



## Sunday, December 22, 2024- Fourth Sunday in Advent

Processional Hymn      O Come, O Come Emmanuel      (H 56)

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. **Chorus: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

5. O come, Thou Key of David, come, And open wide our heavenly home; Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery. **Chorus: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

6. O come, Thou Day-Spring, come and cheer. Our spirits by Thine Advent here; Disperse the gloomy clouds by night, And death's dark shadows put to flight. **Chorus: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

7. O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind; bid thou our sad divisions cease, and be thyself our King of Peace. **Chorus: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People:      **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

*Lighting of the Advent Candle- Love!*

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.**

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. Amen..

### **A Reading from the Prophet Micah**

**5:2-5a**

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand

and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

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

**Psalm 80:1-7**

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.

**A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews**

**10:5-10**

When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn**

**The angel Gabriel from heaven came**

**(H 265 v2,3)**

2. "For know a blessed Mother thou shalt be, all generations laud and honor thee, thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold, most highly favored lady," Gloria!

3. Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head, "To me be as it pleaseth God," she said, "my soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name." Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

**Celebrant:    The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke    3:7-18**

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

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's

greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **The Sermon The Rev. Steven Kalas**

#### **Nicene Creed**

**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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.**

#### **Prayers of the People**

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who need healing and comfort. And all who suffer from any grief or trouble;

**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died. Give to the departed eternal rest.

**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Absolution**

### **The Peace**

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.      **People: And also with you.**

## **Celebrations of Life – Welcome visitors – Blessings, Birthdays, and Anniversaries For a Birthday**

Watch over your child, O Lord, as his days increase; bless and guide him wherever he may be. Strengthen him when he stands; comfort him when discouraged or sorrowful; raise him up if he falls; and in his heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of his life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For an Anniversary**

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

## **The Holy Communion**

*Gluten free communion is available.*

## Presentation of the Elements

### Offertory Hymn

### Breath of Heaven

Stephen DeCesare

*Natalie Bond, Alex Tanouye, dancers*

### Presentation of Offering

### Doxology

*O friends, in gladness let us sing, supernal anthems echoing, Alleluia, alleluia! To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! alleluia!*

## 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 Him thanks and praise.**

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

**People: Glory 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.**

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:

***Santo, santo, santo, mi corazon te adora! Mi corazon te sabe decir: santo eres Señor. Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you! My heart is glad to say the words: you are holy, Lord. Santo, santo, santo, mi corazon te adora! Mi corazon te sabe decir: santo eres Señor. (WLP 785)***

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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

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

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; 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. 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.

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

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. **AMEN.**

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

**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**

***Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. (S-155)***

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

**Communion Hymn      Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!      (H 437)**

*1 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice; tender to me the promise of his word; in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.*

*2 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name! Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done; his mercy sure, from age to age the same; his holy Name— the Lord, the Mighty One.*

*3 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might! Powers and dominions lay their glory by. Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight, the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.*

*4 Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word! Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord to children's children and for evermore!*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Blessing**

**Recessional Hymn      Come, thou long-expected Jesus      (H 66)**

*1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.*

*2 Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art: dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.*

*3 Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.*

*4. By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.*

**Dismissal:**

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

**People:      Thanks be to God**

## 2024 Vestry

**Sr. Warden:** Mary Ellen Howey

**Jr. Warden:** Mannie Makhathini

**Clerk:** Heather Bowman

**Treasurer:** Ed McGarry

David Graf

Kristen Lavachek

David Lynch

Deborah Sullivan

## Announcements

**Christmas Services:** December 24<sup>th</sup>-4:30 pm Christmas Eucharist Family Service; 10:40 pm Christmas Choir Concert; 11:00 pm Festive Christmas Choral Eucharist; December 25<sup>th</sup>- 9 am Christmas Day Eucharist

**Epicenter Food Drive:** This Christmas season we at Epiphany are thankful for the many people who donate so generously to our food pantry. Sadly, we have an uptick in clients who have no means of cooking their own food. Therefore, we ask for all kinds of non-perishable food that does not require cooking. Cans with pull-tops are especially appreciated. Let's make this a merry Christmas for all God's children!

**Women of Epiphany Bible Study:** The Bible study will meet each Wednesday evening at 6:00 pm starting January 8th, in classroom. All women aged 10 and up are welcome to join. Information may be found in the Narthex. Please contact Katherine Zagajeski if you have a question.

***Please send any announcements for the bulletin and newsletter at  
[admin@nvepiphany.org](mailto:admin@nvepiphany.org)***

***Our mission is to create and nurture disciples to share our journey to know  
and to love Jesus Christ***

**Epiphany Episcopal Church** 10450 Gillespie Street - Las Vegas, NV 89183  
702-693-41

Parish Adm: 702-806-8241 [www.nvepiphany.org](http://www.nvepiphany.org)