

Sunday, December 24, 2023
4th Sunday of Advent, Year B

Gathering:

Small town girl and Mother of God,
Undertook great destiny.
Set apart by grace and calm,
Courage and her "Yes."
We, too, make the Word our flesh,
Prepared to meet our grace each day.
We reflect on the mystery,
God's love in our hearts.
Mary, the blest one, full of grace,
You are God's dwelling place.
Each one of us is called to birth,
Sing we, Maranatha!

Advent Candle Lighting: Advent Gathering (Cooney/Daigle) (V4) ... G250

Where is the heart whose "yes" is salvation?
Where is the child whose life is our future?
Show us your face, O Lord Jesus come.
Come O hope of your people.
Come among us and stay.
Lead us in mercy up from the shadows, shine in our darkness
Be here today.

First Reading

A reading from the Second Book of Samuel

When King David was settled in his palace, and God had given him rest from all his enemies on every side, the king said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God dwells in a tent."

Nathan answered the king, "Go, do whatever you have in mind, for God is with you."

But that night God spoke to Nathan and said, "Go, tell my servant David, 'Thus says the Most High: Should you build me a house to dwell in?'"

"It was I who took you from the pasture and from the care of the flock to be commander of my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you went, and I have destroyed all your enemies before you. And I will make you famous like the great ones of the earth. I will fix a

place for my people Israel; I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place, without further disturbance. Neither shall the wicked continue to afflict them as they did of old, since the time I first appointed judges over my people Israel. I will give you rest from all your enemies. The Lord also reveals to you that a house will be established for you. And when your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your heir after you and your kingdom shall be made firm. I will be a parent to Israel, and Israel shall be my child. Your house and your reign shall endure forever before me; your throne shall stand firm forever.' "

The word of God.

Responsorial: Forever Will I Sing (Talbot)

[Refrain]

Forever will I sing, the goodness of the Lord.
Forever will I sing, sing Your praises.

[V1] I will sing of your steadfast love, O God.
With my mouth I'll proclaim your faithfulness.
And be glad that your love is forever.
As firm as the heavens.

[V2] Your kindness shall always be with me.
Through your name I shall be exalted.
I shall always call you my God.
For you are my Savior.

[V3] Happy all who rejoice in your name.
Who walk in the light of your love.
You are their strength and their glory.
And they praise you forever.

A reading from Paul to the people of Rome

Brothers and sisters,
To the one who can strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ,
according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages but now manifested through
the prophetic writings and, according to the command of the eternal God,
made known to all nations to bring about the obedience of faith,
to the only wise God through Jesus Christ be glory forever and ever! Amen.

The Word of our God.

Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Renewal (Stephan) ... BB877

Alleluia

*"I am the handmaid of the Lord.
May it be done according to your word."*

Gospel Reading

A reading from the Gospel of Luke

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary.

And coming to her, Gabriel said, "Hail, full of grace! The Most High God is with you!"

But she was greatly troubled at what was said, and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever; and of his reign there will be no end."

But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?"

And 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 called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God."

Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Most High; let it be done to me according to your word."

And the angel departed from her.

The Good News of Salvation

Homily

Universal Intercessions

Response: Waiting God, hear our prayer.

(Waiting God, hear our prayer.)

For a listening heart: that our hearts may be stilled and quieted so that we may hear the Word of God as it comes to us in word, event and experience each day, we pray...

For all believers: that we, like Mary, may ponder God's invitation to us and give our full yes to all that God asks of us so that we may bring forth God's saving presence in our world, we pray...

For all who have lost loved ones or have experienced illness this season, that God will guide us to compassion and solace, we pray...

For all children and youth: that they may know they are loved and treasured and that each of them is made in the image and likeness of God, we pray...

And for what else shall we pray?...

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of Gifts

Offertory: Hail Mary, Gentle Woman (Landry) ... G564

Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with you.
Blessed are you among women
and blest is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners now
and at the hour of death.
Amen.

Gentle woman, quiet light,
morning star, so strong and bright,
gentle Mother, peaceful dove,
teach us wisdom; teach us love.

You were chosen by the Father;
you were chosen for the Son.
You were chosen from all women
and for woman, shining one.

Blessed are you among women,
blest in turn all women, too.
Blessed they with peaceful spirits.
Blessed they with gentle hearts.

~~~~~

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.

**Blessed be God forever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.

**Blessed be God forever.**

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

**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.**

Accept, O Lord, the prayers of your faithful with the sacrificial offerings, that, through these acts of devotedness, we may pass over to the glory of heaven. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Eucharistic Prayer *(if you are watching the video or listening to the audio, please follow along and participate with Fr. Jack; and continue with the Communion Songs below.)*

**Holy: Mass of Renewal (Stephan) ... BB879**

**Mem: Mass of Renewal - When We Eat This Bread (Stephen) ... BB881**

**Amen: Mass of Renewal (Stephan) ... BB883**

**Lamb of God: Mass of Renewal (Stephan) ... BB884**

**Communion1 Come, Now, Emmanuel (*Come, Lord, Maranatha*) (Manalo) ... BB66**

Week 1 Vs. 1. Now is the time to wake from sleep; salvation is close at hand.  
Moving from night into the day, lift up your voices and pray.

Week 4 refrain: Come now, Emmanuel! Come and bring us your peace.  
Come now, Emmanuel! Come to us, set us free. Come now and bring us your peace.

Vs 2. Cast off the dees of the dark. Put on the armor of light.  
Turn to the source of the day. Lift up your voices and pray.

Vs. 3. Constantly watch, stay awake. No one can know the time.  
Whether at dusk or at dawn, we sing this prayer and song.

Vs. 4. Increase in faith, abound in love. Strengthen our hearts this day.  
So be on your guard and stay awake. Come lift up your voices and pray.

### **Prayer after Communion**

### **Announcements**

**Go in peace,  
Thanks be to God.**

### **Sending : Emmanuel (Angrisano) ... BB58**

**Refrain: Come, come, Emmanuel!  
Son of God, appear.  
Heaven and earth, rejoice!  
Salvation is drawing near.  
Salvation is drawing near.**

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear. **Refrain**

O come, O Wisdom from on high,  
Who ordered all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And teach us in her ways to go. **Refrain**

O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem;  
From ev'ry foe deliver them  
That trust your mighty pow'r to save,  
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. **Refrain**

O come, Desire of nations, bind  
In one the hearts of humankind;  
Make all our sad divisions cease,  
And be for us the King of Peace. **Refrain**

*After final refrain*

Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel. (twice)