.

R. Amen.

Dismissal

℣. The Mass is end - ed, go in peace.

R. Thanks be to God.

St. Basil, Agnus Dei, 11th Century

Communion Meditation

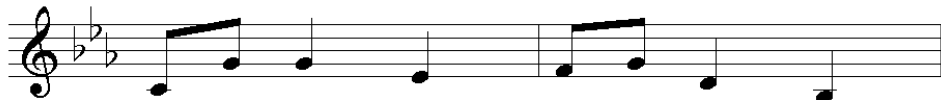
One By One As Songs Fall Silent



1. One by one, as songs fall si - lent,
2. In the o - cean's deep - est fath - oms,
3. With each act of new cre - a - tion,
4. Skies a - bove and seas be - low us



nest - lings vain - ly seek their homes.
choked by heed - less greed and waste,
you give ev - 'ry be - ing breath.
form your Spir - it's dwell - ing place.



From the mead - ows, strange - ly qui - et,
whale and dol - phin's fad - ing an - thems
Yet, to finned and wing - ed na - tions,
As you come to search and know us,



bees and but - ter - flies have flown.
mourn their kin, too soon e - rased.
we have dealt un - time - ly death.
change our tears to springs of grace.



God of life, God of love, hear your crea - tures'



word-less cries. Wake our hearts to their cries.

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19.)



Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hearken,
from your throne upon the cherubim, shine forth.
Rouse your power,
and come to save us.

R. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Once again, O LORD of hosts,
look down from heaven, and see;
take care of this vine,
and protect what your right hand has planted
the son of man whom you yourself made strong.

R. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

May your help be with the man of your right hand,
with the son of man whom you yourself made strong.
Then we will no more withdraw from you;
give us new life, and we will call upon your name.

R. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Reading 2 (Heb 10:5-10)

A reading from the first letter to the Hebrews:

Brothers and sisters:

When Christ came into the world, he said:

“Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,

but a body you prepared for me;

in holocausts and sin offerings you took no delight.

Then I said, ‘As is written of me in the scroll,

behold, I come to do your will, O God.’“

First he says, “Sacrifices and offerings,
holocausts and sin offerings,
you neither desired nor delighted in.”
These are offered according to the law.
Then he says, :Behold, I come to do your will.”
He takes away the first to establish the second.
By this “will,” we have been consecrated
through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Ÿ. This is the Word of the Lord.

Ŕ. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (Lk 1:38)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.
May it be done to me according to your word.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Exchange of Peace

Ÿ. The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

Ŕ. And also with you.

Ÿ. Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

Breaking of the Bread

As the bread is broken, we sing or say:

A - gnus De - i, * qui tol - lis peccá - ta mundi : mi - se -
ré - re no - bis. Agnus De - i, * qui tol - lis peccá - ta mundi :
mi - se - ré - re no - bis. Agnus De - i, * qui tol - lis peccá - ta mun -
di : do - na no - bis pa - cem.

Ÿ. This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Ŕ. Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word
and I shall be healed.**

To those receiving Communion, the celebrant says:

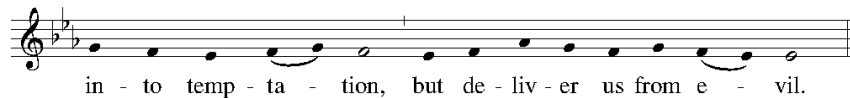
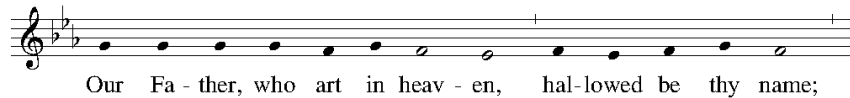
Ÿ. The body of Christ.

Ŕ. Amen.

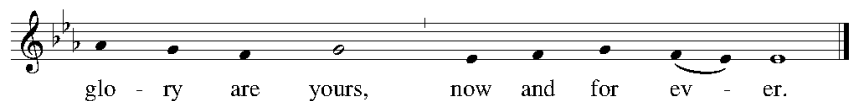
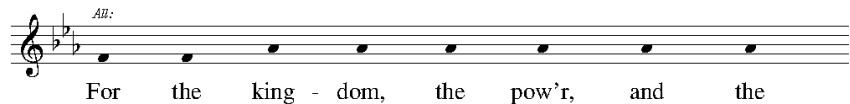
COMMUNION LITURGY

The Lord's Prayer

☩. We pray confidently in the words our Savior taught us:



☩. Deliver us, Lord, from every evil, and grant us peace in our day. In your mercy keep us free from sin and protect us from all anxiety as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.



☩. Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles: I leave you peace, my peace I give you. Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of your kingdom where you live for ever and ever.

☩. Amen.

Gospel Lk 1:39-45)

☩. The Lord be with you.

☩. And also with you.

☩. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

The celebrant and the people mark a cross on their foreheads (mind), their lips (speech) and over their hearts, asking the Lord to open them to his Word.

☩. Glory to you Lord.

Mary set out
and traveled to the hill country in haste
to a town of Judah,
where she entered the house of Zechariah
and greeted Elizabeth.
When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting,
the infant leaped in her womb,
and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit,
cried out in a loud voice and said,
"Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.
And how does this happen to me,
that the mother of my Lord should come to me?
For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears,
the infant in my womb leaped for joy.
Blessed are you who believed
that what was spoken to you by the Lord
would be fulfilled."

☩. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

☩. Praise to you, Lord, Jesus Christ.

Homily

Nicene Creed

XVII. s.

Credo in unum De-um, Patrem omni-pot-entem,
 factó-rem caeli et terrae, vi-si-bí-li-um ó-mni-um, et in-
 vi-si-bí-li-um. Et in unum Dómi-num Ie-sum Christum,
 Fí-li-um De-i u-ni-gé-ni-tum. Et ex Patre na-tum ante
 ó-mni-a saé-cu-la. De-um de De-o, lumen de lúmi-ne,
 De-um ve-rum de De-o ve-ro. Gé-ni-tum, non fa-ctum, con-
 substanti-á-lem Patri: per quem ó-mni-a fa-cta sunt. Qui
 propter nos hó-mi-nes, et propter nostram sa-lú-tem descén-
 dit de cae-lis. Et incarná-tus est de Spí-ri-tu Sancto ex
 Ma-rí-a Ví-rgi-ne: Et homo factus est. Cru-ci-fí-xus
 ét-i-am pro no-bis: sub Pónti-o Pi-lá-to passus, et se-púl-

(Sanctus XVIII Deus Genitor Alme)

Sanctus, * Sanctus, Sanctus Dómi-nus De-us
 Sá-ba-oth. Ple-ni sunt cae-li et terra gló-ri-a
 tu-a. Ho-sánna in excélsis. Bene-díctus qui ve-nit
 in nó-mi-ne Dó-mi-ni. Ho-sánna in excél-sis.

Eucharistic Prayer (IV)

The celebrant prays the Eucharistic Prayer. After the consecration, the celebrant sings:

Ÿ. Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Dy - ing you de - stroyed our death, ris - ing you re -
 stored our life. Lord Je - sus, come in glo - ry.

The celebrant concludes the Eucharistic Prayer.

Ÿ. Through him, with him and in him
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit
 all glory and honor are yours, Almighty Father
 Forever and ever.

A - men, A - men, A - men.

Preface and Sanctus (Advent II)

V. The Lord be with you. R. And al - so with you. V. Lift up your hearts.
 R. We lift them up to the Lord. V. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 R. It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The celebrant recites or sings the Preface:

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,
 we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

His future coming was proclaimed by all the prophets.
 The virgin mother bore him in her womb with love beyond all telling.
 John the Baptist was his herald
 and made him known when at last he came.

In his love Christ has filled us with joy
 as we prepare to celebrate his birth,
 so that when he comes he may find us watching in prayer,
 our hearts filled with wonder and praise.

And so, with all the choirs of angels in heaven
 we proclaim your glory
 and join in their unending hymn of praise:

tus est. Et re-surré-xit tér-ti-a di-e, se-cúndum Scri-
 ptú-ras. Et ascéndit in cae-lum: se-det ad dèxte-ram Pa-
 tris. Et í-te-rum ventú-rus est cum gló-ri-a, iu-di-cá-re
 vi-vos et mórtu-os: cu-ius regni non e-rit fi-nis. Et in
 Spí-ri-tum Sanctum, Dómi-num, et vi-vi-fi-cántem: qui ex
 Patre Fi-li-óque pro-cé-dit. Qui cum Patre et Fi-li-o
 simul ad-o-rá-tur, et conglo-ri-fi-cá-tur: qui lo-cú-tus est
 per Prophé-tas. Et unam sanctam cathó-li-cam et a-po-
 stó-li-cam Ecclé-si-am. Confi-te-or unum ba-ptisma
 in remissi-ó-nem pecca-tó-rum. Et expécto re-surre-
 cti-ó-nem mortu-ó-rum. Et vi-tam ventú-ri saé-cu-li.
 A-men.

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, one in Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
All bow at these two lines
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered, died, and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in fulfillment of 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 worshipped 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.

General Intercessions

The celebrant invites the congregation to pray and offers several prayer intentions. Each concludes, "We pray to the Lord."



LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offering of the Gifts

☩. Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

℟. Blessed be God for ever.

☩. Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

℟. Blessed be God for ever.

Prayer over the Gifts

☩. Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**℟. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands,
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

Lord,
may the power of the Spirit,
which sanctified the mother of your Son
make holy the gifts we place upon this altar.

Grant this through Christ our Lord.

℟. Amen.