

December 24, 2017

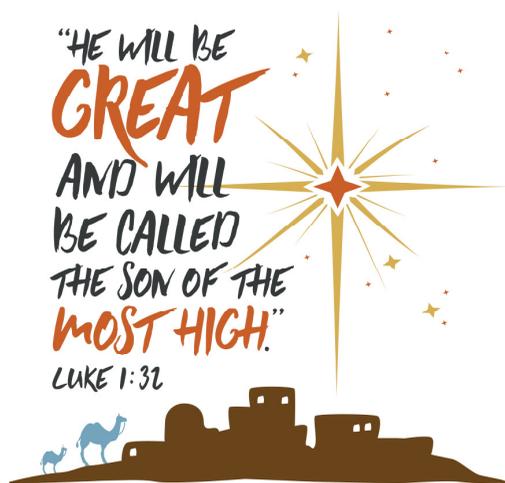
Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:30 a.m. – Sung Eucharist

Welcome

*Hearing Assistive Devices and Large Print service leaflets are available
Please ask an usher for assistance*

Please ask an usher for a copy of the service music



The Gathering of the Community

Processional Hymn #98 "Hark the Glad Sound!"

Greeting

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Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People **And also with you.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Fourth Candle – The Candle of Joy

Mary the Mother of Jesus

Leader Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Leader Last Sunday we lit the Candle of Love. We light it and the Candles of Hope and Peace again as we remember that Jesus, born in Bethlehem, will come again to fulfil all of God's promises and bring us everlasting peace and joy.

A person lights the Candles of Hope, Peace, and Love.

Today we light the Fourth Candle of Advent, the Candle of Joy. When the angel Gabriel told Mary that a special child would be born to her she was filled with joy. She sang a song that began with the words: "My soul magnifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour." Just as the birth of Jesus gave great joy to his mother, so his presence in the world gave joy to those who had none before. He healed them and gave them hope and peace when they believed in him. From hope, peace, and love grows joy.

We light the Candle of Joy to remind us that when Jesus is born in us we have joy and that through him there will be everlasting joy on earth.

A person lights the Fourth Candle the Candle of Joy.

Joy is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at this candle we celebrate the joy we find in Jesus Christ.

Leader Let us pray.

People **Thank you God for the joy you give us. We ask that as we wait for all your promises to come true, and for Christ to come again, that you would remain present with us. Help us today, and every day to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your joy with each other. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen.**

Hymn #107 "Prepare the Way" [sung 4 times as children go to Sunday School]

Collect for Purity

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Celebrant Almighty God,*People* **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. 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.****Kyrie Eleison** [Arranged by Michael Leach]*Cantor* Kyrie eleison.*People* **Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.***Cantor* Christe eleison.*People* **Christe eleison. Christe eleison.***Cantor* Kyrie eleison.*People* **Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.****Collect of the Day***Celebrant* Let us pray.*People* **Heavenly Father, who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour, now fill us with your grace, that we in all things may embrace your will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.****The Proclamation of the Word**

First Reading:

II Samuel 7:1–11,16

Reader A reading from the Second Book of Samuel.

¹ Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ² 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.” ³ Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you.”

⁴ But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: ⁵ Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? ⁶ 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. ⁷ 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?” ⁸ 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; ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ 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, ¹¹ 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.

¹⁶ Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

Reader The Word of the Lord.*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 18 (Luke 1:47–55) [Hymn #362 “Tell Out, My Soul”]

Second Reading:

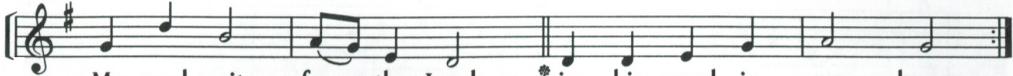
Romans 16:25–27

Reader A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

²⁵ 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 ²⁶ 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— ²⁷ to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever! Amen.

Reader The Word of the Lord.*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Responsory 7: Advent

Refrain:  **My soul waits for the Lord; in his word is my hope.**

My soul waits for the Lord;
in his word is my hope.

**My soul waits for the Lord;
in his word is my hope.**

Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear my voice.

In his word is my hope.

There is forgiveness with you;
therefore you shall be feared.

In his word is my hope.

My soul waits for the Lord,
more than watchmen for the morning.

In his word is my hope.

O Israel, wait for the Lord,
for with the Lord there is mercy.

In his word is my hope.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**My soul waits for the Lord;
in his word is my hope.**

Holy Gospel:

Luke 1:26–38

Subdeacon The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² 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. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵ 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. ³⁶ 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. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸ 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.

Subdeacon The Gospel of Christ.

People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon

A time for silent reflection is kept.

The Apostles' Creed

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Celebrant Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

Leader In joyful expectation, we pray.

People **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Confession and Absolution

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Celebrant Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Celebrant Most merciful God,

People **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 neighbours 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.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

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Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Offertory Hymn #92 [Tune: Narenza #93] "O Day of God, Draw Nigh"

The Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **Gracious God, by the power of the Spirit who sanctified the mother of your Son, make holy all we offer you this day. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer #3

Proper Preface Advent

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Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh, and opened to us the way of salvation. Now we watch for the day when he will come again in power and great triumph to judge this world, that we, without shame or fear, may rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name.

People **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Lord God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full,
full of your glory.**

Hymn
#722

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna
hosanna in the highest.
Blessèd is he who comes,
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna
hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

People **we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer [Hymn #684]

Celebrant As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

People **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowèd 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 them who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread #5

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Celebrant God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.*People* **Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.****O Lamb of God** [Hymn #685]*People* **O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world:
have mercy upon us.****O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world:
have mercy upon us.****O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world:
grant us thy peace.****The Communion**

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Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.*People* **Thanks be to God.**

All are invited to share in Communion. If you would rather not receive the bread and wine, please feel free to come forward for a blessing.

Communion Hymn "A Candle Is Burning"

Text by Sandra Dean

- 1 A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,
a candle of hope in December's dark night.
While angels sing blessings from heaven's starry sky,
our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.
- 2 A candle is burning, a candle of peace,
a candle to signal that conflict must cease:
for Jesus is coming to show us the way,
a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.
- 3 A candle is burning, a candle of joy,
a candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy.
Our hearts fill with wonder, and eyes light and glow
as joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow.
- 4 A candle is burning, a candle of love,
a candle to point us to heaven above.
A baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth,
for Jesus is bringing God's love to our earth.

- 5 We honour Messiah with Christ-candle's flame,
our Christmas Eve candles glad tidings proclaim.
O come, all you faithful, rejoice in this night,
as God comes among us, the Christian's true light.

Communion Hymn #117 "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

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Celebrant All your works praise you, O Lord.*People* **And your faithful servants bless you.****Gracious God we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. May we, who share his body, live his risen life; we, who drink his cup, bring life to others; we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world.****Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so that we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.****Blessing****Announcements****Recessional Hymn #89 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"****Dismissal***Subdeacon* Go in peace full of expectation to love and serve the Lord.*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Please join us for refreshments following the service.

Services

Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Said Eucharist (BAS 1962)
	9:00 a.m.	Mandarin Fellowship
	10:30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist (BAS)
		3rd Sunday of the month (AAawe)

BAS 1962 (Book of Alternate Services) uses the 1962 rite which is the traditional language as in the BCP (Book of Common Prayer)

Mandarin Fellowship is offered in the Sanctuary. We hope our Mandarin Fellowship can be a "harbour for love," where we seek truth together, while experiencing and receiving the abundant grace of God.

衷心欢迎您来到圣乔治教会大家庭，我们的国语团契每周日上午9点举行主日聚会。

盼望国语团契可以成为一个爱的港湾，在这里我们一起寻求上帝的真理，一起经历上帝的同在，一起领受上帝的恩典。

BAS (Book of Alternate Services) uses contemporary, inclusive-language

AAawe (Amazing, Awesome, Alternate Worship Experience) is a Communion service that is more informal with alternative music and prayers

Interim Priest-in-Charge	The Rev. Leonard Leader
Honorary Associate	The Rev. Canon Sister Constance Joanna Gefvert, SSJD
Associate, Mandarin Ministry	Morning Wang
Organist & Director of Music	Michael Leach
Parish Administrator	Craig Gustafson
Custodian	Philip Ikhuoria