

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 18, 2022



PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

BLEST BE THE KING WHOSE COMING

HYMNAL 74

OPENING ACCLAMATION & COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and forever. Amen**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.



LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: THE FOURTH CANDLE

Celebrant On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light a candle for love. We pray, O God, that as our Advent pilgrimage draws to completion, that you would grant us the courage to share your love. That love that shines in the darkness and cannot be contained.
Love for the unexpected challenge.
Love for the vulnerable one.
Love for the presence of God.
People **We light a candle for love, may it light the way.**

**Welcome to Grace,
we’re glad you are here!**

If you have any questions, our ushers, greeters and members are here to help, don’t hesitate to ask!

Restrooms are located through the door to the left of the pulpit at the top and bottom of the stairs. There is also a handicap lift in the narthex (front entrance) if you need assistance getting to the lower level.

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SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTE	Cary Brown
ALTAR GUILD	Virginia Danner Stacey Cendrowski
CANTOR	---
CHALICIST	Dcn. Kathleen
FELLOWSHIP	Kara DeBord
GREET/USHER	Mike Hasty Michael Younkins
LECTOR	Bill Daniels
LIVESTREAM	Kathy Brown
TELLER	Michael Younkins ---

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **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.

People **Amen.**

Please be seated.



THE LESSONS

THE FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 7:10-16

Lector A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.

Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE

PSALM 80:1-7, 16-18

Read responsively by the whole verse

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, ***
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 **O Lord God of hosts, ***
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 **You have made us the derision of our neighbors, ***
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 **Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, ***
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 **Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; ***
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

THE SECOND LESSON

ROMANS 1:1-7

Lector A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand if you are comfortable doing so for the hymn and the reading of the Gospel

SEQUENCE HYMN

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL (*verses 5 & 6*)

HYMNAL 56

THE HOLY GOSPEL

MATTHEW 1:18-25

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE HOMILY

THE REV. EDIE HOLTON

THE NICENE CREED

When prompted, please stand if you are able.

People **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.
Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.
Who 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, FORM IV

Deacon Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth,
live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace;
that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources
rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ
in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit;
give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Silence

Celebrant Hasten, O God, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your people, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate.

People **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION

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

Silence may be kept.

People **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.**

THE ABSOLUTION

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.

People **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord. Then all are seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY HYMN

THE ANGEL GABRIEL FROM HEAVEN CAME

HYMNAL 265

PRESENTATION HYMN

IN THE BLEAK MID-WINTER, *verse 4*

Please stand if you are able.



What ____ can I give him, poor ____ as I am?



If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;



if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet



what I can I give him give ____ my ____ heart.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING | EUCHARISTIC PRAYER C

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People **Glorify to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space,
galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People **By your will they were created and have their being.**

Celebrant From the primal elements you brought forth the human race,
and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation.
But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Celebrant Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed
your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son,
born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

Celebrant And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles,
and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope,
to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

DEUTSCHE MESSE

HYMNAL S130

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues:

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant Remembering now his work of redemption,
and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
People **We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.**

The Celebrant continues

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca,
God of Jacob, Leah and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see
your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table
for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal.

Celebrant Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ,
that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Celebrant Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship,
from generation to generation.

People **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

People **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

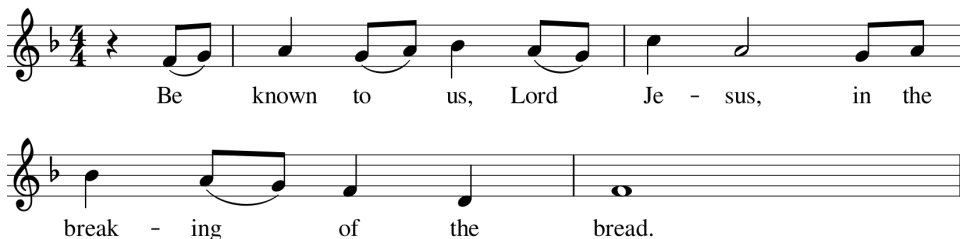
The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ

People **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

FRACTION ANTHEM

BE KNOWN TO US, LORD JESUS



The cantor or choir sing the verses

1. The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ.
2. One body are we, alleluia, for though many, we share one bread.

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INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

May all who share these gifts be found in Christ and may Christ be found in you.



What follows is the Holy Communion, the sacred meal of the Christian faith. The Episcopal Church, as do all other denominations rooted in the historic Christian faith, affirms that the sacrament of Baptism is the ancient and normative entry point for receiving the sacrament of Eucharist, yet no one who comes forward to receive the bread and wine at communion is ever turned away from God's table. Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, the Episcopal Church welcomes you, and we invite you to explore with us what baptism may mean for you. Want to know more? Please see Rev. Edie or Deacon Kathleen following the service.

When receiving the Holy Communion, you may take just the bread if you prefer, or the clergy person can give a gluten-free wafer if you request it. If you are not baptized, or would prefer not to receive communion for any personal or religious reason, you are still invited to come forward at the time of communion to receive a blessing from the priest. (Please place your arms across your chest to indicate your desire to receive a blessing.) Above all, remember that all are welcome here at Grace!

COMMUNION HYMN

COMFORT, COMFORT YE MY PEOPLE

HYMNAL 67

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant Let us Pray.

People **God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Celebrant May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; And the blessing of God Almighty:
✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you, and remain with you always

People **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

LO! HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING

HYMNAL 57

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

THE CHURCH

For the clergy: ++Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; ++Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church; +Eugene Taylor Sutton and +Robert Ilhoff, Bishops of the Diocese of Maryland; Edie+ Holton, our Priest; Kathleen+ Smith-Jones, our Deacon.

In the Diocesan prayer cycle, we pray for St. Luke's, Eastport; St. Anne's, Annapolis; St. Stephen's – Severn Parish; and for the Rev.'s Christopher Dreisbach, Diane C. Fadely, Susan S. Keller, and Marta D-V Johnson.

In our Parish prayer cycle, we pray for Charlie and Sherry Harris.

The Flowers on the Altar are given to the Glory of God by Charlie and Sherry Harris, in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.

OUR COMMUNITY

The Homebound: Teeny Phillips, Marvin Metzgar.

Repose of the Soul of: Kate Jauch, daughter of Chuck and Marianne Szuberla.

Those With Recent Needs: The Szuberla Family; Reta Mercer; Paul David Moss; Peg Jung; Glenn, Robert, and Gay Eackles; The Killmayer Family; Kathy Brown; The Generazio Family; Abby & Tom Kahn; The Cendrowski Family; Art & Dawn Reid, Sandy Cain; Tammy Trimmer; John Ell; Marilyn Rich; Zoe Huck; Claudia; The Dean Family; William; Barry Slocum.

Those With Ongoing Needs: Virginia Danner; Eddie Danner; Jason Harris; Fred Zupka & Family; Chuck Szuberla; Barry Stocks; Lisa Cox & Harriet Carr; Betty Ramsay; Steve Foust; Susan Kimble; Meghan Davidson & Family; Charlotte Barnhouse; Abby & Tom Kahn; Susan Mann; David & Mary Alice Thoma; Catherine Thompson; Felicia Watkins-Kimble.

THE WORLD

For elected leaders in this country and around the world, especially President Joseph Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris; Governors Larry Hogan (*MD*) and Glenn Youngkin (*VA*); and Mayors Nathan Brown (*Brunswick*) and Nate Fontaine (*Lovettsville*). For victims of hunger, human trafficking, substance abuse and natural disasters in the United States and throughout the world.

We pray for the people of Ukraine.

We pray for the victims, family, and communities that have suffered from senseless violence.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS & GREENS – LAST CHANCE!

Remember your loved ones and help beautify our sanctuary for Christmas! Your donation/names need to be received in the church office no later than end of day tomorrow, **Monday, December 19** to be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletin. Grab a flower form in the narthex, or email names to bulletin@gracebrunswick.org. Make sure to indicate if each name is “In Honor of” (Living) or “In Memory of” (Deceased).

DEC 21 | THE LONGEST NIGHT

Join us **Wednesday, December 21 at 5pm** for a service of The Longest Night, for those whose joy and expectation are overshadowed by the pain of loss many experience during this season, when the world’s merriment puts their grief and sorrow in stark relief. We will gather for a short service of candle-lighting, remembrance and prayer.

COMING UP AT GRACE

12/21	Wed	5:00pm	The Longest Night Service	Nave
		7:00pm	AA “Double Dippers” Meeting	Undercroft
12/24	Sat	5:00pm	Christmas Eve Service	Nave
12/25	Sun		Christmas Day: No Service	
1/1	Sun	11:00am	Christmas Lessons & Carols	Nave
1/29	Sun	12:15pm	Annual Meeting of Grace Church	Undercroft
2/5	Sun		Bishop Sutton Visits Grace Church	Nave/Undercroft

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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