

St. Luke's COVID In-Person Eucharist December 20, 2020 Advent IV

The Offertory

As we prepare for worship during the time of COVID, we can make several offerings.

We can offer our mask wearing to honor God with this prayer said silently:

We bless you and we praise you, O Jesus Christ,

for commanding us to love one another.

Let this mask be a sign of your love,

and let my behavior be filled with love for my neighbor. Amen.

You also may place your pledge cards or monetary offerings in the box on the usher table before or after worship.

The Word of God

A time of silent meditation with music

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

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

All **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.**

Celebrant Lord have mercy.

People **Christ have mercy.**

Celebrant Lord have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that at the coming of Jesus Christ, we may be found to be mansions prepared for Love; we pray this in the name of the One who became incarnate for our sake, and who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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The Lessons

The Old Testament lesson is read

A reading from II Samuel (7:1-11, 16)

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.

Here ends the reading.

The Appointed Psalm is said by all

Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

- 1 Your love, O God, for ever will I sing; ***
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
- 2 For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; ***
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
- 3 "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; ***
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
- 4 'I will establish your line for ever, ***
and preserve your throne for all generations.' "
- 19 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.
- 20 I have found David my servant; ***
with my holy oil have I anointed him.
- 21 My hand will hold him fast, ***
and my arm will make him strong.
- 22 No enemy shall deceive him ***
nor any adversary bring him down.
- 23 I will crush his foes before him ***
and strike down those who hate him.
- 24 My faithfulness and love shall be with him, ***

and he shall be victorious through my Name.
25 I shall make his dominion extend *
from the Great Sea to the River.
26 He will say to me, ‘You are my Creator, *
my God and the rock of my salvation.’

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The Epistle lesson is read

A Reading from Romans (16:25-27)

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.

Here ends the reading.

The Gospel Luke 1:26-38

The Appointed Holy Gospel is read with this introduction and conclusion

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

People **Glory to you, O Christ.**

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.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

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.

**Prayer of the People:
A Litany of Healing in a Time of Pandemic**

Reader: We join in prayers for our world by saying,
We pray: **Hear us, O God of life.**

Jesus Christ, grant your healing grace to all who are sick or suffering, especially those on our parish prayer list, that they may be healed and made whole;
We pray: **Hear us, O God of life.**

Grant to all who are lonely, anxious, overwhelmed or hopeless, an awareness of your presence and a knowledge of your will;
We pray: **Hear us, O God of life.**

Mend broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit;
We pray: **Hear us, O God of life.**

Give us compassion for those in need, patience in this time of distress, and love for our neighbors near and far;
We pray: **Hear us, O God of life.**

Grant to all, especially those doing research, wisdom, creativity and perseverance in finding and developing the resources, medical skill, and political will to contain and end this pandemic;
We pray: **Hear us, O God of life.**

Send upon all elected and administrative leaders your spirit of wisdom, charity and justice, that with steadfast purpose they may faithfully serve to promote the well-being of all people;
We pray: **Hear us, O God of life.**

Bless doctors, nurses, and all medical staff and support people; grant them wisdom and skill, strength and rest;
We pray: **Hear us, O God of life.**

Grant to the dying peace and a holy death, and surround the grieving with your loving Holy Spirit;
We pray: **Hear us, O God of life.**

Restore to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin, in our lives, in our nation, and in the world;

We pray: **Hear us, O God of life.**

You are the Christ who does wonders. With you is the well of life, and in your light we see light. Hear us, O God of life. Heal us and make us whole.

Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor

All 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.

Celebrant God, who is both power and love,
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by the Holy Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

The people stay in place during the peace.

The Holy Communion

Celebrant Do not be conformed to this world,
but be transformed by the renewing of your minds,
so that you may discern what is the will of God--
what is good and acceptable and perfect. *Rom 12:2*

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to our God.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, because you sent your 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 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:

All 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.

Celebrant We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of 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 Savior 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 before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

All 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, O 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 may be acceptable through him,
being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ,
and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints,
we may enter the everlasting heritage of 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 him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit
all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

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

Lord's Prayer

All 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. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.

Sharing of the Bread

All will stay in place while the celebrant delivers bread to each person.

Keep the bread in your hand until the celebrant returns to the altar.

*When instructed, you may remove your mask, consume the bread,
and put your mask back on.*

LEV Sending Prayer (when needed)

*When we will be taking communion to people on their lawns, the
Celebrant will then deliver bread to the Eucharistic Visitors.*

The LEVs raise their bread as we say this prayer:

Celebrant: We send you out this day to share communion with at-home worshipers.

People: May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this sacrament of
Christ's presence.

Celebrant: May they who receive it from you be strengthened in that fellowship
we have together in our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Postcommunion Prayer

All Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Blessing

May the God of Abraham and Sarah,
And Jesus Christ, born of our sister Mary,
And the Holy Spirit, who broods over the earth
as a mother over her children,
Be upon you now and always. Amen.

(from Enriching Our Worship)

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

*Please gather your items at the end of worship, keeping a careful distance from others.
We “love our neighbor” by continuing to social distance.*