

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2024

8:00 AM Service

Holy Communion: Rite I



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E-Mail the church office: info@cogsdunedin.com

Services: Sunday at 8 and 10 AM • Wednesday at 6 PM

Our Sunday 10:00 AM service is livestreamed

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD

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.

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

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 enter the Nave quietly and reverently and silence your phones.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please remain seated.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

(Please stand when the bells sound and face the Baptistry in the rear of the sanctuary.)

ACCLAMATION

Please stand.

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

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

COLLECT FOR PURITY

All **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.**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy upon us.

All **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy Spirit.**

Celebrant 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.

All **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

Please be seated.

THE FIRST READING

Micah 5:2-5a

Lector *The First Reading is taken from Micah chapter 5...*

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.**

CANTICLE 15

Luke 1:46-55

Lector *We will read responsively from Luke chapter 1...*

Lector My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

People **my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.**

Lector From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

People **He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.**

Lector He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

People **He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.**

Lector He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

People **He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy,**

Lector The promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever.

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.**

THE SECOND READING

Hebrews 10:5-10

Lector *The Second Reading is taken from Hebrews chapter 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.**

THE GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-55

Please stand.

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

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Celebrant 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." And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

SERMON

The Rev. Whitney Burton

NICENE CREED *Please stand.*

People 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.

Celebrant Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Lector 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. God of Light and Life,

People **We pray to you.**

Lector Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops, especially to Sean, our Presiding
Bishop; Douglas, our Bishop; Whitney, our Rector; to our companion diocese of the
Dominican Republic; to these Episcopal Churches in our Diocese; Retired clergy of
the Diocese of Southwest Florida; Episcopal Charities of Southwest Florida;
Episcopal Schools in the Diocese of Southwest Florida, and the seminarians of the
Diocese of Southwest Florida; 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. God of Light and Life,
We pray to you.

People

Lector 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. God of Light and Life,

People **We pray to you.**

Lector We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially our elected leaders, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world. We pray that all God's children, especially those in the Middle East, might live in the hope of the world peace for which we are created. God of Light and Life,

People **We pray to you.**

Lector 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...*] God of Light and Life,

People **We pray to you.**

Lector 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 thanks for the flowers given to the Glory of God, and for all the blessings of this life, especially the birthdays this coming week of Ayden Watson, Karen Morris, Nancy Fisher, Diane Linton, Sally Wakefield, Lisa Little, Donna Brotherhood, and Jim Ratliff and for the anniversaries of Janet and Jerald Ozbun, Miriam Benitez-Nixon. God of Light and Life,

People **We pray to you.**

Lector 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. God of Light and Life,

People **We pray to you.**

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

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

People **AMEN.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Please kneel or stand.

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

People **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.**

Celebrant Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all 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.

People **Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE *Please stand.*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Please be seated.

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

Celebrant As we receive these gifts, we acknowledge

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer II

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

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

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

People **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.

Celebrant All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for 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.

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 this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, 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."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, 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; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

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

People **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

People **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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are invited to receive the Sacrament. If you would like to receive wine you may do so by sipping from the chalice or allowing the Eucharistic Minister to intinct (dip) the wafer for you.

If you desire a blessing instead of Communion, cross your arms over your chest.

COMMUNION

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Michael Burkhardt

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **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.

Celebrant announces the blessing.

People **Amen.**

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

People **Thanks be to God!**

VOLUNTARY

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

David Lasky

SERVING US TODAY

Celebrant	The Rev. Whitney Burton
Organist	Tom Huffman
Crucifer/Chalicer	Tony Bowman
Lector	Edward Hopwood
Prayers of the People	Tony Bowman
Ushers	John Schmidt, Jay Harvey

Prayers are requested for:

The Week of Dec 15 – Marc J, Christopher J, Judith & Nels A, Helen Marie, Sara M, Priscilla & Tony B, Gene & Maureen B, Mandeville P, Michelle & Family, Kathy W & Gerry B, Linda, Nancy V, Bob K, Bill G, Liz N, David B, Par B, David Q, Jim, Sue, David M, Bob & Karen, Olena & Family, Nancy V, Heather S, Bonnie L, Michelle B, Judy D, Dolores C, Milly L, Anne C, Bob S, Hubert L, Rosa, Tim E, Jackie T, Ron L, Billy V, Maggie, Rebecca, Ann, Elliot T, Lisa A, June C, Carol W, Lou W, Janet W, Kipling, Becky, Sky

Celebrations this week: Birthdays – Ayden Watson, Karen Morris, Nancy Fisher, Diane Linton, Sally Wakefield, Lisa Little, Donna Brotherhood, Jim Ratliff

Anniversary – Janet and Jerald Ozbun, Miriam Benitez-Nixon

Announcements

Hot Cocoa with Santa – Santa will be stopping at Good Shepherd today, Sunday, December 22 after the 10 AM service. Hot cocoa and festive treats will be available.

Family Christmas Eve Service & No-Rehearsal Pageant – December 24 at 5 PM, bring the family for a festive time of worship. This service will be Live Streamed. Please arrive between 4:20-4:40 PM to participate in the pageant.

Candlelight Christmas Service – December 24 at 9 PM, festive music begins at 8:30 PM. Join us for a celebration of the birth of Christ. This service will be Live Streamed.

Christmas Day Service – December 25 at 10 AM, this is the original celebration of Christmas, featuring traditional carols, Holy Communion, and good news of great joy for all people. *Please note this service includes the use of incense.*

One, Combined Service – December 29 we will have one worship service at 9 AM followed by Fifth Sunday Feast. Celebrate the 5th Day of Christmas on the 5th Sunday!

Christmas Cards – If you have leftover Christmas cards, please consider donating them to Good Shepherd's Card Ministry. Cards may be dropped at the church office.

Holiday Office Closure – The church office will be closed at noon on December 24 and reopen on January 2.

Wednesday Services – There will be no Wednesday services on December 25 and January 1. All are invited to worship at our Christmas Eve and Christmas Morning services.

Diocesan Visioning Day – We'll gather at on January 4 at 9 AM – 3 PM for important updates from the Bishop regarding the vision, mission, and goals of the diocese, and engage in the exciting work of dreaming about our future together. Lunch will be provided. Please rsvp to the church office to attend.

