



St. Peter's Anglican Church
Loveland, CO

HOLY EUCHARIST
4th Sunday in Advent

WELCOME
IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD
JESUS CHRIST



December 24, 2023

Prelude

Processional: Wake, Awake For Night is Flying – H #2

Wake, awake, for night is flying;
The watchmen on the heights are crying,
Awake, Jerusalem, arise!
Midnight's solemn hour is tolling;
His chariot wheels are nearer rolling;
He comes; prepare, ye virgins wise.
Rise up with willing feet;
Go forth, the Bridegroom meet.
Alleluia! Bear through the night
Your well trimmed light
Speed forth to join the marriage rite.

Zion hears the watchmen singing;
Her heart with deep delight is springing.
She wakes, she rises from her gloom.
Forth her Bridegroom comes, all glorious,
In grace arrayed, by truth victorious,
Her star is ris'n her light is come!
All hail, incarnate Lord,
Our crown and our reward!
Alleluia! We haste along,
In pomp of song,
And gladsome join the marriage throng.

Lamb of God, the heav'ns adore thee,
And men and angels sing before thee
With harp and cymbal's clearest tone.
By the pearly gates in wonder
We stand and swell the voice of thunder
That echoes round thy dazzling throne.
No vision ever brought,
No ear hath ever caught
Such rejoicing. We raise the song,
We swell the throng,
To praise thee ages all along.

Celebrant: Surely the Lord is coming soon.

People: **Amen. Come Lord Jesus!**

All: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Deacon/Priest: Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first

and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

– Matthew 22:37-40

The Kyrie

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy, have mercy.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray:

Collect for the Day

Celebrant: Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and as we are sorely hindered by our sins from running the race that is set before us, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

(The people may sit.)

The First Lesson: 2 Samuel 7:1-17

1 Now when the king lived in his house and the Lord had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, 2 the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." 3 And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the Lord is with you." 4 But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, 5 "Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the Lord: Would you build me a house to dwell in? 6 I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. 7 In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"' 8 Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. 9 And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. 10 And I will appoint a place for my people

Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, 11 from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. 12 When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, 15 but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. 16 And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.” 17 In accordance with all these words, and in accordance with all this vision, Nathan spoke to David.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalms 132: 8-19

Memento, Domine

8 Arise, O LORD, into your resting-**place**, *
you and the/ ark of **your** strength.
9 Let your priests be clothed with **right-teousness**, *
and let your / saints sing **with** joy.
10 For your servant David’s **sake**, *
turn not away the presence of / your **A-noin**-ted.
11 The LORD has made a faithful oath unto **Da**-vid, *
and he / shall not **shrink** from it:
12 “Of the fruit of your **bo**-dy *
shall I / set u-**pon** your throne.
13 If your children will keep my covenant, and my
testimonies that I shall **teach** them, *
their children also shall sit upon your throne / for e-
ver-more.”
14 For the LORD has chosen Zion for him-**self**; *
he has longed for her to be his / ha-bi-**ta**-tion:
15 “This shall be my rest for e-**ver**; *
here will I dwell, for I have a / de-light **there**-in.
16 I will bless her provisions with **in**-crease, *
and will satisfy / her poor **with** bread.
17 I will clothe her priests with sal-**va**-tion, *
and her saints shall / re-**joice** **and** sing.
18 There shall I make the horn of David **flo**-urish; *
I have prepared a lantern for / my **A-noin**-ted.

19 As for his enemies, I shall clothe them with
shame; *
but upon his head shall / his crown **flo**-urish.”

*All: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And / to the Ho-ly Ghost
As it was in the beginning, is now,
and shall be for-/ever A-men.*

The Second Lesson: Romans 16:25-27

25 Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages 26 but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— 27 to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able.)

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People, (V. 1-2) – H #20

Comfort, comfort ye my people,
Speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
Comfort those who sit in darkness,
Mourning 'neath their sorrow's load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem
Of the peace that waits for them;
Tell her that her sins I cover,
And her warfare now is over.

Yea, her sins our God will pardon,
Blotting out each dark misdeed;
All that well deserved his anger
He will no more see nor heed.
She has suffered many a day;
Now her griefs have passed away;
God will change her pining sadness
Into ever springing gladness.

Deacon or Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.

All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Holy Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. 28 And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" 29 But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. 30 And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." 34 And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" 35 And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. 36 And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. 37 For nothing will be impossible with God." 38 And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Deacon or Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People, (V. 3- 4) H- #20

Hark, the herald's voice is crying
In the desert far and near,
Bidding, all men to repentance,
Since the kingdom now is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way;
Let the valleys rise to meet him
And the hills bow down to greet him.
Make ye straight what long was crooked,
Make the rougher places plain:
Let your hearts be true and humble,
As befits his holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
Now o'er the earth is shed abroad,
And all flesh shall see the token
That his word is never broken.

The Sermon

Deacon or Priest: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

***All:* We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten 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, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.*

(Please kneel, stand, or sit as you are able.)

Prayers of the People

Deacon or Priest: Let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying, "hear our prayer."

Intercessor: For the peace of the whole world, and for the well-being and unity of the people of God. O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Savior, the Prince of Peace; Give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions. Take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatsoever else may hinder us from godly union and concord: that as there is but one Body and one Spirit, and one hope of our calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one

God and Father of us all, so we may be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For our Archbishop, Foley Beach; for our Bishop, Bill Atwood; for our Rector, Father Matt Rucker, and for our assisting clergy: Father Bill Easterling, and Deacon Larry Doyle.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others including those we serve in our Outreach Programs, naming especially Bishop's Well Project, Samaritan's Purse, and Prodissee Pantry.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For our nation, for those in authority, and for all in public service, especially our President, Joseph, and our Governor, Jared. Give them a discerning heart and a wise mind to lead and serve as God desires. We also pray for those in our armed forces serving our country both home and abroad.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For all those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For all the blessings of this life and for the many reasons we have to give thanksgiving, especially for those celebrating *Birthdays:* Andrew Forrester

(12/26). *Anniversaries:* Anthony and Samantha Alvarado (12/28).

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For all those who have departed this life in the certain hope of the resurrection, in thanksgiving let us pray.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

(Additional petitions may be made during this moment of silence.)

Deacon or Priest: Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Deacon or Priest: Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

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, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him:

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. *John 3:16*

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *I Timothy 1:15*

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our

sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.
1 John 2:1-2

(Please stand as you are able.)

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: **And with your spirit.**

The Offering

“Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God”.

Ephesians 5:2

(Please stand as you are able.)

Offertory: Magnificat – H #693

My soul doth magni | fy the Lord

*and my spirit hath rejoiced | in God my **SA**viour.

2 For | he hath re | garded

*the lowliness | of his **HAN**dmaiden.

3 For be | hold, from henceforth

*all generations shall | call me **BLESS**ed.

4 For he that is mighty hath | magni·fied me;

*and | holy is his name.

2nd half

5 And his mercy is on | them that fear him

*throughout | all · gerer**A**tions.

6 He hath showed | strength · with his | arm;

*he hath scattered the proud in the imagi | nation of their hearts.

7 He hath put down the mighty | from their seat,

*and hath ex | aulted · the | humble · and meek.

8 He hath filled the hungry with | **GOOD** things;

*and the rich he hath | **SENT** | empty · away.

9 He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant | Israel;

*as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his | seed, for **EV**er.

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.**

The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise Him all creatures here below

Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Celebrant: Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the Kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as Head above all. All things come from you, O Lord,

People: And of your own have we given you.

1 Chronicles 29:11, 14

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord Our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

(Proper Preface) 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 glory 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:

The Sanctus

*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 people may kneel, stand, or sit.)

Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation.

By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in

glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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 forever. *Amen.*

Celebrant: And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

**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, forever and ever. *Amen.***

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

(Please kneel or stand as you are able.)

Prayer of Humble Access

All: We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen.*

Agnus Dei

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:

Give us your peace, give us your peace.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

(You may kneel, stand, or sit during Communion.)

Communion Hymns

The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came – H #56

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
"All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

"For know a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honor thee,
Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,
"My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name."
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say-
"Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

Come, Thou Redeemer of the Earth

Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,
And manifest thy virgin-birth:
Let every age adoring fall;
Such birth befits the God of all.

Begotten of no human will,
But of the Spirit, thou art still
The Word of God, in flesh arrayed,
The Saviour, now to us displayed.

From God the Father he proceeds,
To God the Father back he speeds,
Runs out his course to death and hell,
Returns on God's high throne to dwell.

O equal to thy Father, thou!
Gird on thy fleshly mantle now,
The weakness of our mortal state
With deathless might invigorate.

Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,
And darkness glow with new-born light,
No more shall night extinguish day,
Where love's bright beams their power display.

O Jesu, virgin-born, to thee
Eternal praise and glory be,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Spirit, evermore. Amen.

The Lord Will Come – H #388

The Lord will come and not be slow;
His footsteps cannot err;
Before him righteousness shall go,
His royal harbinger.

Truth from the earth, like to a flow'r,
Shall bud and blossom then,
And justice, from her heav'nly bower,
Look down on mortal men.

Rise, God, judge thou the earth in might;
This wicked earth redress;
For thou art he who shalt by right
The nations all possess.

The nations all whom thou hast made
Shall come, and all shall frame
To bow them low before thee, Lord
And glorify thy name.

For great thou art, and wonders great
By thy strong hand are done;
Thou in thine everlasting seat
Remaining God alone.

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Heavenly Father, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal Kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

Lo! He Comes, With Clouds Descending - H #4

Lo! he comes, with clouds descending,
Once for our salvation slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Christ the Lord returns to reign.

Ev'ry eye shall now behold him,
Robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at nought and sold him,
Pierced, and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing,
Shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion
Still his dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
To his ransomed worshipers;
With what rapture, with what rapture,
With what rapture, gaze we on those
glorious scars!

Yea, Amen! let all adore thee,
High on thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the pow'r and glory;
Claim the kingdom for thine own:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

The Dismissal

Deacon or Priest: Alleluia, alleluia. Go in peace to love
and serve the Lord.

***People:* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

