



Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

Episcopal/Anglican

Alexandria, Virginia



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 22, 2019

Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 8:00 a.m.

*Page references are for The Book of Common Prayer.
Large Print Prayer Books are available; please request one from an usher.
In respect for those wishing to pray before the service begins, the congregation is asked
to remain as quiet as possible.*

Opening Acclamation

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Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen*

The Collect for Purity

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

Kyrie eleison

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The Collect of the Day

We beseech thee, Almighty God, to purify our consciences by thy daily visitation, that when thy Son Jesus Christ cometh he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-16

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."

The Word of the Lord
Response: *Thanks be to God.*

Silence

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18 *Qui regis Israel*

- 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 Epistle: Romans 1:1-7

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.

The Word of the Lord

Response: ***Thanks be to God.***

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew
Response: *Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

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.

The Gospel of the Lord
Response: *Praise be to thee, O Christ.*

The Sermon: The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr.

The Nicene Creed

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The Prayers of the People:

After the Intercessor says: "Let us all pray together,"
the congregation responds: "*Come, Lord Jesus.*"

Confession of Sin and Absolution

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The Peace

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer II

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Sanctus and Benedictus

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The Lord's Prayer

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The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us
Response: *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

Agnus Dei

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*All baptized Christians are welcomed and encouraged to receive Holy Communion.
If you wish to receive a blessing, simply cross your arms over your chest.
Gluten-free hosts are available on request from the clergy.
For those who are interested in being baptized, please see a member of the clergy.*

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing

The Dismissal

The flowers on the Altar are given to the glory of God by Mr. and Mrs. Timothy and Lindsey Martin in celebration of the Baptism of their daughter, Isla Sloane Martin.

SERVING AT THIS EUCHARIST: *Altar Guild:* Susan Gildersleeve; *Flower Guild:* Candy Levin; *Reader:* David Ingold; *Chalice:* Phyllis Sims; *Usher:* Dodd Sims; *Vestry Greeter:* Jamie Conrad; *Vestry Counter:* Karen Besser; *Coffee Host:* Carrie Cuddy; *Audio-Visual:* Mark Fearer; *Celebrant:* The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander