



SAINT FRANCIS IN THE VALLEY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Green Valley, Arizona

The Rev. Daniel J. Messier, Rector

The Rev. Pamela W. Hyde, Assistant Rector

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

23 December 2018

Rite Two, Eucharistic Prayer B

at 8 and 10 AM

ORGAN PRELUDE Nicolas Lemmens, 1823-81
Creator of the stars of night

OPENING HYMN 54
Savior of the nations, come!

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Celebrant: We light a fourth candle on our Advent Wreath - the candle of love. Its light reminds us of the love God has for each of us.

(The fourth candle is lighted.)

Celebrant: Let us pray. Loving God, we thank you for your gift of love shown to us perfectly in Jesus Christ our Lord. Help us to remember that Love is patient, kind and envies no one. Love is never boastful or conceited, rude or selfish; love is not quick to take offense, it keeps no records of wrongs, it does not gloat over other people's troubles, but rejoices in the right, the good, and the true. There is nothing that love cannot face; there is no limit to its faith, to its hope, to its endurance. Love never ends.

People: To you, O Lord, we lift up our souls: In you, O God, we trust.

OPENING SENTENCES Prayer Book 355

TRISAGION Hymnal S100

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST READING

Our First Reading presents an ancient prophecy which foresees the day when a new ruler shall come forth for Israel out of David's city of Bethlehem of Ephrathah. A Reading from the Book of 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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE CANTICLE (*Canticle XV: Luke 1:46-55*)
(Please respond following the asterisk.)

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.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE SECOND READING

Our Second Reading describes the purpose of Jesus' coming into the world—to make an offering in his body for our sanctification. 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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn 265

The angel Gabriel from heaven came

The Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON The Rev. Daniel J. Messier

THE NICENE CREED Prayer Book 358

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Prayer Book 387

CONFESSION OF SIN Prayer Book 360

ABSOLUTION AND PEACE Prayer Book 360

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY Mode IV melody,
arr. John Scott, 1956–2015

Creator of the stars of night, thy people's everlasting light, O Jesu, Savior of us all, regard thy servants when they call. Thou, grieving at the bitter cry of all creation doomed to die, didst come to save a ruined race with healing gifts of heavenly grace. Thou cam-est, bridegroom of the bride, as drew the world to

eveningtide, proceeding from a virgin shrine, the Son of Man, yet Lord divine. At thy great name, majestic now, all knees must bend, all hearts must bow, and things in heaven and earth shall own, that thou art Lord and King alone. To thee, O holy One, we pray, our judge in that tremendous day, preserves us, while we dwell below, from every onslaught on the foe. All praise, eternal Son, to thee, whose advent sets thy people free, whom with the father we adore, and Spirit blest, for evermore. Amen.

7th c. Office Hymn, tr. John Mason Neale

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

All things come of thee, O Lord,
and of thine own have we given thee.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Prayer Book 367

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS Hymnal S125

THE LORD'S PRAYER Prayer Book 364

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

AGNUS DEI Hymnal S161

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

On Receiving Communion: *You may stand or kneel at the rail to receive the Sacrament. (If you would like a gluten-free wafer, please let one of the clergy know.) If you do not wish to receive Communion you are invited to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest. Members of the Daughters of the King will be at the Chapel rail at both services to administer prayers for healing and thanksgiving. Please go to the Chapel rail after your Communion.*

PRAYER FOR THE SENDING FORTH OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS (to be said by all)

In the name of this congregation 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.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER Prayer Book 366

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN 56, STZ. 5-8

O come, thou Key of David, come

THE DISMISSAL

ORGAN POSTLUDE J. S. Bach, 1685-1750

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme
"Sleepers, wake!" a voice astounds us

Today's Gospel

Today's gospel reading tells of Mary's visit to her kinswoman Elizabeth, and this humble woman's song of thanksgiving to the Savior God who has called her to be the mother of the Lord. Elizabeth is herself pregnant with a child who will be John the Baptist. Even in her womb this baby is joyful in Mary's presence. All generations will call Mary blessed.



The organ postlude this morning is a transcription by Bach himself of the fourth movement of his Cantata 140, known as 'Sleepers, awake,' written for the 27th Sunday after Trinity. The transcription is included in a collection of pieces—most of them transcriptions—known as the Schübler Chorales. *Wachet auf* is one of Bach's most famous and most popular pieces, especially in the version for organ.

We extend a warm welcome to our guests and visitors and we are delighted to have you worship with us. Our Communion Table is open to all baptized Christians. Please join us for refreshments in the Parish Hall after the service, and please complete the Visitor's Card found in the pew racks and place it in an Offering Basket or hand it to an Usher or Greeter after the service.

Our mission is to live as Christ's heart and hands in the world.

PARTICIPANTS AT 8 O'CLOCK

Preacher: The Rev. Daniel J. Messier
Celebrant: The Rev. Daniel J. Messier
Lector: Stu Findley
Prayers of the People: BrandE Faupell
Acolyte: Norma Pool
Ushers: Carol Lyons,
Bob Thornby
Greeters: Nancy & Steve Hickman,
Doug Brozovsky
Organist: J. Michael Case
Sound Technician: Arnie Berglund

PARTICIPANTS AT 10 O'CLOCK

Preacher: The Rev. Daniel J. Messier
Celebrant: The Rev. Pamela W. Hyde
Lector: Gary LaBarre
Prayers of the People: Stephen Schwarzman
Crucifer: David Dunn
Acolyte: Country Wagaman
Ushers: Sandy Russell,
Doug Brozovsky
Greeters: Louise Hursh,
Kathy Helgeson
Organist: J. Michael Case
Sound Technician: Craig Jones

SAINT FRANCIS IN THE VALLEY

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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The Rt. Rev. Kirk S. Smith, Ph.D., D.D., *Bishop*

The Rev. Jennifer Anne Reddall, *Bishop-elect*

The Rev. Daniel J. Messier, *Rector*

The Rev. Pamela W. Hyde, *Assistant Rector*

Gerald Near, *Parish Administrator*

Rae Turberg,

Debbie Segal,

Financial Officers

Beth-el Klein, *Administrative Assistant*

J. Michael Case, *Organist*

John Colip, *Head Sexton*

Sue Whitney, Henry Ramirez, Clyde Tardy

Sextons

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday

8 AM – 2 PM

THE VESTRY

Wayne North, Senior Warden; Arnie Berglund, Junior Warden;
Mary Beth Bates, David Dunn, Sandy Eckstein, Larry Howell, Orji Isiogu, Glenn Matto,
Bobbi Tucker (Clerk), Carol Vleck; ex officio: Erik Ringkjob, Treasurer.