

Christ Church Trumbull
The Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 20, 2020

THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

***All* His mercy endures forever.**

Advent IV Candle Lighting

Holy and Gracious God, as we light this candle, we pray that you would kindle the fire of peace in our hearts. Help us to notice Your peace in the world and in our lives and make us ready to receive new visions of Peace. And may the Peace which passes all understanding keep our hearts and minds in knowledge and love of God and of the coming of the Prince of Peace in unexpected form and ways.

***All* Amen.**

Gloria — Hymn No. 56 (verse 1-4) “*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*”

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

***All* And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.

***All* Amen.**

Readings from the Holy Scriptures *(Seated)*:

The First Lesson.....2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Now 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 for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm – The Song of Mary *(said responsively by half verse)*

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor 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 Epistle 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 for ever! Amen.

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

All **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Luke 1:26-38

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

All **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 for ever, 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.
All Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon.....Pastor Jane Jeuland

Nicene Creed

**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. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

Prayer Leader As we wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us offer prayers to God who stirs up strength and comes to help us.

For the coming of Jesus Christ in power and glory, for the coming of Wisdom to teach and guide us, for the coming of Emmanuel, the hope of all the peoples.

Silence

Prayer Leader Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

Prayer Leader For this community, that God would guide us with his truth, fill us with his love, and provide for us from his bounty.

For God's justice, peace, and freedom in our community and our world.

For the leaders of our nation and those who serve on the frontlines especially police officers, fire fighters, medical professionals, and social justice advocates.

For all those who have suffered under the weight of racism. For all those who have been infected with COVID 19. For all those who are hungry and alone this Advent.

For all those who suffer in body, mind, and spirit, especially Justin, Evan, Lucy, Grace, Anna, Max, and Roger.

For those who have gone before us under the sign of faith, and for all the departed especially Margaret, George, Polly, Anne, Catherine, Betsey, Abel, John, James, and Hinman.

Joining our voices with the blessed Virgin Mary, and with all the saints and angels of God, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

All To you, O Lord.

I invite you to say in person or type in the chat any additional prayer requests for traveling, birthdays, anniversaries.

Celebrant prays for all prayer requests.

Celebrant O King of all the nations, only joy of every heart, keystone of the mighty arch who makes us one: Come and save the creature you fashioned from clay. Glory to you for ever.

All Amen.

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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 have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

All Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

Announcements

Care Pod Community We invite your care pod to have at least one phone call or zoom to talk about how you can support each other. We hope that our care pods would now come together to find ways to support our community either by setting a goal for donating x number bags of food together or buy x number of gifts for the McGivney Center Christmas Store.

All Church Meeting **Sunday, January 10, 2021 - 10:30am - 11:30am.** We will gather for an all church meeting (please note the change in date and time) to discuss our **Mission, Vision, and Values** in light of all that has changed in our world, our community, and our church.

Weekly eNews CCT sends a weekly eNews on Thursdays via email. This eNews contains information about worship services, parish news, events, the ECCT community, and more. If you are not receiving this eNews and would like to, please contact Maryanne in the parish office.

Meditation Group This group is led by Peter Ulisse and meets the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month at 12:00 p.m. Please contact the parish office if you'd like to be added to our group.

Weekly Prayer Call This group is led by Ginnie Glassman and Susan Vasone and meets every Wednesday at 12:30pm. It is a time to talk about what is on your mind, listen to others' concerns, pray for and encourage each other. Please contact Maryanne in the parish office for the Zoom link.

Celebrant Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us an offering and sacrifice to God.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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 triumph 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:

All **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**All We remember his death,
 We proclaim his resurrection,
 We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 for ever.

All **Amen.**

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

**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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All **Lord Jesus, I cannot now worship you at the altar of the church in
this Sacrament of your Body and Blood, yet in spirit I receive this
bread and this wine in my heart, mind, and spirit. Visit me, I pray,
with your mercy, pardon, and blessing, and fill me with faith and
love and repentance, and so strengthen and sustain me by your
grace that I may with pure heart and mind follow you, the only
God, now and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

Celebrant May God bless you and keep you. May God make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you now and always.

Closing Hymn “Prepare the Way, O Zion”

Prepare the way, O Zion; your Christ is drawing near!
Let ev’ry hill and valley a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory, fore told in sacred story.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God’s most holy name.

He brings God’s rule, O Zion; he comes from heav’n above.
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God’s most holy name.

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Saviour’s rule embrace.
His tidings of salvation proclaim in ev’ry place.
All lands will bow before him, their voices will adore him.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God’s most holy name.

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God. Alleluia.**