

# St. Matthias Episcopal Church

Sunday, December 22, 2024

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Justin S. Holcomb, Bishop

The Rev. James M. Dorn III, Rector

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## 7:45 am Service • Holy Eucharist Rite I

*The Service is found in the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) which is the red book in the pew rack.*

### The Word of God

#### Greetings and Announcements

#### Advent Prayer

All-powerful God, increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming and call us to his side in the kingdom of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, forever and ever. Amen.

#### The Opening Acclamation

BCP, Page 323

#### The Collect for Purity

BCP, Page 323

#### Lord Have Mercy Upon Us

BCP, Page 324

#### Glory Be to God on High

BCP, Page 324

#### The Collect of the Day

Insert

#### The First Lesson

Insert

#### The Psalm *(said in unison)*

Insert

#### The Epistle

Insert

#### The Gospel

Insert

#### The Sermon

Father Jim Dorn

#### A Moment of Silence

#### The Nicene Creed

BCP, Page 326

#### The Prayers of the People

BCP, Page 328

#### Confession of Sin

BCP, Page 329

#### The Peace

BCP, Page 332

### The Holy Communion

#### The Offertory Sentence

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

#### The Offertory

#### The Offertory Prayer *(said by all)*

Heavenly Father, thank you for all the good things you continue to provide for us. Don't let us take your gifts for granted or abuse them. Instead, help us always to rely on you in faith. Use us and what you have given us for your good purposes. Amen.

#### The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer I

BCP, Page 333

The Sanctus

BCP, Page 334

The Lord's Prayer

BCP, Page 336

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP, Page 337

Prayer of Humble Access

BCP, Page 337

#### Administration of Communion

#### The Post-Communion Prayer

BCP, Page 339

#### Prayer for Eucharistic Visitors *(said by all)*

We send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.

#### Birthday & Anniversary Blessings

BCP, Page 830 & 431

#### Blessing

BCP, Page 339

#### Dismissal

*Talk to God before Church. Listen to God during Church. Talk to each other after Church.*

## **The Collect**

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.**

## **Old Testament**

### **Micah 5:2-5a**

Reader            A Reading from the book of the prophet Micah.

But 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.

Reader            The Word of the Lord.

**People            Thanks be to God.**

## **The Psalm**

### **Canticle 15: The Song of Mary**

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed:  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm,  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel,  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his children for ever.**

**The Epistle**  
**Hebrews 10:5-10**

Reader            A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

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.

Reader            The Word of the Lord.

**People            Thanks be to God.**

**The Gospel**  
**Luke 1:39-45**

Priest            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
**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."

Priest            The Gospel of the Lord.  
**People            Praise to you, Lord Christ.**