

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2020



The Episcopal Church of the Annunciation

1673 Jamerson Road Marietta, GA 30066

www.ecamarietta.org

Welcome to all who are watching online services. The Episcopal Church of the Annunciation is here "to bear witness to God's love and invite, encourage, and prepare God's people to share that grace with others". You may notice rubrics in place throughout the service for kneeling or standing, as well as singing along to hymns. You are invited to participate however you wish.

Daily Morning Prayer/Communion: Rite One

Prelude

Processional Hymn 74 (vs. 1&4)

1 Blest be the King whose coming
is in the name of God!
For him let doors be opened,
no hearts against him barred!
Not robed in royal splendor,
in power and pomp, comes he;
but clad as are the poorest,
such his humility!

Blest be the King whose coming

4 Blest be the King whose coming
is in the name of God!
He offers to the burdened
the rest and grace they need.
Gentle is he and humble!
And light his yoke shall be,
for he would have us bear it
so he can make us free!

The Lighting of the Peace Candle

The Opening Acclamation

BCP 38

Presider † Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. *Isaiah 40:3*

Confession of Sin

BCP 41

Presider Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Presider and People together

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

Presider The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Placing of Wreath on Window

Reader

The Invitatory and Psalter

BCP 42

Presider O Lord, open thou our lips.

People And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Presider and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Presider Our King and Savior draweth nigh: O come, let us adore him.

Jubilate Psalm 100

BCP 42

Presider and People

Be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands;
serve the Lord with gladness and come
before his presence with a song.
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God;
it is he that hath made us and not we
ourselves; we are his people and the sheep
of his pasture. O go your way into his

gates with thanksgiving and into his
courts with praise; be thankful unto him
and speak good of his Name. For the
Lord is gracious; his mercy is everlasting;
and his truth endureth from generation to
generation.

The First Lesson

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

When the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you." But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? 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 and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" 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 to be prince over my people Israel; 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. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, 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. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

The Response

Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

Misericordias Domini

- 1 Your love, O LORD, for ever will I sing;
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
- 2 For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever;
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
- 3 "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
- 4 'I will establish your line for ever,
and preserve your throne for all generations.'"
- 19 You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people:
"I have set the crown upon a warrior
and have exalted one chosen out of the people.
- 20 I have found David my servant;
with my holy oil have I anointed him.
- 21 My hand will hold him fast
and my arm will make him strong.
- 22 No enemy shall deceive him,
nor any wicked man bring him down.
- 23 I will crush his foes before him
and strike down those who hate him.
- 24 My faithfulness and love shall be with him,
and he shall be victorious through my Name.
- 25 I shall make his dominion extend
from the Great Sea to the River.
- 26 He will say to me, 'You are my Father,
my God, and the rock of my salvation.'

Placing of Candle in Window

Reader

The Second Lesson

Romans 16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith-- to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! **Amen.**

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Placing of Poinsettia at Altar

Reader

Sequence Hymn 56 (Vs. 1-3)

O come, O come, Emmanuel

1 O come, O come,
Emmanuel, and ransom
captive Israel, that mourns
in lonely exile here until
the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice!

*Rejoice! Emmanuel shall
come to thee, O Israel!*

2 O come, thou Wisdom
from on high, who
orderest all things
mightily; to us the path of
knowledge show, and
teach us in her ways to go.

Refrain

3 O come, O come, thou
Lord of might, who to thy
tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times didst give
the law, in cloud, and
majesty, and awe.

Refrain

The Holy Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

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

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

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. 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 ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to 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 holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Homily

Rev. Paul McCabe

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

The Prayers

Suffrage A

BCP 55

- | | |
|---|---|
| V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us; | |
| R. And grant us thy salvation. | V. Let thy way be known upon earth; |
| V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness; | R. Thy saving health among all nations. |
| R. And make thy chosen people joyful. | V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten; |
| V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world; | R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away. |
| R. For only in thee can we live in safety. | V. Create in us clean hearts, O God; |
| V. Lord, keep this nation under thy care; | R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit. |
| R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth. | |

Prayers of the People

Intercessor

The Collect of the Day

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Collect for Peace

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom: Defend us, thy humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Collect for Guidance

O heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray thee so to guide and govern us by thy Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget thee, but may remember that we are ever walking in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Administration of the Holy Communion

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 336

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

People and Presider

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.

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.

Communion is given to the communicants with these words:

The Body & Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

The Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

Presider and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

The Lighting of the Christmas Tree and Ornaments

Recessional Hymn 56 (vs. 6-8)

6 O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

O come, O come, Emmanuel

8 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. *Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

The Blessing

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor everyone; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; And the blessing of God Almighty, † the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Priest Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit

People **Thanks be to God.**

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen. *Romans 15:13*

Postlude

Prayer List

Susan, John, Elizabeth, Milton, Lauren, Liz, Foster, Kevin, Jennifer, Ed, Sherrie, Connie, Irene, Tom, Dick, Nick, Chris & AJ, Lynda, Elizabeth, Christine, Jess, Joan, Scott, Pam, Bill, Dianne, Todd, Michael, Nick Ramsey, Lethia, Paula, Sarah, Noel, Jessie, John, Dolly, Craig, Jackie & Bruce, Parker, Mark & Chrissie, Bill, Sadie David & Elizabeth Still, Lee & Wanda Farmer, Greg, Josalyn & the Stinchcombs; The Meeks Family, and Gabriella; For all those affected by COVID-19, For our country and the division, for our Vestry; for those in the armed forces especially: Donnie, Geoff, Bob, Lawrence, Matt, Tod, Nathan, Ryan, Mark, Daniel, and Sean; and for any unspoken prayers.

Birthdays

Carol Scheidler	12/22	Bliss Peterson	12/25
Pete Hogan	12/22	Hannah Tidwell	12/26
Carly Whisler	12/23	Michele Myers	12/26

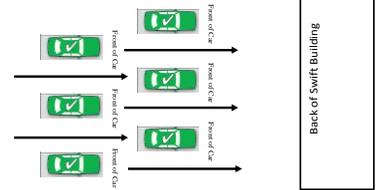
Christmas Eve Services at ECA will be on Thursday December 24th at 5pm, 7pm & 9pm

We had hoped the pavilion would be done by Christmas, but the weather has not cooperated. We will hold Drive-In services on Christmas Eve at 5pm and 7pm and will do a live stream service at 9pm via Facebook. We hope to show the Christmas pageant video at all the services, please stay tuned for more information. Additionally, we will stream Christmas Day at 10:30am. Merry Christmas!

New: Drive-In Sunday Service with Communion

While we are still not allowed to gather for large crowds for in person worship inside, providing opportunities for worship is still our top priority.

Currently, we are offering a Drive-In Service to allow parishioners to stay in their warm vehicle for services. Please see parking diagram to the right (please park straight and not diagonal). *All in-person activity and group meetings at ECA must still go through Fr. Paul to ensure contact tracing measures. Here is the latest information we have. Click on the links below to review:*



- Gathering Guidelines for Phase I limited outside Sunday Service as of 9/10: [Click Here](#)
- Click here for [Guidelines for Activities at ECA during COVID -19](#)
- Latest bishop's directive as of August 19, 2020. Please click on the link [HERE](#)

Volunteers being Sought for Sunday Service including Counters and Readers!

While we are still not allowed to meet in our worship space, we continue to stream a Sunday service to our parish and cyber community. If you are interested with helping during the service, please contact Fr. Paul at pcm09@bellsouth.net. There are several minor tasks we need help with in order to make sure we are able to live stream and record for parish members. I look forward to hearing from those who may be interested. *Volunteers needed to read the Sunday lessons.

Last Call: Christmas Poinsettias & Flower Contributions for Christmas Season

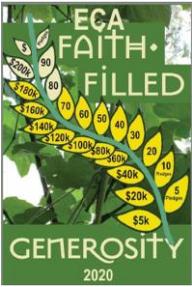
If you would like to make a contribution for Christmas poinsettias, greens, etc. please email your request to ecaparish@gmail.com. Even though we are limited on our in-person meetings, we are still decorating for the season for our online streaming. Simply indicate whether your gift is "in memory" or "in thanksgiving for." The amount is voluntary, but the suggested donation is \$25. Thank you for your gift! Thank you and blessings to you during Christmas!

Vestry Nominations Open for 2021, We are SEEKING those who Feel Called to Serve.

Those interested in serving on Vestry at ECA please contact Wanda Ziembinski, Chris Renaud or Fr. Paul. Vestry is a 3-year commitment and meets once a month with a retreat in January. Vestry members serve in a leadership role with a ministry within the parish. Vestry qualifications are: any confirmed communicant in good standing of the parish not less than 18yrs of age, a regular attendant of church services the preceding year before election, and known by the treasurer to have made and fulfilled a stated financial commitment for church support throughout preceding year before election.

Last Christian Formation Class for the year Today at 9:40

Contact Ron Allen at ronallenga@yahoo.com or contact Fr. Paul for Zoom meeting information. Current topics have been about how to remain a faithful Christian in a divided community. This is the last class for 2020. Stay tuned for details on when CF will begin again.



2021 Pledge Campaign “Faith filled Generosity” finishes end of December

We received 90 pledges to date and we are overjoyed at the Generosity that has been displayed during these difficult and trying times. Thank you to ALL who pledged their financial support to ECA in order for us to continue our ministry and mission. There are multiple ways to send in your pledge, you can mail the envelope we sent back to ECA, you can email us at ecaparish@gmail.com or Fr. Paul if you wish, you can leave in the secure mailbox down at the street, or leave with us when you attend a service at ECA. We are deeply grateful for all who continue to support ECA and our ministry and worship together and we hope to be

back together soon.

Stewardship Prayer: O Lord, Giver of Life and Source of Freedom

O Lord, Giver of Life and Source of Freedom; We know that all we have is received from your hand. Gracious and loving God, you call us to be stewards of your Abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us. Help us always to use your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. Send the Holy Spirit to work through us, bringing your message to those we serve. May our faithful stewardship be a witness to the love of Jesus Christ in our lives. We pray with grateful hearts in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

ECA Finances to Date

<u>(YTD) Through NOV. 2020</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>+/-</u>
<u>Revenues</u>	\$199,764	\$217,232	(\$17,468)
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$190,264</u>	<u>\$210,025</u>	<u>\$19,761</u>
<u>Net Year to date</u>	\$9,500	\$7,207	\$2,293

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