



**CHRIST CHURCH  
EPISCOPAL PARISH**

Lake Oswego, Oregon

# Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2024

8:00 am

## The Word of God

**Opening Acclamation**

**BCP 323**

**Presider** Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

**Collect For Purity**

**BCP 323**

**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.**

**Trisagion** *(said three times)*

**Holy God,**

**Holy and Mighty,**

**Holy Immortal One,**

**Have mercy upon us.**

**Collect of the Day**

**BCP 211**

**Presider** The Lord be with you.

**People** And also with you.

**Presider** 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 Lessons**

### **The First Lesson**

**Micah 5:2-5a**

**Lector** A Reading from the Book of Micah.

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**

**BCP 91**

### **The Second Lesson**

**Hebrews 10:5-10**

**Lector** A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Hebrews.

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 people stand.*

## **The Gospel**

**Luke 1:39-45(46-55)**

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

**People** **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."]

**Gospeler** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Homily**

**The Rev'd Brad Toebben**

**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.**

The people stand or kneel.

The people stand or kneel.

**Prayers of the People** *(written by Christ Church, Lake Oswego, OR)*

Intercessor: In this Advent Season, let us with hands and hearts prepare the Way of the Lord.

We pray for the church: a community born through Christ's incarnation, death, and resurrection.

As it continues to wait in hope for the return of Christ that ushers in fully the Kingdom of God's love and inclusion, may it seek out those who are displaced, those who live in scarcity of nourishment, and those in need of housing and shelter.

We pray especially for our ministries to Potluck in the Park, Habitat for Humanity, the Lake Oswego Meal Network.

Let us pray.

**People: Come, Lord of Faith.** \

Intercessor: We pray for the nation in this time of leadership transition.

May it find stability in this time of the unknown, modeling the Holy Family's uncertainty as to what lies ahead. May it advocate for justice and inclusion of all, especially the vulnerable and those who are marginalized.

We pray especially for the Lake Oswego Transitional Shelter Ministry; those helped by the Outreach Giving Tree; and those who live in the anxiety of possible deportation.

Let us pray.

**People: Come, Lord of Hope.**

Intercessor: We pray for the welfare of the world.

In this time of great conflict and war, may the world remember its unity born from diversity that reflects the image and reality of God's sacred presence in all.

We remember especially the work of the American Red Cross, the commitment of On Common Ground, our long-standing partnership with the Masaka School in Uganda and its funding partner Sam's Attic, and those who are refugees in our midst.

Let us pray.

**People: Come, Lord of Compassion.**

Intercessor: We pray for the concerns of this community and those in our care, remembering especially our commitment to the ministry of William Temple House, TLC/TnT, and those aided by Christ Church Food Pantry.

We pray for those in sickness and distress, remembering especially \_\_\_\_\_ and concerns we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts.

*(Silence is observed.)*

Let us pray.

**People: Come, Lord of Healing.**

Intercessor: We commend to your mercy all who have died, (especially \_\_\_\_\_), that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.  
Let us pray.

**People: Come, Lord of Love.**

Presider: Lord Jesus,

Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.

We who have so much to do and seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day,

We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.

We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.

We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.

To you we say, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

*(Henri J.M. Nouwen)*

**All: Come, Lord of Joy. Amen.**

## **The Confession**

Presider Let us confess our sins to God.

**God of all mercy,**

**we confess that we have sinned against you,**

**opposing your will in our lives.**

**We have denied your goodness in each other,**

**in ourselves, and in the world you have created.**

**We repent of the evil that enslaves us,**

**the evil we have done,**

**and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us**

**through our Savior Jesus Christ,**

**that we may abide in your love**

**and serve only your will. Amen.**

## **The Absolution**

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

**People** Amen.

## **The Peace**

**BCP 360**

**Presider** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People** And with thy spirit.

## **Greetings**

### **Birthday Prayer**

**BCP 830**

Watch over thy child, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand, comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Anniversary Prayer**

**BCP 431**

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.



# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## Offertory

### Eucharistic Prayer II

BCP 340

*The people stand or kneel.*

**Presider** The Lord be with you.

**People** **And with thy spirit.**

**Presider** Lift up your hearts.

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

**Presider** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Presider proceeds*

### **Presider**

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.

*Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.*

### **Presider**

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

### **Presider and 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.**

*The people kneel or stand. Then the Presider continues.*

### **Presider**

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.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Presider is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

### **Presider**

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; 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. **AMEN.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**BCP 336**

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

### **Presider and 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.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

**BCP 337**

*The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

**Presider** Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

*The following or some other suitable anthem may be sung or said here*

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
grant us thy peace.**

*The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this Prayer.*

## **The Prayer of Humble Access**

**BCP 337**

**We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

**Presider** The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## **Communion of the People**

*Communion will be served from the altar rail. Please stand or kneel as is your custom. The bread will be placed on your palm. Gluten-free wafers are available; please indicate to the priest if you require this alternative. Those who do not wish to receive communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest.*

## **Post-Communion Prayer**

**BCP 339**

**Presider** Let us pray.

*The People stand or kneel.*

**Almighty and ever living 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**

**BCP 339**

**Presider**

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## **The Dismissal**

**BCP 339**

**Presider** Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

**People** Thanks be to God.

**The Church Office will be closed December 24th-January 2nd.**

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**2025 Giving Campaign**

**To date we have received 87 pledges  
for a total of \$425,686.89.**

**WE NEED AN ADDITIONAL \$132,313.11  
TO BALANCE OUR BUDGET.**

**Please keep these people in your prayers this week:**

Tom, Yvonne, Bill, Deb, Maria, Evelyn, Michael, David, Connie

**To Request a Prayer Send an email to [prayers@ccparish.org](mailto:prayers@ccparish.org) with your request.**

**Want to honor loved ones or celebrate special life events?** Sponsor the flowers presented on the High Altar on Sunday mornings. Sign up on the Flower Calendar on the table in the Narthex.

**Votive Prayer Candles Votive candles are a way for the faithful to remember a loved one or pray for a special intention.** We ask for a donation of \$2 for each prayer candle to help with the cost of tending and maintaining the candles. Your gift is fully tax-deductible and is a true blessing.

**The Nursery is open for the 10 am service.** We don't bring the wee littles into church for communion as we do the older kids. Parents are welcome to pick their kids up from the Nursery for communion if they wish.

**Our Sunday School program is on Christmas break December 22 and 29.** We always welcome kids in our church services and look forward to seeing you if you are here. We have coloring pages and some fun seek and find books for pew support! You'll find these materials on a table in the Narthex by the Guild Room.

**Need for William Temple House (WTH) Representative: WTH offers food, counseling, clothing, and household items to Portland-area residents. “We envision a future where everyone in our community is fully nourished—emotionally, physically, and spiritually.”** The Christ Church Outreach Committee needs someone to step forward to represent WTH. The time commitment involves:

- Participating in the one-hour Outreach online committee meeting once a month.
- Contacting WTH and arranging for them to pick up donated items. They come to Christ Church and pick up all the materials.

So, the time commitment is minimal; but the rewards are great!

If you are interested, please email Darlene Russ-Eft at [russeftd9@gmail.com](mailto:russeftd9@gmail.com)

**There is a new Christmas Catalog for gifts for Uganda. Your donation can go towards food, books, malaria medication, sponsoring a student, or several other options.** The beautiful full catalog is on the bulletin board in the Narthex, or you can access it at: [gsmuganda.org/gifts](http://gsmuganda.org/gifts) choose “gift catalog” in the heading and read a bit about each option.

**Or you can simply mail a check to**

GSM Uganda

7929 SW Cirrus Dr # 23

Beaverton, OR 97008

Any questions, please ask Mary Sullivan: [masullivan2017@gmail.com](mailto:masullivan2017@gmail.com)

**The CCP Men’s Fellowship Group meets for breakfast at 8 am every Wednesday** at the Lake Oswego Biscuits Café (near Kruse Way and Boones Ferry). All male parishioners, and others who may be interested, are cordially invited (and encouraged) to attend. If you have questions please feel free to contact [chuckschrader@gmail.com](mailto:chuckschrader@gmail.com) or Fr. Brad.

**The Lake Oswego Transitional Shelter Ministry (LOTSM) social worker has shared a need with our congregation and other LOTSM churches.** Each year, Clackamas County Social Services creates a Wish List on Amazon with specific items picked out by parents/kids in need (link below). The items ship directly to their office and then go directly to the parent for the holiday season. Please consider helping to make this Christmas season a little brighter for these families in our community.”

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3N4FZZH0VFAPG?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3N4FZZH0VFAPG?ref=wl_share)

**Our Annual Meeting will be on March 2, 2025  
Annual Reports are Due on January 13, 2025.**

## **Outreach – CCEP Food Pantry**

Winter Food Drive Updates

Help Us Combat Hunger!

**Food For the Holidays for TNT/TLC:** <http://www.tlctnt.org/>

Before Christmas, we hope to deliver more food to multiple families in Northeast Portland through TLC/tnt.

Many families currently have enough food for only one or two meals per day. Your donations will make a difference. We hope to full our shelves and deliver that food to both TLC/tnt and possibly other locations too, just in time for the holidays!

Your food donations play a role in helping people to deal with hunger and we thank you for caring!

### **How You Can Help:**

When you are grocery shopping, please pick up some additional items to help continue our support to the emergency food pantries in our area.

We are requesting a variety of canned food products, including canned fruit, soups, beans along with dried goods such as cereal, flour, rice and pasta. Infant formula is just as important and serves a critical part of our mission.

Please place your donated canned and dried food items along with infant food products in the Food Pantry basket in the narthex.

Please drop off your bags of food donations in the lobby before each Sunday service or during the week on Mondays - Thursdays between 9-1PM.

**Important:** Please check the expiration dates before you donate. The Food Pantries that we support may reject expired food products. If have food that is expired, please dispose of it in a way that is environmentally responsible.

Your donations are making a difference in people's lives and again, thank you!  
If you have any questions, please contact  
Steve Whittaker [steve@whittpho.com](mailto:steve@whittpho.com)

**Pacific Refugee Support Group  
Know Your Rights & Resources  
For All Community Members 🦊**

“The fact that we cannot save everything does not mean we cannot save anything, and everything we can save is worth saving.” — Rebecca Solnit

During uncertain times, strengthening and supporting our community is needed now more than ever because community is how we will get through it. With this in mind, we are sharing essential resources to equip our larger PRSG community with the tools to support one another.

**Sharing knowledge is an act of care — and together, we are stronger.**

**The Basics: What You Need to Know**

Oregon is a Sanctuary State, which means it is illegal for state and local officials to cooperate with or share information with federal immigration officials without a Judicial Warrant. However, Oregon state or local officials cannot actively prevent federal officials, such as ICE or the National Guard, from carrying out their immigration enforcement duties here.

Despite Oregon's status as a Sanctuary State, community members can still experience Sanctuary Law Violations.

To learn more visit <http://eepurl.com/i6oSjw>

**The First Sunday after Christmas  
We will have just one liturgy at 10 AM, December 29th.**





*Christmas*  
2024  
Christ Church Episcopal Parish  
Lake Oswego, Oregon



**Tuesday, December 24**  
**Christmas Eve Family Eucharist**  
3:00 pm

**Festive Holy Eucharist Rite II**  
5:00 pm  
**Festive Holy Eucharist Rite II**  
9:00 pm Carols Start  
9:30 pm Mass Starts

**Wednesday, December 25**  
**Christmas Day Rite II**  
10:00 am

**Sunday, December 29**  
**Holy Eucharist with**  
**Lesson and Carols Rite II**  
10:00 am



## Participants in Worship

The Rev'd Brad Toebben, *Preaching and Presiding*

Terry Crawford, *Eucharistic Minister*

Maria Henkle, *Lector*

## LERGY

Rector The Rev'd Brad Toebben (503-781-5318) [brad@ccparish.org](mailto:brad@ccparish.org)

## STAFF

Director of Christian Formation Susie Coffman-Sisk ext. 105 [scoffman@ccparish.org](mailto:scoffman@ccparish.org)

Preschool Director Candace Ray ext. 115 [cray@ccparish.org](mailto:cray@ccparish.org)

Parish Administrator Julie Mankin ext. 103

[parishadmin@ccparish.org](mailto:parishadmin@ccparish.org)

Music Director\* Tiffany Carter [tcarter@ccparish.org](mailto:tcarter@ccparish.org)

Organist\* Jane Mendenhall [jmendenhall@ccparish.org](mailto:jmendenhall@ccparish.org)

Custodians\* Javier & Nidia Gonzales

\*Part-Time Staff

## Vestry

### Class of 2024

Mike Dotten

Dan McAllister

Elizabeth Hendricks

Sydney Fitzpatrick

### Class of 2025

Michael Fraser

Maria Henkle

Amanda Kreitzberg

Stewart Bartlett

### Class of 2026

Lizzy Rice

Eleanor Suman

Cynthia Stenger

David White

**Treasurer** Don Caldwell

**Clerk of the Vestry** Barb Randall

To contact the Vestry email [vestry@ccparish.org](mailto:vestry@ccparish.org)



**CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL PARISH**

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