

Sunday December 22, 2024 10:00 A.M.

Advent 4 A Service of Love

We're so pleased that you've come to worship with us this morning. While this bulletin is a guide to the service, if you are unfamiliar with the ritual customs of the Anglican Church, simply relax with the liturgy and let the rest of the congregation carry you in worship. After the service please join us downstairs for coffee, tea, and juice.

(Congregational participation in **BOLD**)

GREETING:

HYMN # 109 When the King Shall Come Again
Vs. 1,2&3 (Blue book)

When the people were looking for deliverance, the prophet Micah declared, "But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah…from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient day." (Micah 5:2). But what if Micah is also talking to us, proclaiming, "But you, O St Laurence, from you shall come forth for me…" What? What might God be calling forth from us?

God invites us to receive the promise of God's salvation and the sustenance of God's mercy and grace, enabling us to live the promise as God-bearers to the world. As Christ was born in Bethlehem, so too we answer God's invitation to have Christ born among us today and every day.

Light the fourth candle of the Advent wreath.
We light this candle of love as a sign of our commitment to live as people of God's promise, a promise of salvation and flourishing for all people that springs forth from God's love for all creation.

Collect of the Day
O God of Elizabeth and Mary,
you visited your servants with news
of the world's redemption in the coming of the Lord.
May our hearts leap with joy
and our mouths be filled with songs of praise
to welcome the Christ in our midst. **Amen.**

First Reading: Micah 5: 2-5a
Reader: Carol Gardiner
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God

Canticle: Mary's Song
Luke 1:46b-55
Reader: Carol Gardiner
My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for you, Lord, have looked with favor
on your lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed:
you, the Almighty, have done great things for me
and holy is your name.
You have mercy on those who fear you
from generation to generation.
You have shown strength with your arm
and scattered the proud in their conceit,
casting down the mighty from their thrones
and lifting up the lowly.
You have filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
You have come to the aid of your servant Israel,
to remember the promise of mercy,
the promise made to our forebears,
to Abraham and his children for ever.
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God

Psalm Hymn: The Angel Gabriel
(See insert)

The Gospel Reading: (*standing*)
God be with you
And also with you
The Good News of Jesus Christ according to Luke
People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ
The Gospel Reading: Luke 1:39-45
Reader: The Rev. MJ Leewis-Kirk
The Gospel of Christ
People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Sermon – *The Rev. MJ Leewis-Kirk*
The Prayers of the People – *Spencer Stevens*

Invitation and Peace

OFFERTORY HYMN # 117 Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming (*Blue Book)*

Eucharistic Prayer
Celebrant: May God be with you.
People: And also with you
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts
People: We lift them to the Holy One.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to our loving God.
People: It is right to offer thanks and praise

Celebrant: God of hopeful expectation, ….
… greet you in our midst.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord; God of pow'r and might;
Heav'n and earth of your glory are full.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest x2

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Blessed is he who comes in the names of the Lord.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord; God of pow'r and might;
Heav'n and earth of your glory are full.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest

Celebrant: You were there when creation burst into being, …
…we bless your holy name forever.

Amen, Amen, Amen.

Meditation on the Lord's Prayer
In awe we come to You again,
You, whose name remains
beyond all naming.
May your will be our will,
Your peace be peace on earth,
and what is broken in our lives
be forgiven and made right.
Grant us today the bread of Your fields.
From the labour of our days
may Your love be the yield.
For You are, have been, and
always will be, our source,
our end, our soul's delight. Amen *Juleta Severson-Baker*

The gifts of God for the people of God
Thanks be to God

Chant # 47 Born in Human Likeness
(Red Book)

THE COMMUNION

When Love Was Born by Mark Shultz
Sung by Corinne And Jensen MacLean

The Prayer after Communion

Glory to God,
whose power working in us
can do infinitely more
than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the church and in Christ Jesus
for ever and ever. Amen.
Announcements

HYMN # 362 Tell Out My Soul
(Blue Book)

The Blessing and Dismissal

