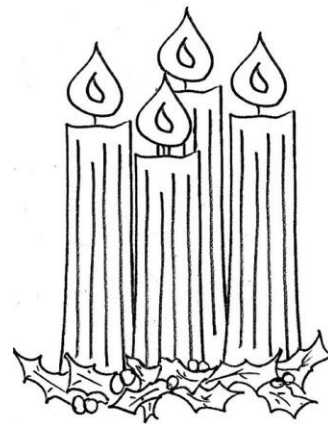


The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2020 • 8:00 AM Service
Holy Communion Rite One



639 Edgewater Drive • Dunedin, FL 34698
(727) 733-4125
www.COGSDunedin.com • Pastoral Care
Number: (727) 275-0257
E-Mail the church office info@cogsdunedin.com



Services: Sunday at 8 and 10 AM • Wednesday at 10 AM • Saturday at 5 PM
Our Sunday services are livestreamed

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD

During this time of social distancing: Please sit in one of the spaces in a pew marked with a piece of white masking tape. People in the same household may sit together, but everyone else should sit 6 feet apart.

Restrooms: Handicap-accessible restrooms are located to the right as you go up the ramp through the archway across from the doors of the sanctuary.

Hymnals, Prayer Books and Bibles are in a bookcase in the back of the church. If you would like to use one, please take one and return it in the box after the service.

We have gluten-free wafers available: Please tell us when you come to the altar rail.

Symbols in the Bulletin: **P** Priest **D** Deacon **L** Leader **C** Congregation **A** Everyone

Standing, sitting, and kneeling: Throughout the bulletin there are invitations to stand, sit or kneel, as you choose. You are free to be seated at any time when that is best for you.

A gentle reminder: please silence your mobile phone before the service.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

W. Held

Isabelle Schueler, cello

[During the Prelude, please prepare for worship by observing attentive silence.]

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MISSION MOMENT

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

[Please stand when the chimes sound and face the Baptistry in the rear of the sanctuary.]

PRAYER FOR THE FOURTH CANDLE OF ADVENT: PEACE

- P** We light the first candle as a symbol of Christ who brings Hope.
- We light the second candle as a symbol of Christ who brings Love. *[A second blue candle is lit.]*
- We light the third candle as a symbol of Christ who brings Joy. *[A pink candle is lit.]*
- We light the fourth candle as a symbol of Christ, the Prince of Peace. *[Last blue candle is lit.]*

- ℣ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- ☩ **Our God, we come to you today in the spirit of peace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

THE ACCLAMATION

Symbols in the Bulletin ℙ Priest, ☩ Deacon, ☩ Congregation, ℣ Leader, ☩ Everyone.

- ℙ Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- ☩ **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.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

- ℙ The Lord be with you.
- ☩ **And with thy Spirit.**
- ℙ Let us pray... 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 READINGS: 2 SAMUEL 7:1-11, 16, ROMANS 16:25-27, LUKE 1:26-38, PSALM 89:1-4, 19-26

[Please be seated.]

THE FIRST READING

- ℣ *The First Reading is taken from 2 Samuel, chapter 7...*

When the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord

declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

℣ The Word of the Lord.

☩ **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

℣ *We will read responsively Psalm 89...*

℣ Your love, O LORD, for ever will I sing; from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

☩ **For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**

℣ "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

☩ **'I will establish your line for ever, and preserve your throne for all generations.'**

℣ You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people: I have set the crown upon a warrior and have exalted one chosen out of the people.

☩ **I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him.**

℣ My hand will hold him fast and my arm will make him strong.

☩ **No enemy shall deceive him, nor any wicked man bring him down.**

℣ I will crush his foes before him and strike down those who hate him.

☩ **My faithfulness and love shall be with him, and he shall be victorious through my Name.**

℣ I shall make his dominion extend from the Great Sea to the River.

☩ **He will say to me, 'You are my Father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.'**

THE SECOND READING

℣ *The Second Reading is taken from Romans, chapter 16...*

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith-- to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

℣ The Word of the Lord.

☩ **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL

[Please stand.]

℣ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

☩ **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

℣ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for

you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

SERMON

The Rev. Michael Durning

[Please be seated.]

NICENE CREED

[Please stand.]

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

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. 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. 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; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

[Please sit, stand, or kneel, as you prefer.]

☐ Let us pray for the whole state of Christ’s Church and the world.

☒ Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all humanity. Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love. We pray in Peace,

☑ **Hear our prayer.**

📖 Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops, especially to Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Dabney, our Bishop; Barry and Michael, our Assisting Bishops; Michael, our Priest in Charge; and Cindy, our Deacon; to our companion diocese of the Dominican Republic; to these Episcopal Churches in our Diocese; St. Chad's, Tampa; St. John's, Brooksville; Church of the Ascension, Clearwater; to the Clearwater Deanery Collaboration Partners; and to all priests, deacons, and the laity in their ministry; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments. We pray in peace,

📣 **Hear our prayer.**

📖 And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. We pray in peace,

📣 **Hear our prayer.**

📖 We pray for the leaders of this nation, for those newly-elected to public office, the Congress, the President, and all others in authority. May they be guided by your Wisdom, and find strength and courage to know and accomplish your purposes in the midst of these days. We pray in peace,

📣 **Hear our prayer.**

📖 And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor [*Add handwritten names from notebook*] and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, especially those listed in the weekly news who have asked for our prayers. I now invite you to pray for others by name, aloud or in your hearts. [*Leave time...*] We pray in peace,

📣 **Hear our prayer.**

📖 Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty. We give you thanks for all the blessings of this life and for the flowers given to the Glory of God, and for the birthdays this coming week of Shirl Ahrens, Cam Boothe, Michael Tomalesky, Bethany Elder, Aubrey Elder, Barbara Groff, Nancy Fisher, Sally Wakefield, and for those celebrating anniversaries this week, Cam & Sherry Boothe, Troy Abell & Lisa Baker, Jerald & Janet Ozbun. I invite you to name a blessing either silently or aloud. [*Leave time...*] We pray in peace,

📣 **Hear our prayer.**

📖 And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, [*especially... add names from notebook*]. Please add names of those on your heart, silently or aloud. [*Leave time...*] We beseech thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. We pray in peace,

📣 **Hear our prayer.**

📖 Empower, O Lord, our Search Committee and Vestry as we pray....

📣 **Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on our Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

📖 Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate.

📣 **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SIN

[Please stand or kneel, as you choose.]

D Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God. *[Silence is kept.]*
Most merciful God,...

AI **we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.**

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

G **Amen.**

PRAYERS AND BLESSINGS

THE PEACE

[Please stand.]

P The peace of the Lord be always with you.

G **And with thy spirit.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

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

[Please be seated. The offering plates are on stands in the front and the back of the church. If you wish, you may place an offering there.]

OFFERTORY

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS

[Please stand when invited by the Deacon.]

D As we receive these gifts, we acknowledge

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer I

P The Lord be with you.

G **And with thy spirit.**

P Lift up your hearts.

G **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

G **It is meet and right so to do.**

P It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Because thou didst send thy beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

P Therefore, with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

AI Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

[Please kneel or stand, as you choose.]

- P** All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.
- P** For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."
Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."
- P** Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.
- AI** **And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion. And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him. And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;**

P By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

A **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

A **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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

P The bread we break makes us one in Christ.

C **Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.**

P The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

[PLEASE FOLLOW THESE NEW PROCEDURES: *To ensure social distancing, please go forward to receive Holy Communion one at a time, following the directions of the usher, who will let you know when it's your turn. Two people will stand in front of the altar to distribute the consecrated wafers. Please keep your mask on, receive the wafer, and return to your seat by the side aisle. After returning to your seat, you may remove your mask to consume your wafer.*

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

[Please kneel or stand, as you choose.]

P Let us pray.

A **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 AND DISMISSAL

[Please stand.]

P The Lord calls us to prepare our hearts for the coming of the Day of the Lord by focusing our lives on the promises of hope, the labors of love, the depths of joy, and the strengths of peace; go from here with the blessing of the Triune God: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, this day and forever.

C **Amen.**

D Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

SERVING US TODAY

Celebrant & Preacher	Michael Durning
Deacon	Cindy Roehl
Organist	Robert Moncrief
Chalicer/Acolyte	Joe Nixon
Lector	Edward Hopwood
Prayers of the People	Miriam Benítez-Nixon
Ushers	Butch & Diane Niford
Building & Grounds	Butch Niford