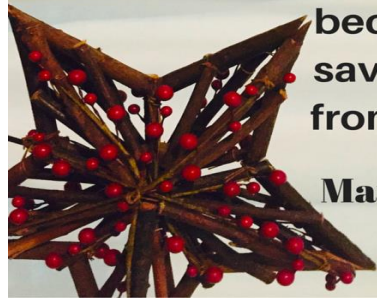


**...an angel of the Lord
appeared to him in a dream
and said, "Joseph son of
David, do not be afraid to
take Mary home as your wife,
because what is conceived in
her is from the Holy Spirit.
She will give birth to a son,
and you are to give him the
name Jesus,
because he will
save his people
from their sins."**

Matthew 1:20-21



The Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 18, 2022

CHRIST CHURCH PARISH

(Episcopal)

720 Riverside

Adrian, Michigan

49221

517/263-1162

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Morning Prayer Rite I

December 18, 2022

Christ Church (Episcopal), Adrian 720 Riverside Ave

The Passing of the Peace

BCP 360

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: *And also with you.*



The Lighting of the Advent Candles
*Loving God, we open ourselves to you
this Christmas season. Light our lives
with your imagination. Show us the
creative power of hope. Teach us
the peace that comes from justice. Fill
us with the kind of joy that cannot be
contained, but must be shared. Magnify
your LOVE within us. Prepare our hearts to be
transformed by you that we may walk in the light of
Christ.*

Sentence of Scripture (Advent)

BCP 37

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh
shall see it together. *Isaiah 40:5*

Confession of Sin

BCP 41

Presider:

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

Presider and People together

*Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost
sheep,
we have followed too much the devices and desires of
our own hearts,
we have offended against thy holy laws,
we have left undone those things which we ought to
have done,
and we have done those things which we ought not to
have done.*

*But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
spare thou those who confess their faults,
restore thou those who are penitent,
according to thy promises declared unto mankind
in Christ Jesus our Lord;
and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that
we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober
life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.*

Presider:

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant us absolution
and remission of all our sins, true repentance,
amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of
his Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Invitatory and Psalter

Presider: O Lord, open thou our lips.

People: *And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.*

Presider and People

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.*

Antiphon (In Advent...) BCP 43

Presider: Our King and Savior draweth nigh

People: *O come, let us adore him.*

Jubilate BCP 82

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *

serve the Lord with gladness

and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; *

he himself has made us, and we are his;

we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;

go into his courts with praise; *

give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good;

his mercy is everlasting; *

and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Antiphon (In Advent...) BCP 43

Presider: Our King and Savior draweth nigh

People: *O come, let us adore him.*

Psalms 80:1-7, 16-18 *Qui regis, Israel* BCP 702

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.

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.

A Reading from the Prophet 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."

Presider: The Word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God*

The Song of Mary

BCP 91

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.

A Reading from Paul's letter to the 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.

Presider: The word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God*

The Song of Zechariah BCP 50

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, *
for he hath visited and redeemed his people;
And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us *
in the house of his servant David,
As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, *
which have been since the world began:
That we should be saved from our enemies, *
and from the hand of all that hate us;
To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers, *
and to remember his holy covenant;
To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather
Abraham, *
that he would give us,
That we being delivered out of the hand of our
enemies *
might serve him without fear,
In holiness and righteousness before him, *
all the days of our life.
And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the
Highest, *
for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord
to prepare his ways;
To give knowledge of salvation unto his people *
for the remission of their sins,

Through the tender mercy of our God, *
whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited
us;
To give light to them that sit in darkness
and in the shadow of death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
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.

A reading from Matthew 1:18-25
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.

Presider: The word of the Lord.
People: *Thanks be to God*
Sermon Joyce Holden, Lay Worship Leader

The Apostles Creed BCP 53
Presider and People together, all standing

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father
almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and
the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,*

and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: And with thy spirit.

The Lord's Prayer BCP 54

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.

Suffrage B BCP 35

V. O Lord, save thy people and bless thine heritage;

R. Govern them and lift them up for ever.

V. Day by day we magnify thee;

R. And we worship thy Name ever, world without
end.

V. Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without
sin;

R. O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon
us.

V. O Lord, let thy mercy be upon us;

R. As our trust is in thee.

V. O Lord, in thee have I trusted;

R. Let me never be confounded.

Collect of the Day (4th Sunday of Advent) BCP 160
We beseech thee, Almighty God, to purify our
consciences by thy daily visitation, that when thy Son
our Lord 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.*

A Collect for Sundays BCP 56

O God, who makest us glad with the weekly
remembrance of the glorious resurrection of thy Son
our Lord: Grant us this day such blessing through our
worship of thee, that the days to come may be spent
in thy favor; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

A Collect for Mission BCP 58

O God, who hast made of one blood all the peoples of
the earth, and didst send thy blessed Son to preach
peace to those who are far off and to those who are
near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after
thee and find thee; bring the nations into thy fold;
pour out thy Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the
coming of thy kingdom; through the same thy
Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Prayers and thanksgivings may be offered at this time, either silently or spoken

The General Thanksgiving BCP 58
Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we thine unworthy servants
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all men.
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for thine inestimable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus
Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we beseech thee,
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;
and that we show forth thy praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to thy service,
and by walking before thee
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

A Prayer of St Chrysostom BCP 59
Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time
with one accord to make our common supplication
unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-

beloved Son that when two or three are gathered
together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of
them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions
of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in
this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to
come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Announcements

Dismissal BCP 60
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of
God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us
all evermore. *Amen. 2 Corinthians 13:14*

Visitors

We welcome you to Christ Episcopal Church and invite
you to be our guests for refreshments in the Parish
Hall immediately following the service!

THOSE ASSISTING WITH TODAY'S SERVICE:

Lector: Todd Johnson

UPCOMING SERVICES:

12/24 Christmas Eve Service, Hymn Sing @ 7 PM,
Eucharist to follow, Pastor Richard Rentner

UPCOMING EVENTS:

12/19 Ted Wilkins' birthday

12/26 Sam & Mary Abraham's anniversary

12/27 Sarah Abraham's birthday

SAINTS CELEBRATED THIS WEEK:

12/21 St Thomas the Apostle

CONTINUED PRAYERS: Bob; Bobbie; Sue; Ed & Audrey; Joyce; Bob & Donna; Jamie & Marvin; Jill; Julie; John; Harriet; John; Arnold; Paul Barth; Linda; Carrie; Lily & Violet; Al; Vickie; Lonnie; Corky; Sarah; Todd; Lonnie; JoAnn; Ted & Julie; Sherri; Helen; Eleanor; Sam's sister & family; Eric; Mary's family; Mark

PRAY FOR those who are suffering the effects of the pandemic & the 1.1+M Americans who've lost their lives.

PRAY FOR those who have suffered loss due to gun violence, & those who live these threats every day.

PRAY FOR the underemployed, the unemployed & the homeless

PRAY FOR THOSE IN HARM'S WAY especially our service men & women

PRAY FOR the people of Ukraine

PRAY FOR refugees worldwide.

CYCLE OF PRAYER: Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop; Bonnie Perry, our Bishop; Moises Quezada Mota, Bishop of the Diocese of the Dominican Republic; Elizabeth Eaton, ELCA Presiding Bishop; Donald P Kreiss, ELCA Bishop, SE Michigan Synod; Craig A Satterlee, ELCA Bishop, NW Lower Michigan Synod; our Diocesan retired community household; Our Diocesan household; Christ Church, Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills; Christ Church, Pleasant Lake; St Andrews, Livonia

DONATION SEASON IS UPON US! Please contribute to the needs of this community by donating diapers, socks, mittens, hats...

WE INVITE YOU to join us on Christmas Eve at 7:00 PM for our Annual Christmas Carol Sing and Service! We'll begin with a few of our favorite carols, as well as a new one (or two). Join us for the Carol Sing, and stay for the Service immediately following. We'll finish the evening by joining together in the center aisle with candles to sing "Silent Night"!

We hope you'll bring your family and friends for this beautiful evening celebration of our Lord's birth!

THE VESTRY OF CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Senior Warden Todd Johnson

Treasurer Joyce Holden

Clerk Sam Abraham

Ted Wilkins

COMMITTEES OF CHRIST CHURCH, ADRIAN

Budget & Finance Joyce Holden

Buildings & Grounds Todd Johnson 517-662-0782

Church Secretary Joyce Holden 517-918-0108

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