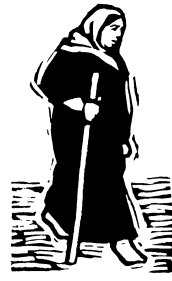


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Mary set out with haste ...
LUKE 1:39

The Fourth Sunday of Advent December 19, 2021

Morning Prayer

Officiant

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

Officiant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Officiant and People

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.

Officiant

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen**

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Officiant and 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.**

Venite Psalm 95:1-7

Come, let us sing to the Lord;

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God,

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it,

and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Canticle 15

Magnificat

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Officiant and 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.**

A Reading from Micah (5:2-5a)

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 13 – Benedictus es, Domine

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers;
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.

Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you in the splendor of your temple;
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.

Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you, beholding the depths;
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.

Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

A Reading from Hebrews (10:5-10)

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God**

Canticle 17 – Nunc Dimittis

Lord, you now have set your servant free
to go in peace as you have promised;

For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, whom you have prepared for all the world to see:

A Light to enlighten the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.

Officiant and 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 Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke (1:39-55)

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Silence for reflection

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together

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

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Our father in heaven
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those
who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

- V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;
R. **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**
V. Day by day we bless you;
R. **We praise your name for ever.**
V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;
R. **Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.**
V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;
R. **For we put our trust in you.**
V. In you, Lord, is our hope;
R. **And we shall never hope in vain.**

Officiant

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.**

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Leader

As a people in darkness waiting for the coming of the light of Christ,
Let us pray to the Lord,
Lord, hear our prayer.

For the Unity of Christ's One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church,
Let us pray to the Lord,
Lord, hear our prayer.

For Bartholomew, Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople; Francis, Bishop of Rome; Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael our presiding bishop; Greg our bishop; for priests, deacons and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God,
Let us pray to the Lord,
Lord, hear our prayer

For the Anglican Communion, especially the Dioceses of Ijumu - (Nigeria), Ikara - (Nigeria), Ikeduru - (Nigeria), Ikka - (Nigeria), Ikwerre - (Nigeria), Ikwo - (Nigeria), and the Church of the Province of Central Africa; our diocese, especially the Bishop's Staff; All Commissions, Committees, and Programs of the Diocese; Retired clergy, clergy widows/widowers, and clergy households of the Diocese; and our parish

Let us pray to the Lord,
Lord, hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. We pray for our armed forces, their families, and those who are deployed, especially for those we now name;

Let us pray to the Lord,
Lord, hear our prayer.

For the poor, the hungry, the oppressed, the unemployed, those in prison, and for the sick and suffering; praying for all those on our prayer list and those in our hearts, especially Lyn, Areewa, Marisa, Sandy, Paulette, Rico, Hollie, Christine, Theresa, Beth, Saray, Janis, Leif, Kari, Kathryn, Milana, Gordon, Hope, Jackie, Elianny, Glen, Gail, Deanna, Gary, Mary, Carol, Kathy, Nan, Chris, Anita, John, Trim & Cynthia, Marilyn, Keith, Justin & Kendra, Alex, and for all who suffer from COVID 19, their families, and friends, and for those we now name;

Let us pray to the Lord,
Lord, hear our prayer.

For those anticipating the birth of a child, a move, a change in employment or any new beginning,

Let us pray to the Lord,
Lord, hear our prayer.

We give thanks for all the blessings of this life, especially for the blessings we now name;

Let us pray to the Lord,
Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who have died and now abide in Christ's presence, especially those we now name;

Let us pray to the Lord,
Lord, hear our prayer.

Officiant

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and

sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

After the Offering is collected, the following is sung

Song of Praise Hymn #380 vs. 3 *Doxology*

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. Amen.

The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

The Blessing

May the sun of righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

St. Matthew Mission Statement

To be a church that passionately embraces and values all people, growing in the love of Christ through word and action.

Officiant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**



Advent @ Home - 4th Sunday of Advent (December 19, 2021)

Reader: "In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David"
(Luke 2:1,3-4).

Reader: Today we remember Joseph, worn-out traveler and worried husband, doing what was necessary for the sake of his family, the burden of poverty stifling his hope in the promise of God. There was no room for him, yet he knows to whom he belongs.

People: Today we give thanks for the Josephs among us, migrating far from home when there is no choice, fiercely devoted to the ones they love, unwavering in their belief that there is room for all in the kin-dom of God.

Reader: On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of Joseph, who knocks at the door, ready to take his place among royalty.
(Light 3 purple or blue candles and a rose candle.)

Hymn: "O come, O come, Emmanuel" Hymn 56, vss. 7-8

O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind;
bid thou our sad divisions cease, and be thyself our King of Peace.
Refrain: Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, O Come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Refrain: Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

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