
December 19, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Drop down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring forth a savior.

Isaiah 45:8

STAND GATHERING SONG

GREETING

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, 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.**

COLLECT

SIT FIRST READING Micah 5:1-4a

Thus says the LORD:

**You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah
too small to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel;
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient times.**

**Therefore the Lord will give them up, until the time
when she who is to give birth has borne,
and the rest of his kindred shall return
to the children of Israel.**

**He shall stand firm and shepherd his flock
by the strength of the LORD,
in the majestic name of the LORD, his God;
and they shall remain, for now his greatness
shall reach to the ends of the earth;
he shall be peace.**

RESPONSE: Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Brothers and sisters:

When Christ came into the world, he said:

**“Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,
but a body you prepared for me;
in holocausts and sin offerings you took no delight.
Then I said, ‘As is written of me in the scroll,
behold, I come to do your will, O God.’”**

**First he says, “Sacrifices and offerings,
holocausts and sin offerings,
you neither desired nor delighted in.”
These are offered according to the law.
Then he says, :Behold, I come to do your will.”
He takes away the first to establish the second.
By this “will,” we have been consecrated
through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.**

STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION..... **Alleluia!**

GOSPEL Luke 1:39-45

**Mary set out
and traveled to the hill country in haste
to a town of Judah,
where she entered the house of Zechariah
and greeted Elizabeth.
When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting,
the infant leaped in her womb,
and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit,
cried out in a loud voice and said,
“Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.
And how does this happen to me,
that the mother of my Lord should come to me?
For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears,
the infant in my womb leaped for joy.
Blessed are you who believed
that what was spoken to you by the Lord
would be fulfilled.”**

SIT

HOMILY

STAND

PROFESSION OF FAITH: **I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, [bow] and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day 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. I 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 adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

UNIVERSAL PRAYER response: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

SIT

PREPARATION of GIFTS: Gifts are collected for the poor and for the Church. Bread and wine are brought to the altar table, and everything is prepared for the celebration.

PRIEST: The Lord be with you.
Lift up your hearts.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: **And with your spirit.
We lift them up to the Lord.
It is right and just.**

STAND

When all is ready, the priest prays, "...that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father," and all respond: **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.**

PREFACE to the EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The priest continues with the Preface to the Eucharistic Prayer, ending with a statement of how we join our voices with all the angels and the saints in proclaiming God's glory.

HOLY, HOLY

KNEEL

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER: This is the central prayer of the entire celebration. It is during this prayer that the bread and wine are transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ. The Church tells us that liturgy is the *action* of Christ the priest and His Body the Church.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION: **When we eat this bread and drink this cup we proclaim your death, O Lord, until you come again.**

GREAT AMEN: The Eucharistic Prayer culminates and concludes when the priest sings: "Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, for ever and ever." All respond with: **Amen.**

STAND

THE LORD'S PRAYER • SIGN of PEACE

KNEEL BREAKING of the BREAD: The “Lamb Of God” litany is sung. At the conclusion, all kneel.

COMMUNION: The priest says, “Behold the Lamb of God...” and all respond: **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

We come forward together as the Body of Christ to receive the Body of Christ, so that together we may be the Body of Christ in the world. We say “Amen” to that which we are, and we become what we receive. After all have received, everyone is invited to sit or kneel for a period of silent prayer. The Communion Rite concludes with a prayer to which all respond: **Amen.**

STAND PRAYER after COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS • CLOSING PRAYER and DISMISSAL

We give thanks to all those at our liturgies

who preside at our prayer

welcome God’s people • proclaim God’s word lead and inspire us in song

prepare our liturgies and worship space • bake our bread

minister the Holy Eucharist to us

and for all who pray and celebrate with us this day.