

The Holy Eucharist In Advent



We're glad you're here.

Welcome

The Prelude

Please remain seated.

Hymn

Please see the hymn board. *Please stand.*

In the name of God, who has delivered us from the dominion of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, we welcome you: grace to you and peace. We are gathered together to proclaim and receive in our hearts the good news of the coming of God's kingdom, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate with confidence and joy the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We pray that we may respond in penitence and faith to the glory of his kingdom, its works of justice and its promise of peace, its blessing and its hope.

And as we seek to renew our allegiance to God's loving purpose, we pray for all who, at this time especially need his pity and protection: the sick in body, mind or spirit; those who suffer from loss of dignity or loss of hope; those who face the future with fear, or walk in the shadow of death.

May God, of his grace and mercy, grant to all his people a new trust in his good providence and a new obedience to his sovereign word, for to him is most justly due all glory, honor, worship and praise, world without end.

All Amen.

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

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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.*

The Kyrie,

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have merc .Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.** *The collect of the day is read.*

The Service of the Word

The Lector ends each reading by saying
The People Respond

Please be seated.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Priest: The gospel of the Lord. **People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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

Please stand as you are able.

The Sermon

Please be seated.

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand
of the Father.**

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

**With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped 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.

**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;**

The Prayers of the People

Watchful at all times, let us pray for strength to stand with confidence before our Maker and Redeemer.

Intercessor: Into our emptiness, into our brokenness:

People: Lord, come down.

Intercessor: Into our loneliness,

People: Lord, come down.

Intercessor: Into our neediness:

People: Lord, come down.

Intercessor: Into our busyness and our distractedness:

People: Lord, come down.

Intercessor: Into our chaos and our unsettledness:

People: Lord, come down.

Intercessor: Into our shallowness and our small-mindedness:

People: Lord, come down.

Intercessor: Into our past and into our present:

People: Lord, come down.

Intercessor: Into our future, with all its uncertainty:

People: Lord, rend the heavens and come down.

Intercessor: For those on the margins and all the forgotten:

People: Lord, come down.

Intercessor: For those in the dark, in chains of despair:

People: Lord, come down.

Intercessor: Into our world, with all its unsettledness:

People: Lord, come down.

Intercessor: In places of war and violence and conflict:

People: Lord, come down.

Intercessor: We remember the sick and suffering (*names are read*). In the places where the ill cry out to you:

People: Lord, come down.

Intercessor: In places where the dying and grieving gather (*especially n.*)

People: Lord, come down.

Intercessor: In all our darkness send us your light. Break forth the daylight, banish the night.

People: Lord, rend the heavens and come down Amen.

The Confession

Priest: When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore, in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

Please kneel as you are able.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word and deed,
By what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name. *Amen.***

The Absolution and the Peace

Almighty God have mercy on you; pardon you and set you free. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. **Amen.**

Priest: May the God of peace make you completely holy, ready for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

***People* And also with you.**

The Offertory Sentences

We are the work of God's hands, the psalmist says, and God continues to shape us each day into a people of goodness and peace. That is why we bring gifts this morning: to be part of creating a more beautiful world through the ministry of this church and the witness of our lives each day. Let us gather our gifts together and present them as an offering to God.

The Offering: *The gifts are brought forward. The plate is passed for financial offerings which are used to support the mission, ministry and operations of your church. Thank you!*

The Offerings are brought up from the back of the church, the ushers stand at the altar steps and we sing:

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below!
Praise him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost!**

The Eucharist

Please stand.

*Now begins the Eucharist or Communion. You are welcome to participate at communion. All the baptized (of any age, faith or doubts, marital status) are welcome to receive bread and wine here. Those who are not baptized or who simply don't want to receive communion are invited to come to the altar rail with the rest of your pew and receive a blessing instead. Simply cross your arms over your chest and the priest will know to give you a blessing. To receive the bread put your right hand over your left and the bread will be given to you. You can then hold the bread and dip it (intinct it) in the chalice when it is offered. You may also choose to receive only the bread and not the wine. **You are welcome here.***

Priest: : O come, Emanuel, into our longing hearts.

People: We lift our hearts to You

Presider: As we gather around this table

People: In expectation and hope.

We embrace all that is holy as we sing: (Sanctus)

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

God of Power and might

Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord

Hosanna in the highest

In this season of waiting, of shorter, darker days, and of preparation for Christmas, we hear of the coming of Jesus. We hear from the prophets of God's new straight path in the desert and of the hoped for shepherd to feed his flock.

We hear from John the Baptist of one coming after him, one who will baptize with Holy Spirit.

We hear from Jesus of signs and omens, heralding a sudden coming of the Son of Man, the Son of God, and we are warned to be ready. We hear from the angel of the baby, conceived by the Holy Spirit in Mary's womb, who will be a king, a prince of peace who will save his people.

As we open our hearts to this coming, and puzzle as to its meaning for us and for the world, we can't help but remember the rest of the story. Even as we celebrate Jesus' birth, we remember his life, his teachings and healings and compassion. Even as we remember the beginning, we know well of Jesus' suffering and death and Resurrection.

We remember how, on the night before he died, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

We remember how, after supper, he took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; this is my blood poured out for you and for everyone. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, sanctify this bread and this wine that they may be for us the body and blood of your son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also that we may be worthy to receive him.

By him and with him and in him, in the unity of the holy spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN**

And now, as Jesus has taught us, we pray;

The Lord's Prayer

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

Priest: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast!

Priest: These gifts of bread and wine, are the gifts of God for all God's people
Be what you see; receive who you are.

The people receive Communion.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the people with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

The people may respond, "Amen."

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

The people may respond, "Amen."

The Post Communion Prayer

The priest and people pray:

**God of all grace,
may we live in expectation and hope,
and may the gifts we have
received at this table
remind us not only of the gift of your Christ,
but of your steady presence among us,
that we may act faithfully
in response to your love *Amen***

The Blessing of the Gathered

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your path,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty; Father, Son and Holy Spirit
be with you now and always. **Amen.**

The Recessional Hymn:

The Dismissal

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

The People respond: Thanks be to God.

Guests & Newcomers!

We loved having you worship with us today!

We hope you'll worship with us next Sunday at 8 or 9:30 a.m. or Wednesday mornings at 10:30 downstairs in our undercroft. We have red **information folders for all newcomers**, please ask an usher or take one off the welcome table in the back of the church. Also, please fill out a **guest card** from the pew rack in front of you or sign our guest book. We'd like to be able to send you information on our parish activities.

Ready to become a member?

To start the process, fill out one of the pew cards and give it to the priest, or drop in the offering plate. Would you like to sing in the choir or serve as a reader or altar server? Let us know! **We're glad you're here.**

We love the bible!

We have bible study on Tuesday afternoons at 1 p.m. and an active Men's and Women's group, Lenten and Advent programs, social events and volunteer opportunities year-round! We offer Yahweh and yoga on the third Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in our parish hall, and a community dinner on the last Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. Volunteers to help with the dinner are always needed!

Do you have children?

We love having your child in the pew. Please feel free to bring small toys, books, snacks to enjoy. We have a kid's table and chairs in the back of the church with toys, coloring books and crayons. They are welcome to play there. We also have a Kid Zone in our sound-proof balcony that has toys, books and other kids to play with. Feel free to allow your child to play. You can see the Kid Zone above the pews in the back of the church.

Email revlgraves@gmail.com or therevchipgraves@gmail.com to find out more..

