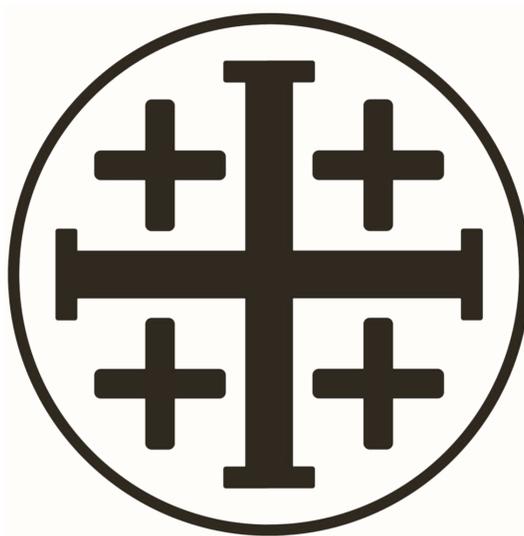


The 4th SUNDAY *of* ADVENT

Sunday, December 21, 2025



If you are new to St. Theresa...

CONNECT

If you are new to St. Theresa or are interested in learning more about our community, please fill out a newcomer card at the Welcome Desk in the Narthex. Give completed forms to an usher or place in the collection basket. You can also fill out this form online at www.st-theresa.org/join

NURSERY

Children are always welcome at Mass, even if they worship differently than adults. For kids that need a little more room to move or can't always keep in their songs of praise, there are pews in the Narthex where families can still worship in a more relaxed atmosphere. We also have a staffed nursery in the Family Center for children ages 6 months to 3 years during the 9:00 and 11:00 AM Sunday Masses.

RESTROOMS

Public restrooms are located at the rear of the church on the west side of the Narthex.

REQUEST PRAYER

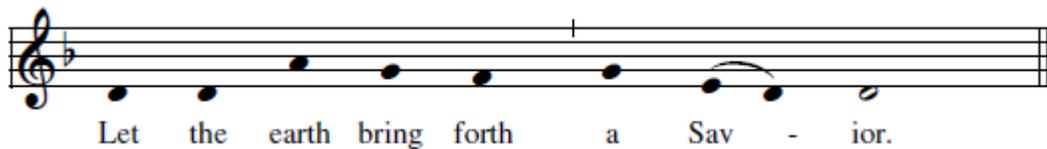
As a community, we lift up the prayer list during Sunday Mass, in our weekly electronic newsletter, and through our daily Rosary group, which gathers after the 11:30 AM Mass. We invite you to share your prayer intentions for your loved ones at www.st-theresa.org/prayer.

Organ Prelude - Greensleeves, Richard Purvis

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon - St. Meinrad Communion Antiphon, Columba Kelly, OSB

Please stand



Invocation

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Penitential Act

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done
and in what I have failed to do,
(Strike breast 3x)
*through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;*
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Lord Have Mercy - Kyrie, G.P. Palestrina, arr. Covington

Cantor: All:
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son,
Cantor: All:
Chri - ste e - le - i - son, Chri - ste e - le - i - son,
Cantor: All:
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Collect

Please sit

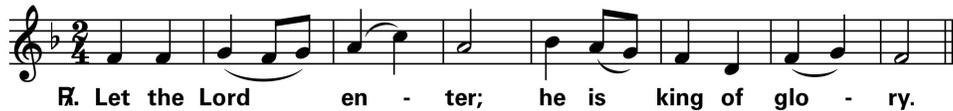


THE LITURGY *of the* WORD

First Reading - *Isaiah 7:10-14*

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying: Ask for a sign from the LORD, your God; let it be deep as the netherworld, or high as the sky! But Ahaz answered, "I will not ask! I will not tempt the LORD!" Then Isaiah said: Listen, O house of David! Is it not enough for you to weary people, must you also weary my God? Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign: the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel.

Responsorial Psalm - *Psalm 24:1-6*



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Music: Owen Alstott, © 1977, 1990, OCP. All rights reserved.

The LORD's are the earth and its fullness;
the world and those who dwell in it.
For he founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the rivers. **R.**

Who can ascend the mountain of the LORD?
or who may stand in his holy place?
One whose hands are sinless, whose heart is clean,
who desires not what is vain. **R.**

He shall receive a blessing from the LORD,
a reward from God his savior.
Such is the race that seeks for him,
that seeks the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**

Second Reading - *Romans 1:1-7*

Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised previously through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, the gospel about his Son, descended from David according to the flesh, but established as Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness through resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him we have received the grace of apostleship, to bring about the obedience of faith, for the sake of his name, among all the Gentiles, among whom are you also, who are called to belong to Jesus Christ; to all the beloved of God in Rome, called to be holy.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Alleluia - Matthew 1:23



Verse: The virgin shall conceive, and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel.

Gospel - Matthew 1:18-24

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,
which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.

Homily

Please sit

Apostles' Creed

Please stand

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the
right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful

Announcements

Please sit



THE LITURGY *of the* EUCHARIST

Offertory Anthem *There Is No Rose of Such Virtue*, Robert H. Young

Invitation to Prayer

Please stand

Priest: Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

Assembly: **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

Prayer over the Offerings

Holy, Holy, Holy – *Mass of St. Theresa*

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord
God of hosts. Hea - ven and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est.

Please kneel or be seated

Mystery of Faith – *Mass of St Theresa*

Save us Sa - vior of the world, for by your cross and
Re - sur - rec - tion, you have set us free.

Great Amen – *chant*

Please stand



THE COMMUNION RITE

Lord's Prayer

Sign of Peace

Lamb of God—*Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan, arr. Covington

Lamb of God - you take - a way - the sins of the world Have
mer - cy on - us Lamb of God - you take - a -
way - the sins of the world Have mer - cy on - us
Lamb of God - You take - a - way - the sins of the world
Grant - us your - peace.

Please kneel or be seated

Communion Antiphon - *St. Meinrad Communion Antiphon*, Columba Kelly, OSB

Be - hold, the Lord our God is with us!

Communion Hymn—*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* (Sat, 5 PM and Sun, 9 AM)

1. Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing From ten - der stem hath
2. I - sa - iah 'twas for - told it, The Rose I have in
3. This Flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet-ness fills the
sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing, As seers of old have
mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The Vir - gin Moth - er
air, Dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor The dark-ness ev - 'ry
sung. It came, a blos - som bright, A -
kind. To show God's love a - right, She
where. True man, yet ver - y God, From
mid the cold of win - ter, When half spent was the night.
bore to us a Sav - ior, When half spent was the night.
sin and death he saves us, And light - ens ev - 'ry load.

Text: Isaiah 11:1; *Es ist ein' Ros' entsprungen*; Speyer *Gesangbuch*, 1599; tr. sts. 1, 2 by Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, alt.; st. 3, Friedrich Layritz, 1808–1859; tr. by Harriet Reynolds Krauth, 1845–1925, alt.

Tune: ES IST EIN' ROS' ENSTSPRUNGEN, 7 6 7 6 6 7 6; *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Cologne, 1599; harm. by Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

THE CONCLUDING RITES

Hymn of Thanksgiving - O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el,
 2. O come, O Wis - dom from on high,
 3. O come, O come, great Lord of might,
 4. O come, O Rod of Jes - se's stem,
 5. O come, O Key of Da - vid, come,



And ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,
 Who or - der all things might - i - ly;
 Who to your tribes on Si - nai's height
 From ev - 'ry foe de - liv - er them
 And o - pen wide our heav'n - ly home;



That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 To us the path of knowl - edge show,
 In an - cient times once gave the Law
 That trust your might - y power to save,
 Make safe the way that leads on high,



Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 And teach us in her ways to go.
 In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
 And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
 And close the path to mis - er - y.



Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el
 Gau - de! Gau - de! Em - mán - u - el



Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.
 Na - scé - tur pro te Ís - ra - el.

6. O come, O Dayspring from on high,
 And cheer us by your drawing nigh;
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 And death's dark shadow put to flight.
7. O come, Desire of nations, bind
 In one the hearts of humankind;
 O bid our sad divisions cease,
 And be for us our King of Peace.

TEXT: *Veni, veni Emmanuel*; Latin 9th C.; tr. by John M. Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
 TUNE: VENI EMMANUEL, LM with refrain; Mode I, 15th C. French; adapt. by Thomas Helmore, 1811–1890; acc. by Richard Proulx, 1937–2010

Blessing and Dismissal

Organ Postlude - Exultemus, Percy Whitlock



GIVE



JOIN



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