



The Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri

**The Fourth Sunday of
Advent, Year A**
December 21, 2025, 10:30 am
Be Here, Be You, Be Loved



Welcome to Christ Church Cathedral!
The People's responses are in **bold print**.

We have **large print bulletins** and **hearing devices** available. If you need one, ask an usher.

An Introduction to Advent: The Courage of Hope (*The Rt. Rev. Deon Johnson*)

In this season of Advent, we are called to embrace the courage of hope. Not the kind that denies the darkness, but the kind that enters into it. God's most profound works often unfold in obscurity—creation from chaos, resurrection from the tomb, the incarnation in the stillness of night. Advent does not rush to the joy of Christmas but lingers in the holy tension of waiting. It bids us to slow down, to notice where God is poking, provoking, and prodding us toward deeper relationship—with ourselves, with one another, and with the divine.

Advent is not just a countdown as we rush headlong towards Christmas; it is an invitation. It calls us to hold back the mad dash toward the manger and walk instead the slower, sacred path of preparation. Light a candle against the shadows. Read the prophets. Dwell in the questions. Sing the hymns of longing. Pray with the saints who waited before us.

For Jesus is coming—into our world, into our lives, into our gloom. And with him, he brings the fierce, transforming light of courageous hope.

May our anticipation of hope be holy.

May our waiting be pregnant with possibility.

May our expectation be buoyed in our longing.

For surely God dwells with us in this waiting place.

Advent Worship

Our seasonal settings and explanatory notes come from our bishop the Rt. Rev. Deon Johnson; we thank him for his words and the permission to use them in our services. *2025 Liturgical materials for the season of Advent, created and authorized by the Office of the Bishop, Diocese of Missouri.*

Land Acknowledgment for the Diocese of Missouri (updated 7/2022)

In humility, we recognize and acknowledge that we in the Diocese of Missouri worship and live on the traditional ancestral lands of the Osage Nation, the Illiniwek/Peoria Tribe, the O-Gah-Pah (Quapaw) Tribe, the Otoe-Missouria Tribe, and other First Peoples. We recognize our mutual dependence upon and benefit from this land; we proclaim our solidarity with and our debt to the Peoples who first claimed and improved this land as their home. We acknowledge our complicity in the process of colonization that dispossessed the First Peoples from their ancestral lands. We affirm our commitment to stand with indigenous communities today and henceforth as they seek justice and resist continued threats to their sovereignty and humanity.

We are also cognizant that the history of The Episcopal Church is intertwined with the history of colonialism and slavery in the United States. More than four centuries ago, the first enslaved Africans were brought to the Americas, and two centuries ago enslaved and indigenous persons contributed to the exploration of this state by Lewis and Clark. Our state's history is entangled with both the Missouri Compromise making this state officially a slave state, and the case of *Scott v. Emerson* that petitioned for Dred and Harriet Scott's emancipation. We acknowledge the tragic legacy of slavery in our diocese, and the blood, sweat, and tears of enslaved people that soak the earth beneath our feet in Missouri. This legacy persists today as we continue to work towards racial justice, equity, liberation, and community, here in Missouri and across The Episcopal Church.

PRELUDE *Still, Still, Still*, played by Sarah Campbell, violin

arr. by Daniel Burton

RINGING OF THE BELLS CCC Children & youth

Descant

3 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of

1 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 2 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 3 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 4 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of

God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of

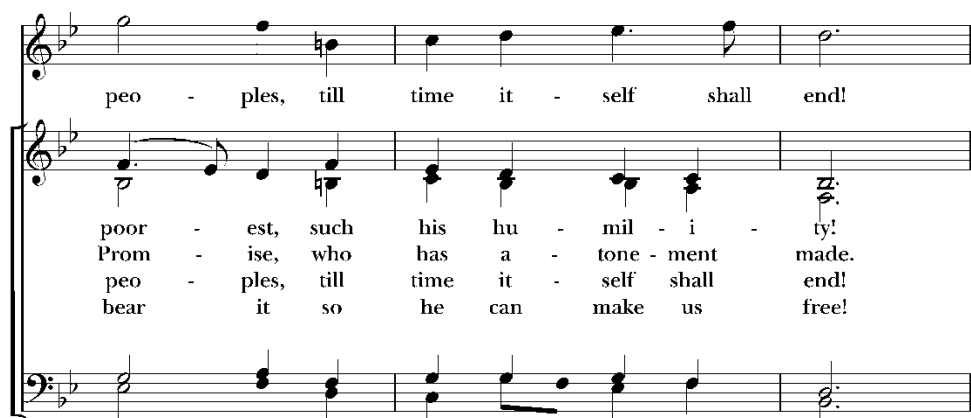
God! For him let doors be o - pened, no hearts a - gainst him
 God! By those who tru - ly lis - ten his voice is tru - ly
 God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of
 God! He of - fers to the bur - dened the rest and grace they

God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All

barred! Not robed in roy - al splen - dor, in
 heard; pi - ty the proud and haugh - ty, who
 God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All
 need. Gen - tle is he and hum - ble! And

things are in his hand, all a - ges and all

power and pomp, comes he; but clad as are the
 have not learned to heed the Christ who is the
 things are in his hand, all a - ges and all
 light his yoke shall be, for he would have us



WELCOME!

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Presider Let us gather ourselves into Christ's presence with a moment of silence.

Moment of silence to open our hearts.

THE BIDDING FOR ADVENT

The Season of Advent takes its name from the Latin word adventus, meaning "coming" or "visit." Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. For Christians Advent is the beginning of the liturgical year. During Advent we prepare for and anticipate the coming of Christ. We remember the longing of our Jewish ancestors for a Messiah and our own longing for, and need of, forgiveness, salvation, and new beginning.

Presider Welcome to a special season called Advent, which means "coming." It is the time we get ready for Jesus to come at Christmas. We also remember that God's people longed for the Messiah long ago, and that we long for God's love, forgiveness, and new life today.

Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Thanks be to God!**

Presider Friends, Advent is a journey to Bethlehem. In the middle of our busy lives, we stop for a little while to breathe and remember God's love. Let's be quiet for a moment and listen to God's heart.

Silence.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Presider May Christ, the One we are waiting for, fill our homes and hearts with joy as we walk toward the manger.

People **Amen.**

People Each week we light an Advent candle.

All **With its light comes our prayers and our stories.**

WEEK 4 - LOVE

Presider The fourth candle is the candle of love. Its flame reminds us of the love that came into the world when Jesus was born. Jesus said, "Love one another as I have loved you."

The candles are lit.

Presider Your prophet John the Baptist was witness to the truth as a burning and shining light.

People **Help us to see God's love every day and be ready to welcome Jesus. Amen.**

GREETING

Presider God's light came into the world through Mary and the baby Jesus.

People **And blessed be the One who comes to set all people free. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Presider Almighty God, to you all hearts are open,

People All desires known, and from you no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, so that we may truly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

As we enter into worship, we ask God's forgiveness for things done and things left undone and things done on our behalf so that we may be reconciled to each other and to God.

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and one another.

Silence

Deacon Source of all being,

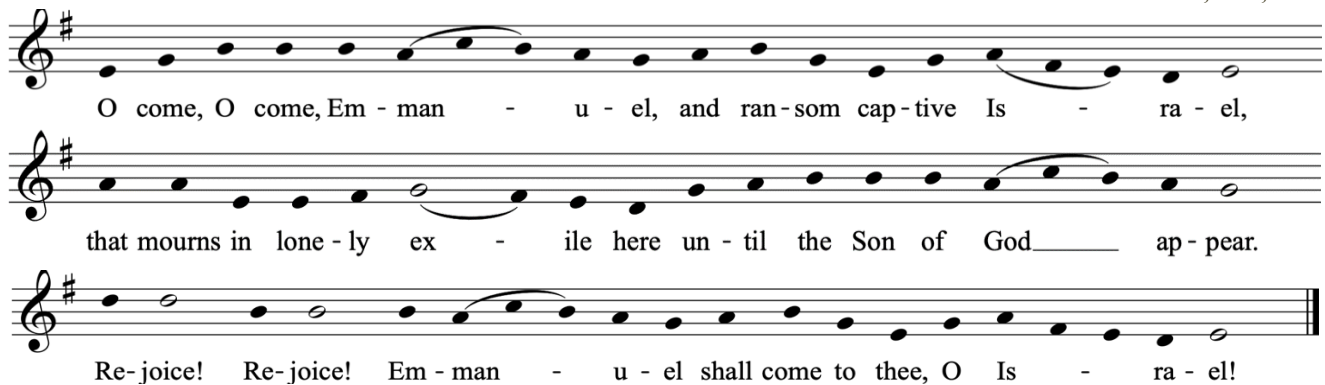
People **We confess that we have chased busyness and neglected your gift of Sabbath. We have sought quick justice without deep mercy, and reconciliation without costly love. Forgive us, refresh us, and renew us by your Spirit, that we may walk again in the way of Christ.**

Presider Be assured that the Almighty God has granted you forgiveness of all your sins and has gifted you the companionship of the Holy Spirit. Your sins are forgiven. Be at peace.

People **Amen! Thanks be to God.**

SONG OF PRAISE

Veni, veni, Emmanuel



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider God is with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray. God of all hope and joy, open our hearts in welcome, so that your Son Jesus Christ at his coming may find in us a dwelling prepared for him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** *A New Zealand Prayer Book (1989); from Alternative Collects for Years A, B & C of the Revised Common Lectionary 2022, Anglican Church of Canada*

WE HEAR THE SACRED STORIES

THE FIRST READING *Please be seated.*

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."

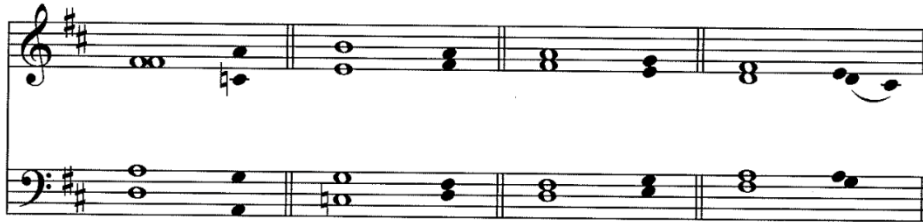
Reader Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to God's People.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM OF THE DAY 80:1-7, 16-18 (*General Synod 2016 Liturgical Psalter, Anglican Church of Canada, pointed by Connor Scott*)

Antiphon – First sung by the choir, then sung again with the congregation

Psalm—Sung together by all



1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a | flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the | cherubim.

2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Ma- | nasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to | help us.

3 Restore us, O God of | hosts; *
show the light of your countenance,
and we | shall be saved.

4 O Lord God of | hosts, *
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your | people?

5 You have fed them with the bread of | tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to | drink.

6 You have made us the derision of our | neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to | scorn.

7 Restore us, O | God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance,
and we shall be | saved.

16 Let your hand be upon the one at your side in | honor, *
the one you have made so strong for | yourself.

17 And so will we never turn | away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your | name.

18 Restore us, O Lord | God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance,
and we shall be | saved.

Antiphon – Sung twice by all

THE SECOND READING

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.

Reader Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE Maranatha *Missa Emmanuel*

Richard Proulx (1937–2010)

Ma - ra - na - tha! Ma - ra - na -
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu -

tha! O come to us, Em - man - u - el!
ia! To us will come Em - man - u - el!

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 1:18-25

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, O 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.

Deacon The Gospel of our Savior.

People **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Deacon Diana Wheeler

Moment for silent reflection

AN ADVENT AFFIRMATION: FORM B *Please stand as you are able.*

The Presider leads the assembly in an affirmation of faith. Originally the entire service was viewed as our confession of faith. But, since the Sixth Century, the Church has recited either the Nicene Creed or the Apostle's Creed at the Eucharist. The word creed comes from the Latin credo for “I believe” or “I lend my heart to.” Creeds tell a deeper “truth” that goes beyond “facts.”

Presider In this season of waiting and wonder, we affirm our faith in the God who comes—

Creator, Christ, and Spirit—whose light is born anew in every heart and throughout all creation.

People **We believe in God, the Weaver of all creation, who spun galaxies from starlight and shaped the earth from clay; whose breath gives life to every living thing, and whose promise is planted deep within the waiting world.**

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, Light kindled in the darkness, who came as a child of heaven and earth, revealing the face of God in the heart of humanity. He walked among us as grace upon grace, embracing our joys and our sorrows, and in love stronger than death he opened the way of life everlasting.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, wild as wind, gentle as breath, the Fire who dances through creation, awakening hearts, stirring dreams, and drawing all things into the circle of God's love.

We believe in the Holy Trinity—Source, Word, and Breath of Life, God beyond us, beside us, and within us—whose light shines in every shadow and whose coming we await with hope and wonder.

Until Christ is born anew in every heart, we journey on in faith, watching, waiting, and welcoming Love into the world once more. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: FORM A

Prayer changes people. Prayer is not about changing God, but about changing us more into the likeness of God. Collectively and individually we offer the hopes and desires of our hearts to God. The Deacon, when present, introduces the prayers.

Deacon "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep gloom—on them light has shined." In this season of anticipation and hope, let us be seekers of the light and peddlers of hope found in Christ Jesus our Savior.

Leader You who dwell in the darkness and the light, in the silence and in the sound; dwell in the hearts of your people that in hope, peace, joy and love, we may be agents of your heavenly reign and await with anticipation the coming of Christ, the Morning Star. Christ be our light.

People **Shine in our hearts.**

Leader You who framed the brightness of the first light in creation; dispel the arrogance, animosity, and anger that shatters the unity of your holy Church. We pray for those called to lead us: Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury-designate, Sean, Presiding Bishop; Deon, our bishop; Kathie, our dean; and the staff and Chapter of our Cathedral. In our Diocese of Missouri, we pray for the people and ministry of Trinity Episcopal Church in St. James and Kevin, their Priest-in-Charge; and Pat, their Deacon. In our companion Diocese of Puerto Rico, we pray for St. Bartholomew the Apostle Mission in Lares. In the Anglican Communion, we pray for The Anglican Church of Burundi. Fill your faithful people with the radiant light of truth, that we may be made one in faith, hope, and love. Christ be our light.

People **Shine in our hearts.**

Leader You who delivered your people from the misery of bondage in slavery to the land of promise; set us free from enslavement to division, disunity, and distrust in our public life and labor. Illumine those in authority with the light of vision, that they may lead the peoples of the nations to greater unity and concord. Christ be our light.

People **Shine in our hearts.**

Leader You who patterned the stars and called the sun into being, who appointed the moon and chartered the cosmos. Pattern the hearts of people everywhere to see in each other the beauty of the universe and the splendor of creation, that divisions of race, class, gender, and ethnicity may dissolve into one common humanity. Christ be our light.

People **Shine in our hearts.**

Leader You who shower comfort and hope to the lowest, the lost, and the least, shower the light of compassion on the sick, the sorrowful and the suffering, especially those we name: Israel, Palestine, Iran and the Middle East, Ukraine, Russia, Haiti, Sudan, and Libya; our immigrant and trans siblings; the Cass, Baker, Swift and McLean families, Mary, Patty, Jim, Joanne, David & Canon Doris, Adele, Brianna, Thelma & Raymond, John, Basil, Arthur, Kingsley & Ramona, Kathy, Michael, Warren, Deacon Barbi, Deb, Kaplan; all in prison and their families; and those affected by violence and oppression in all forms. Help us to be your compassion and hope in the world. Christ be our light.

People **Shine in our hearts.**

Leader You who welcome into the brilliant light of eternity the souls of those who have died; welcome those whose lives have been cut short by violence, warfare, and strife. Shine the light of hope on our faithful dead, especially those we now name: all slain in Sudan, the Middle East, and Ukraine; Brendan Cass, Stan Baker, Timothy Swift, Cathy

McLean, those 132 lives taken by gun violence in the city of St. Louis in 2025 and all who die at the hand of another, or by their own hand. Christ be our light.

People **Shine in our hearts.**

Leader You who delight in the complexity of creation and the splendor of each creature; help us to delight in the diversity of the earth, our island home. Inspire your people to care for the earth and its creatures and repent and return when we abuse, misuse, and neglect our fellow creatures. Christ be our light.

People **Shine in our hearts.**

All **May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find us ever burning with the light of love, the spirit of truth, and the wellspring of hope; that following the way of Jesus and filled with the flame of the Holy Spirit, we may be a holy people whose lives and living inspire, incite, and inflame your world with compassion and care. Through Jesus the Christ, the light of the world. Amen.**

THE EXCHANGE OF THE PEACE *Please stand as you are able.*

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The people greet each other with a sign of peace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

GATHERING AT CHRIST'S TABLE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *A Spotless Rose*, anonymous, 14th century Riley Cameron, soloist Herbert Howells

*A spotless Rose is blowing sprung from a tender root, of ancient seers' foreshowing, of Jesse promised fruit;
its fairest bud unfolds to light amid the cold, cold winter and in the dark midnight.*

*The Rose which I am singing, whereof Isaiah said, is from its sweet root springing in Mary, purest Maid;
for through our God's great love and might the blessed babe she bare us in a cold, cold winter's night.*

DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all crea - tures here be - low; Praise
God a - bove, and heaven - ly host: Cre - a - tor, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER: The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharist Prayers for Advent: Form 3

The Eucharistic Prayer, or Great Thanksgiving, is the prayer of the Church to invite Christ to be present in the elements of bread and wine. Now we come to the second act in the drama with the Liturgy of the Table. It is based on Jewish Fellowship meals, particularly the Passover observance. But this second half of the service is not communion in and of itself. It is the whole service, both acts of the drama, that make up the Eucharist.

Presider God is with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

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

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Creator of all that is seen and unseen, for in you, light and darkness find their harmony, day and night each reveal your glory. In the beginning, your Spirit moved over the deep, and from silence and shadow you brought forth the beauty of creation. You

shaped us in your image and wove your breath into our being. Though we have wandered and grown forgetful, still you call us to dwell in the mystery of your presence, to wait, to watch, to hope.

Through prophets and dreamers, you spoke words of promise: that the valleys would be lifted, the rough places made plain, and all flesh would see your salvation. You taught us to listen for your footsteps in the dusk and to lift our hearts to the dawn of your coming.

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 *Missa Emmanuel*

Richard Proulx (1937–2010)

Please kneel or stand as you are able.

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho - ly Lord, Ho-ly Lord God of hosts.

Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho-san - na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.

Bless'd is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho-san - na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

Presider Blessed are you, Holy One, for in Jesus Christ, your Word took flesh and made a home among us. In him, your hope was kindled, your peace whispered into being, your love poured out without measure, and your joy made complete. He came as one of us, to share our light and our shadow, our laughter and our tears. In his life, death, and rising, you revealed that nothing—neither darkness nor light—can separate us from your redeeming love.

On the night before he gave himself to us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, saying, “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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

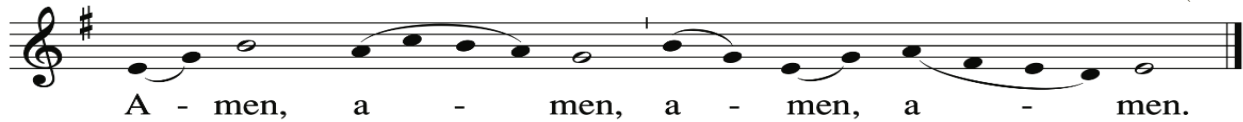
All **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Presider Come, O Spirit of Promise, and rest upon these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us the Body and Blood of Christ; nourishment for our waiting, and strength for our journey. Come, dwell within us, that we who share this holy meal may bear the light of hope, breathe the peace of Christ, embody love’s compassion, and rejoice in all that gives life. As we await the fullness of your reign, teach us to live as children of your Advent; awake and watchful, grateful and expectant, trusting in your promise that both night and day belong to you.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, now and for ever.

THE GREAT AMEN *Amen, Missa Emanuel*

Richard Proulx (1937–2010)



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,
All **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 bread is broken; silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM *Agnus Dei Missa Emmanuel*

Richard Proulx (1937–2010)

1. Je - sus, wis - dom and might - y Lord:
2. Je - sus, true branch of Jes - se's tree: you take a - way the sins of the world,
3. De - sire of na - tions, our Em - man - u - el:

1.2. have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us. 3. grant us peace, grant us peace.

Presider Behold what you are.
People **May we become what we receive.**

THE INVITATION

We partake in the Eucharist and are spiritually nourished, but it is not for our benefit alone. Communion enables us to return to the world with renewed vigor for proclaiming the Gospel in our words and in our lives. In the Eucharist, Christ's presence both nourishes us and challenges us.

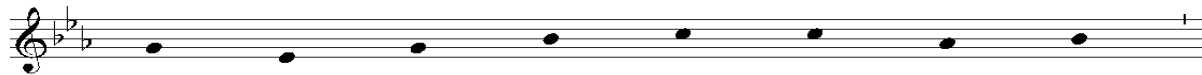
Presider Come to this table, you who wait and you who long, you who hope for the dawn, and you who rest in the night.
Here the Word is made flesh, and the Light of Christ meets us in bread and wine. Come, for all is ready, it is Christ who invites you to meet him here.

SHARING THE SACRED MEAL

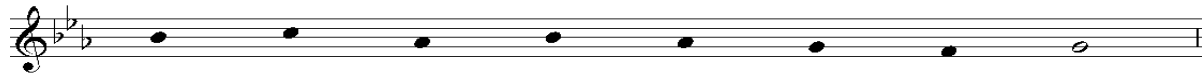
This is Christ's table and all are welcome to be fed. Please follow the movement to the altar; communion will be distributed at the head of the center aisle. Remember to take your purse/personal belongings with you when leaving your seat for communion.

Those participating at home may, if they wish, say this prayer during the time of Communion:

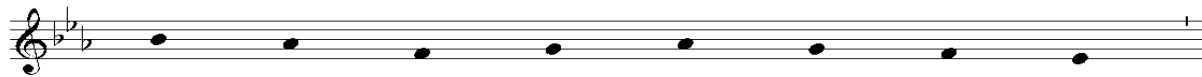
Lord of the Feast, we thank you for gathering us as your people. We call to remembrance the many times we have been fed at your table and we lament our distance now. Be present Lord Jesus as you were present with your disciples, be known to us in the breaking of the bread, and may your Holy Spirit sustain us and all your Church until we can gather together again. We ask this for the sake of your love. Amen.



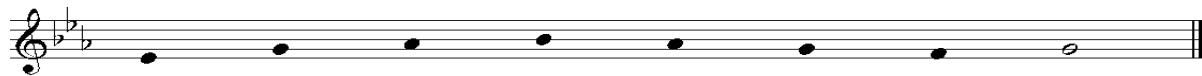
1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
 2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse
 3 When this old world drew on toward night,
 4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now
 5 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,
 * 6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,



1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,
 2 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,
 3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,
 4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
 5 re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;
 6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



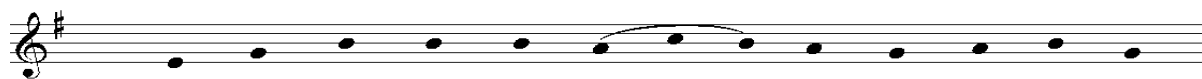
1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,
 2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free
 3 not as a mon - arch, but the child
 4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,
 5 de - fend us while we dwell be - low
 6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



1 we pray you hear us when we call.
 2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.
 3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.
 4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.
 5 from all as - saults of our dread foe.
 6 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

COMMUNION HYMNS 56

VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL



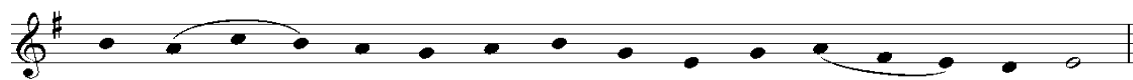
(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 (Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
 (Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 (Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from
 (Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
 (Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us
 (Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the
 (Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
 3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to
 5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
 6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
 7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions
 8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
 3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
 4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
 6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
 7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.
 8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER *Please stand as you are able*

Presider God is with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Together, let us pray.

All God of promise, we thank you for feeding us with the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and for gathering us into the mystery of your Advent: a time of waiting, watching, and expectation. Send us now into the world trusting in your faithful presence in all things at all times; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

BLESSING *(Enriching Our Worship)*

Presider May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG 67

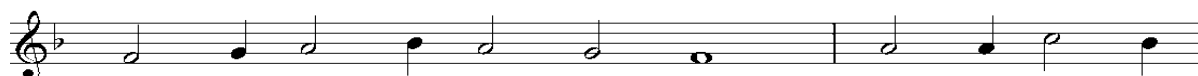
PSALM 42



1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus
 2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert
 3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er



saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
 far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
 pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -
 since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
 as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry



ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
 cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
 of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;

tell her that her sins I cov - er,
let the val - leys rise to meet him,
and all flesh shall see the to - ken

and her war - fare now is o - ver.
and the hills bow down to greet him.
that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

THE SENDING

As the celebration ends, we are charged to "Go in Peace to love and serve the Lord." The Eucharist is therefore not an exclusive gathering that separates us from the world, but a challenge to reach out beyond our own church to the world around us.

Deacon Our worship is ended. Our service in the world begins. Go forth in the Name of Christ, walking in hope, carrying peace, living in love, and radiating joy.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Veni Emmanuel

Samuel Metzger

If you would like to donate to support the Cathedral's mission & ministries, please use the QR Code below



Liturgical Ministers	Music Ministers
<p><i>Presider:</i> The Very Rev. Kathie Adams-Shepherd <i>Deacon/Preacher:</i> The Rev. Deacon Diana Wheeler <i>Ringing of the Bells:</i> children/youth <i>Lighting of the Advent Candle(s):</i> Arwen, Duncan & Thomas Roberts, Ivy Rowlyk <i>Head Verger:</i> Laura Rose <i>Crucifer:</i> Richard Smith <i>Eucharistic Ministers:</i> Howie Hirshfield, Alicia Pierce <i>Lector:</i> Ron Freiwald <i>Intercessor:</i> Mary Karr <i>Ushers:</i> Sarah Allen, Ron Freiwald, Richard Roemerman <i>Altar Guild:</i> Lisa Gould, Wardwell Buckner, Althea Rowell <i>Digital Moderator(s):</i> Mary Hovland <i>Coffee Hour Hosts:</i> Greening of the Cathedral – Fellowship</p>	<p><i>Director of Music:</i> Dr. Connor Scott <i>Musicians:</i> The Cathedral Choir <u>Cathedral Choir Soloists & Section Leaders</u> Sarah Campbell, tenor Riley Cameron, baritone AJ Murgo, baritone Lea Zelaya, soprano <u>Cathedral Choir Scholar Singers</u> Gabriel Kopel, bass Daniel Pollien, tenor Lauren Waight, soprano</p>

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Advent / Christmas Services

Sunday December 21, Advent 4	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist, Traditional language	<i>In person</i>
	10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist, Contemporary language, with Advent wreath lighting	<i>Hybrid</i>
	11:45 AM	Greening of the cathedral (come and lend a hand!)	<i>In person</i>
	5 PM	Handel's <i>Messiah</i> , performed by the Cathedral Choir, Soloists, and Orchestra, with Hallelujah Chorus sing-a-long	<i>In person</i>
Wednesday December 24, Christmas Eve	3:45 PM	Hymn sing	<i>In person</i>
	4:00 PM	Christmas Eucharist, Contemporary language; Christmas hymns, with the placing of Baby Jesus in the crèche	<i>Hybrid</i>
	9:30 PM	Festival Christmas Music	<i>In person</i>
	10:00 PM	Festival Holy Eucharist including incense, Contemporary language, with the bishop and the dean	<i>Hybrid</i>
Thursday December 25, Christmas	11:00 AM	Holy Eucharist, Contemporary language, and Christmas hymns with the dean	<i>In person</i>
Sunday December 28, First Sunday after Christmas	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist, Traditional language	<i>In person</i>
	10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist, Contemporary language	<i>Hybrid</i>
Wednesday December 31, New Year's Eve	5:00 PM	New Year's Eve Taizé Service; This service blends scripture, silence, prayer and contemplative chants. Music under the direction of Dr. Connor Scott, Director of Music, CCC	<i>In person</i>
<i>Hybrid = you may attend in person or on Zoom – see the website for service links – www.christchurchcathedral.us</i>			

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