

Service of Morning Communion for Advent 4

Welcome

Hymn

The Greeting

The Lord be with you

ALL and also with you.

Prayer of Preparation

ALL Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: 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.

Prayers of Penitence

Remember, Lord, Your compassion and love, for they are everlasting.
Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Remember not the sins of our youth or our transgressions, but think on us in your goodness O Lord, according to your steadfast love.
Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.

O keep our souls and deliver us; let us not be put to shame, for we have put our trust in you. Amen.

Absolution

The Collect



The LITURGY of the WORD

Reading

Romans 16 25-end (New International Version)

Now to him who is able to establish you in accordance with my gospel, the message I proclaim about Jesus Christ, in keeping with the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past, but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all the Gentiles might come to the obedience that comes from faith--- to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen.

HYMN

Gospel Reading

Luke 1 26-38 (New International Version)

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favour with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.



SERMON

The sermon can be found after the service on our website www.stjamesroundsgreen.com or on our Facebook page.

The Creed

We believe in God, the almighty Father, who is the creator of heaven and earth. We believe in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, given birth by the Virgin Mary and suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried, He descended to the dead.

On the third day He rose from the dead, ascended into heaven, is seated at the Father's right hand. He will return to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and in everlasting life. Amen.

The Peace

Prayers of Intercession

Intercessions for Advent 4 (2020)

God Most High, just as you overshadowed Mary when you gave her the news of the coming of Jesus, overshadow us with the power of your Holy Spirit: and, just as she gave birth to Jesus, bring to birth in us lives of holiness and grace.

In this very different and difficult Christmas season, when many feel hopeless, may all those of us who love your Son pass on to all we meet the very real hope we have in Christ.

At this time, when everything seems diminished, including our outward expression of worship to you, may your Church worldwide nonetheless shine out with joy and gladness, laughter and life because you are ever-present in the world.

God Most High, we ask you to set before all leaders, of both large and small responsibilities, a Godly vision of justice and peace. Guide them in ordering and ensuring the common good for the benefit of all in their care. May they be



continually looking for ways to lift up the poor, to ease the suffering of the vulnerable and disadvantaged, to provide resources and practical help to improve lives, and to ensure that those who seek to bring harm to others, by whatever means, are brought to justice.

God Most High, we pray for our community; that your love and grace will become a reality in the days to come for many more who live here.

We thank you for the staff and children in our school and ask that all of them will be able to find some rest and relaxation over the Christmas break. Refresh and restore them after what has been a chaotic year in which all have worked hard to ensure some sort of normality remains in place.

And we also pray today for all those who live in the homes around our church for whom Christmas is just a continuation of hardship and despair, suffering and pain, grief and loneliness: and we ask that, just as your precious Son was a miracle gift to the world that first Christmas, so may they experience miracles from you to them with love this Christmas.

God Most High, as always we bring before you in silence those we know who are suffering or in pain, whether in body, mind or spirit.....We ask you to give rest, refreshment and hope to all who seek your healing grace as well as those we have named.

HYMN

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER H

The Lord is here.

ALL His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts

ALL We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL It is right to give thanks and praise.



It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.

ALL You embraced us as your children and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.

ALL He opened his arms of love upon the cross and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends he took bread, and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them saying: Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

ALL Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his body is the bread of life.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks and said; Drink this, all of you, this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.

ALL Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his blood is shed for all.

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

ALL As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.

With your whole church throughout the world, we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice to join the eternal song in heaven:

ALL Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Let us now continue in prayer using the words our Saviour taught us:

ALL: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

ALL Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.



Invitation to Communion

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he gave for you, and his blood, which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

ALL Most merciful Lord, your love compels us to come in. Our hands were unclean, our hearts were unprepared; we were not fit even to eat the crumbs from under your table. But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation, and share your bread with sinners.
So, cleanse and feed us with the precious body and blood of your Son, that he may live in us and we in him; and that we, with the whole company of Christ, may sit and eat in your kingdom. Amen.

THE PRIEST AND THE PEOPLE RECEIVE COMMUNION.

Prayer after Communion

ALL Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Hymn

Blessing

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

ALL: In the name of Christ. Amen.

