

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

DECEMBER 19, 2021 AT 11AM | ADVENT 4

ST. PAUL'S ON THE GREEN | 60 EAST AVENUE | NORWALK, CONNECTICUT 06851

PRELUDE

Es ist ein Ros entsprungen, Johannes Brahms(1833-1837)

*During the Prelude the Choir processes down the west aisle, while the Congregation remains seated.
Please stand as the bell sounds.*

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Celebrant intones

Our God, Emmanuel, now draws near;

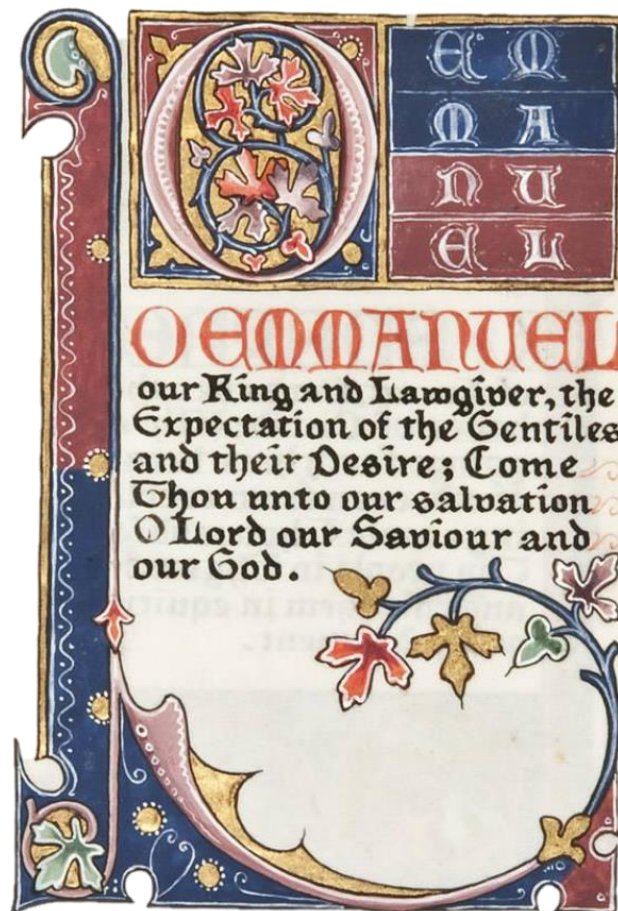
The People respond



THE INTROIT

sung by the Choir

O Antiphons



Introit translation - Illumination by Edith Ibbs

HYMN IN PROCESSION



(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. 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
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.
6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
 | Re-joice! Re - joice!
 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!

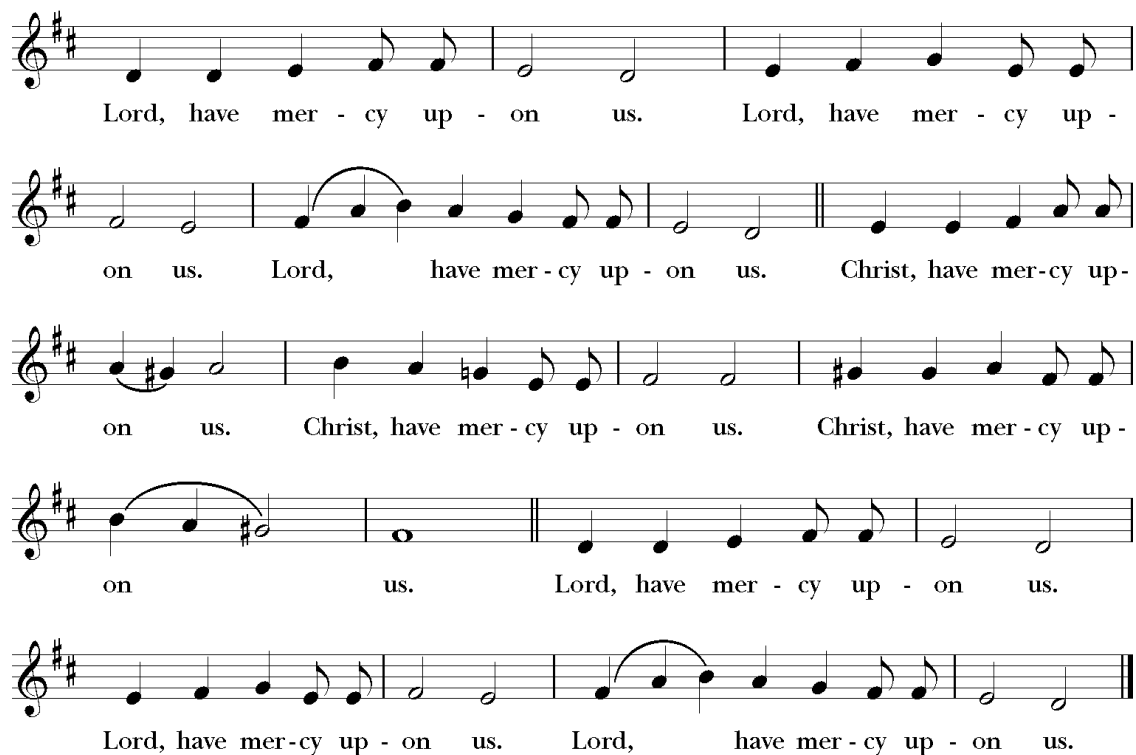
Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. Hymnal 1940, alt.

Music: Veni, veni, Emmanuel, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890)

THE OPENING COLLECT

Come, O come Emmanuel; you are the way, the truth, and the life;
you are the true vine and the bread of life.
Come, living Savior, come to your world which waits for you.
Praise to you, the one, holy, and living God, now and forever. **Amen.**

KYRIE ELEISON



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Setting: from *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968) © 1928 Oxford University Press OneLicense.net License #A-709109

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O Lord, you have visited your people and redeemed us in your Son. As we prepare to celebrate his birth, make our hearts leap for joy at the sound of your Word, and move us by your wonderful works. We ask this through the one whose coming is certain, whose day draws near: your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSON *seated*

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

The Cantor will sing the refrain once; the Congregation repeats it.

Refrain

Re - store us, O God of hosts; show the light
of your coun - te - nance and we shall be saved.

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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. **REFRAIN**

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. **REFRAIN**

Title: Psalm 80
Music: Plainsong, Tone 1; License: OneLicense.net License #A-709109

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

1 Vir - gin - born, we bow be - fore thee: bless - ed was the
 2 Bless - ed she by all cre - a - tion, who brought forth the

womb that bore thee; — Ma - ry, Mo - ther meek and mild, —
 world's sal - va - tion, and bless - ed they, for ev - er blest, who

bless - ed was she in her child. Bless - ed was the breast that fed thee;
 love thee most and serve thee best. Vir - gin - born, we bow be - fore thee;

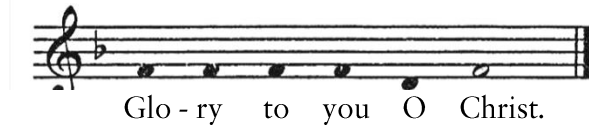
bless - ed was the hand that led thee; bless - ed was the
 bless - ed was the womb that bore thee; Ma - ry, Mo - ther

par - ent's eye that watched thy slum - bering in - fan - cy.
 meek and mild, — bless - ed was she in her Child.

Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826)
 Music: *Psalm 86*, Claude Goudimel (1514-1572), alt.
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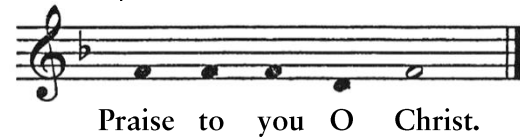
The Deacon or Priest intones:

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



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 Saviour, for he has looked with favour 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.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

seated

The Rev. Daniel Simons

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

It is not true that creation and the human family are doomed to destruction and loss—

This is true: “I have come that they may have life, and have it more abundantly.” —*John 1:20*

It is not true that we are victims of evil that seeks to rule the world—

This is true: “Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given, on whom authority will rest; who shall be called the Prince of Peace.” —*Isaiah 9:6*

It is not true that we must wait for prophets to speak before we can be peacemakers—

This is true: I will pour out my spirit on all flesh, and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your young ones shall see visions, and your elders shall have dreams. —*Joel 2:28*

It is not true that our hopes for liberating justice, human dignity, and peace are not meant for this earth and for this history—

This is true: “The hour comes, and it is now, that the true worshipers shall worship God in spirit and in truth.” —*John 4:23*

Merciful God, lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth, from despair to hope, and from hate to love. Lead us to your Son, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

A credal statement from the Episcopal Peace Fellowship of the Church of South Africa

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We respond now in prayer to God – God of many names, God beyond all names; the beginning and the end of every story, the meaning of every life; infinite Mystery both hidden and revealed:

O come, Emmanuel:

Draw near to us as we draw near to you.

Blessed are You, who joins all things together in the communion of Christ’s Body. Renew and energize your holy Church, in this parish and throughout the world, that we may be a people of new birth, manifesting your divine love in our common life of praise and service.

O come, Emmanuel:

Draw near to us as we draw near to you.

O perfect Wisdom, direct and rule the hearts of the leaders and shapers of society, raise up prophets of justice and peace, and empower your people for the holy vocation of repairing the world.

O come, Emmanuel:

Draw near to us as we draw near to you.

O Desire of every heart, the answer to every longing: You are the strong force that draws us into the mystery of love divine. Forgive us those things which distract and delay us, and lead us ever deeper into the Way, the Truth and the Life.

O come, Emmanuel:

Draw near to us as we draw near to you.

O Dayspring from on high, You unlock every door and make a way where there is no way. Set free all who are afflicted or distressed in body, mind or spirit. Resurrect their hope, grant them peace and refreshment, and restore their joy.

O come, Emmanuel:

Draw near to us as we draw near to you.

For whom and for what else shall we pray?

The People offer particular thanksgivings and intercessions aloud or in silence.

O come, Emmanuel:

Draw near to us as we draw near to you.

The Celebrant concludes

O God who has come among us; God who dwells within us; God who fulfills what is yet to come: Make us an Advent people, ready and alert to welcome and receive You in the stranger's face, the healing presence, the gift of wonder, the birth of possibility. Let every heart prepare You room. We pray this in the name of Jesus, who comes among us now. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of Peace with a distanced gesture to those nearby.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *seated*

Giving to St. Paul's

The work and mission of St. Paul's is fully supported by the generous contributions of its members and friends. You can make a one-time offering or a sustaining gift to St. Paul's by visiting stpaulsnorwalk.org/givebycard, or text to give at 203-889-9983. For other means of giving, visit stpaulsnorwalk.org/support.

Thank you for your support!



ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY *seated; sung by the Choir*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm;
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel,
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed forever.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost:
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be; world without end. Amen.

Words: Luke 1:46-55
Music: C.V. Stanford Evening Service in B Flat

HYMN AT THE OFFERTORY *standing; the gifts of bread, wine, and the offering are brought forward*

1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came,
 2 "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be,
 3 Then gen - te Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head,
 4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born

his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;
 all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee,
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,
 in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,

"All hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,
 thy Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 "my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name."
 and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say—

most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!

Words: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)

Music: *Gabriel's Message*, Basque carol; harm. Edgar Pettman (1865-1943)

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THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We praise you and we bless you, gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, fire, and water, and every living thing. You made us creators in your image and taught us to walk in your love. But we rebelled against you and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in your light and the fullness of your love. So this day we join with Saints and Angels in a chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - - - - ly, God of pow - er and
might: Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Glo -
ry be to you, O God most high. Bles - sed is he that comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san na in the high - est.

Setting: Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena, Healey Willan (1880-1968)
Music: © 1928 Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-709109

The Celebrant continues

All glory be to you, holy and living God. You looked with favor on Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus, the holy child of God. Living among us Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world into the heart of God, but we were heedless of his call to walk in love.

When the time came to complete the offering of his life, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take and eat; this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.

Now gathered at your table, remembering that we are one with you and all creation, we offer to you from your own hand these gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your children from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

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



Setting: McNeil Robinson II (1943-2015) © 1982 Church Publishing, Inc. OneLicense.net License #A-709109

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant
As our Sa - vior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Celebrant and People
Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.
Save us from the time of tri - al, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.
For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours,
now and for ev - er. A - men.

Setting: Ambrosian Chant, adapt. Mason Martens © 1985 Church Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-709109

The Celebrant breaks the bread and invites the People to communion, saying

God comes to meet us here and now;
Come Emmanuel, and find us ready to receive you.

THE COMMUNION

Everyone is welcome to receive the bread and wine of Communion. Please follow the direction of the ushers. Healing prayer is available in the side aisles for those wishing to pray with someone for any need in their lives. All sing together as the distribution of Communion begins.

Organ

O Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
on us. O Lamb of
God, you take a - way the sins of the
world, have mer - cy up - on us.
O Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sins of the world,
grant us your peace.

The musical score is written for organ in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of ten staves of music. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The score begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music features a variety of note values, including quarter, eighth, and half notes, as well as rests. There are several measures with whole rests, indicating where the organist should hold a sustained note. The piece concludes with a final cadence in G major.

Setting: *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880–1968). Music © 1928 Oxford University Press. OneLicense.net License #A-709109

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *standing*

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE BLESSING

God is coming among us: in our past forgiving us, in our present loving us, and in our future, meeting us with everlasting grace. The blessing of God – Source of hope, Word of life, and ever-present Spirit of truth, be with you this day and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN IN PROCESSION

The musical score for 'Hymn in Procession' is presented in two systems. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the final four lines. The piano accompaniment features a steady, rhythmic pattern of chords and single notes, providing a simple harmonic support for the vocal melody.

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: *Stuttgart*, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt. OneLicense.net License #A-709109

THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ to love and to serve.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Toccata on "Veni Emmanuel"
Andrew Carter (b.1939)

THE WORSHIP IS OVER – THE SERVICE BEGINS

ST. PAUL'S ON THE GREEN

Contact us at: 203-847-2806 info@stpaulsnorwalk.org

The Rev. Daniel Simons *Priest in Charge*

Will Doreza *Interim Director of Music*

Josh Ehlebracht *Interim Organist*

Marsha Dunn *Parish Administrator*