



# INCARNATION

ANGLICAN CHURCH



*December 21, 2025*

# Order of Service

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

### WELCOME

*Our service follows a liturgical tradition handed down to us since the time of the Apostles. Please follow along, and participate by reading the portions in **bold**. Some people choose to follow the ancient Jewish tradition (see Ezekiel 9) of making a “cross” sign at certain portions of the liturgy. Those wishing to do so, may, at portions marked with a ✠ sign.*

*We have modified our liturgy today to include portions from the **from the 1979 and 2019 Book of Common Prayer**.*

*This includes prayers, confessions, and creeds from the past 2000 years of church history! It also includes all the scripture readings from the **Revised Common Lectionary**, used by Anglicans, Reformed, Lutherans, and other Christian Traditions worldwide.*

*Our service contains various songs from across time, while we believe that God can redeem all art and use it for His glory, their inclusion in our service does not mean that we condone, or agree with the artists complete worldview. If you have any questions or concerns about our music choices please reach out to Bishop Josh.*

*As Christians in the Anglican Tradition, we observe the Church Calendar, along with the majority of God’s people around the world and throughout history. This calendar enhances our worship experience, by creating a seasonal rhythm of worship whereby we regularly reflect upon the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ, as well as the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Advent Season marks the beginning of the Christian Year, where we take time to reflect upon the anticipation surrounding both the first and promised second coming of Jesus Christ into the world.*

### CHILDREN’S MINISTRY

**Do you or someone you know have young children that would need care during our services? We have a children’s ministry in place, and would love to help serve however possible.**

***All of our child care workers are Ministry Safe certified, and have had full background checks.***

# MINISTRY OF THE WORD OF GOD



Our service is divided in to two sections: ***the Ministry of the Word of God***, and ***the Ministry of the Holy Communion***. The first section primarily focuses on the scriptures, in light of all Jesus Christ has accomplished for us, as they are prayed, confessed, and explained.

## OPENING PROCESSION SONG

***Prepare Ye The Way of the Lord***  
(From *Godspell*, Words and Music by Stephen Schwartz)

The musical score is written on two staves in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, often beamed together. Chord symbols (G, Am, C, D) are placed above the notes. The lyrics are written below the staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first line of music ends with a double bar line, followed by the instruction '(Repeat 5X)'.

Pre - pare ye the way of the Lord, Pre -  
pare ye the way of the Lord.

(Repeat 5X)

# WORDS OF WELCOME

*Minister:* Welcome to Incarnation, a community rooted in Christ and the traditions we have received since the time of the Apostles, Artistic in the way we live our lives and worship, and Welcoming to all whom the Lord brings in to our midst.

*Celebrant:* Surely the Lord is coming soon,  
*People* **Amen. Come Lord Jesus!** *Revelation 22:20*



## ADVENT READING AND CANDLE LIGHTING

### The Fourth Candle (The Peace Candle)

The fourth candle reminds us that Jesus comes to bring peace into humanity's troubled heart, and ultimately, peace to the world. No matter what we may struggle with, we can have peace knowing that God is ultimately in control, and that one day, He will make everything right in the world.

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given. And the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace."  
Isaiah 9:6-7

"...the Dayspring from on high has visited us; To give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace." Luke 1: 78b-79

"...when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup>[Simeon] took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

<sup>29</sup>"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,  
according to your word;

<sup>30</sup>for my eyes have seen your salvation

<sup>31</sup> that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

<sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and for glory to your people Israel." Luke 2: 27b-32

## ADVENT HYMN

### Oh Come Oh Come Emanuel (Verses 1, 5, 7)

1) Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel!

7) Oh, come, Desire of nations, bind  
In one the hearts of all mankind,  
Oh, bid our sad divisions cease,  
And be yourself our King of Peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel!

5) Oh, come, O Key of David, come,  
And open wide our heav'nly home,  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel



## COLLECT FOR PURITY

*Celebrant & People:*        **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.**

*Congregation May Be Seated*

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

*“Collect” refers to a form of prayer, used in liturgies since the third century, that Christians use when they “collect” together for worship.*

*Celebrant:*                The Lord be with you. (*Ruth 2:4*)

*People:*                **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:*                Let us pray

*Celebrant:*                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. ✚

*People:*                **Amen.**

# PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Form VI (1979 BCP, Pg. 392)

*The Leader and People pray responsively. Please note we will segue straight from prayers of people to confession of sin.*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world; and especially for President Donald Trump, Governor Gavin Newsom, Senator Adam Schiff, Congressman Kevin Kiley, Placer County Supervisor Bonnie Gore, and Roseville City Manager Dominic Casey.

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Edward Vaughan, our Archbishop for Bishop Josh and Mother Kendra, our priests; Phoenix and Jess our postulants and for the following ministers, churches, and ministries: *(pause for names)*

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*(pause for names)*

Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*(The People may add their own thanksgivings)*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ✠ **Amen.**

# CONFESSION OF SIN



*Minister:* Let us now confess our sins against God and each other:

*Minister & 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. ✚**

## ABSOLUTION

*Silent Prayer and Confession*

*(John 20:23)*

*Absolution means “to grant forgiveness”. The words the minister shares here are Christ’s words of forgiveness to His children.*

*Minister here reads comfortable words from scripture, then says:*

May 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. ✚ **Amen.**



## PRAYER FOR CHILDREN

## SIGN OF PEACE

*Minister:* May the Peace of the Lord be with you.

*(John 20: 19, 21)*

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Please greet one another during this time with a “Holy Fist Bump”.  
The traditional greeting is “Peace Be With You” with the response “And also with you...”*



# THE LESSONS:

## LESSON SONG

### Make Me A Channel Of Your Peace

Prayer of St. Francis

Music by Sebastian Temple

D Gmaj<sup>7</sup>/D D Gmaj<sup>7</sup>/D D Bm

1. Make me a chan-nel of Your peace. Where there is hat-red let me bring You  
2. Make me a chan-nel of Your peace. Where there's de-spair in life, let me bring

4 Csus2 A<sup>7</sup> Em G/A A<sup>9</sup>

love. Where there is in-jur-y Your par-don Lord, and  
hope. Where there is dark-ness on-ly light, and

7 Em A<sup>7</sup> D G Em F#m Bm

where there's doubt true faith in You. O Mas-ter, grant that I may nev-er seek, so  
where there's sad-ness ev-er joy.

11 Em D G/D D<sup>7</sup> G Em<sup>7</sup>

much to be con-soled as to con-sole\_\_\_\_\_ to be un-der-stood as to un-der-

14 F#m Bm E 1 A G/A A<sup>7</sup> 2 A A G/A G/A A<sup>7</sup> A<sup>7</sup>

stand to be loved as to love with all my soul\_\_\_\_\_ soul\_\_\_\_\_

18 D Gmaj<sup>7</sup>/D D Gmaj<sup>7</sup> D Bm

3. Make me a chan-nel of Your peace It is in par-don-ing\_ that we are

21 Csus2 A<sup>7</sup> Em G/A A<sup>9</sup>

par-doned, in giv-ing of our-selves that we re-ceive, and in

24 Em A<sup>7</sup> D Gmaj<sup>7</sup> D

dy-ing that we're born to e-ter-nal life

# FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 7:10-16 NRSVue

10 Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, 11 “Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” 12 But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.” 13 Then Isaiah said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? 14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. 15 He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. 16 For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord

*People:* **Thanks be to God**

# RESPONSE

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*  
**shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.**
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, \*  
**stir up your strength and come to help us.**
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**
- 4 O Lord God of hosts, \*  
**how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?**
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*  
**you have given them bowls of tears to drink.**
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, \*  
**and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, \*  
**the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.**
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; \*  
**give us life, that we may call upon your Name.**
- 18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; \*  
**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

---

## EPISTLE READING

Romans 1:1-7 NRSVue

1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, 2 which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, 3 the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh 4 and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, 5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the gentiles for the sake of his name, 6 including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

7 To all God’s beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord

*People:* **Thanks be to God**

# GOSPEL HYMN

*Congregation may cross their forehead ✠, lips ✠, and then heart ✠, as a way of physically praying that the word of God would dwell in their minds, their words, and their hearts.*

## "Yours Are The Words of Life" Words, Ancient. Music, Fr. Rob Patterson

Handwritten musical score for the hymn "Yours Are The Words of Life". The score is written on three staves in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the hymn, the second staff contains the second line, and the third staff contains the third line. The lyrics are: "A - le - lu - ia, a - le - lu - ia, yours are the words of life." The music is written in a simple, melodic style, with the notes for the lyrics "A - le - lu - ia" and "yours are the words of life" written on a single note, and the notes for the lyrics "a - le - lu - ia" written on a single note. The score is written in a handwritten style, with the notes and lyrics written in black ink on white paper. The staves are drawn with a single line, and the notes are written as simple black dots. The lyrics are written in a simple, sans-serif font. The score is written in a handwritten style, with the notes and lyrics written in black ink on white paper. The staves are drawn with a single line, and the notes are written as simple black dots. The lyrics are written in a simple, sans-serif font.

# GOSPEL READING

*Reader:* Reading the Holy Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ ✠, according to Matthew 1 ✠.  
*People:* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

## Matthew 1:18-25 NRSVue

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

*Reader:* The gospel of the Lord.  
*Congregation:* **Praise to you, Lord Christ!**

# THE MESSAGE

Peace Where There is No Peace

**Mother Kendra Dickinson**

# Apostles' Creed

(2nd Century)

*The Apostles' Creed is one of the earliest known Christian confessions. In the early church, it served as a litmus test to help determine what true Christian belief entailed. Anyone wanting to be baptized and become a member of the church needed to be able to confess and believe this creed. Together with the Nicene Creed, the Apostles' Creed has helped establish the boundaries that define "Christian" and unify followers of Christ for almost 2000 years.*

*Minister:* Followers of Christ, what do you believe?

*Minister & People:*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, 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, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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.



*\*"Catholic" means "universal" or "true". It does not refer to a particular denomination or tradition.*

*You may be seated*

## OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

*Christ followers support the church's mission and ministry through offering a sacrificial portion of our resources—time, talents, possessions—as an act of faith and gratitude in response to God's grace. This pattern presents itself to us throughout the scriptures. (See, for example, Deuteronomy 26; Proverbs 3: 8,9; Malachi 3:10) For many at Incarnation, it is easier to give online.*

*To give online, please visit [www.IncarnationMission.Org](http://www.IncarnationMission.Org), and click on "Donate".*

*To give online during this time, please visit: [www.IncarnationMission.Org/donate](http://www.IncarnationMission.Org/donate)*

*Or you can mail us a check at PO Box 434, Roseville, CA 95661.*

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

*Minister & People:* Through Christ may we continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his Name. May we not neglect to do good and to share what we have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Amen.

*(-Based on Hebrews 13:15, 16)*

# OFFERTORY SONG

## *Mother of God* -The Brilliance

[Verse 1]

Mary full of grace  
The Lord your God is with thee  
Blessed are you to bless  
All the world

Mary, peace is yours  
The Spirit is upon you  
You will be with child,  
Do not fear

Mother of God  
Your baby boy will grant us peace  
Your baby boy will grant us peace

[Verse 2]

Word made flesh  
Born of Virgin Mary  
Hope is in the world,  
Emmanuel

The Lamb of God,  
Born to die he came  
He would show the world  
A better way

[Chorus]

Emmanuel  
God with us, God with us  
Emmanuel  
God with us, God with us

[Verse 3]

Son of God  
Hear your people calling  
All cry out for peace,  
Can you hear?

In our despair  
We doubt in your return  
Messiah, will you come  
Once again?

Emmanuel  
God with us, God with us  
Emmanuel  
God with us, God with us  
Emmanuel  
God with us, God with us

[Outro]

God with us



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here be-low;

Praise him a-bove, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

## CLOSING OFFERTORY PRAYER

*Minister:* All things come of thee, Oh Lord  
*People:* and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.  
 (-I Chronicles 29:14)

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

### Sursum Corda

*Latin for "Lift Up Our Hearts"*

*Minister:* The Lord be with you.  
*People:* **And also with you.**  
*Minister:* Lift up your hearts.  
*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**  
*Minister:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People:* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Minister:* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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:

## ***Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, Hosannah!***

Fr. Peter Scholtes

Copyright © 1966, 1989 F E L Publications.

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff in 4/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are written below the staff. The first line of music corresponds to the lyrics 'Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might'. The second line of music corresponds to the lyrics 'Heaven and earth are filled with Your glo - ry' and includes a '(repeat one time)' instruction above the staff. The third line of music corresponds to the lyrics 'Ho - san - na! \_\_\_\_\_ Ho - san -'. The fourth line of music corresponds to the lyrics 'na \_\_\_\_\_ in the high - est.' and also includes a '(repeat one time)' instruction above the staff. The score uses various musical notations including eighth notes, quarter notes, and rests to indicate the melody and timing of the hymn.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might

(repeat one time)

Heaven and earth are filled with Your glo - ry

Ho - san - na! \_\_\_\_\_ Ho - san -

na \_\_\_\_\_ in the high - est.

(repeat one time)

*Minister:* Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord ✙

*People:* **Hosanna in the highest!**

*"Hosanna" means "Save now, Oh God" in Aramaic, the language Jesus spoke. (Psalm 118:25; Mark 11:9, 10; Matthew 21:9)*

*Minister:*

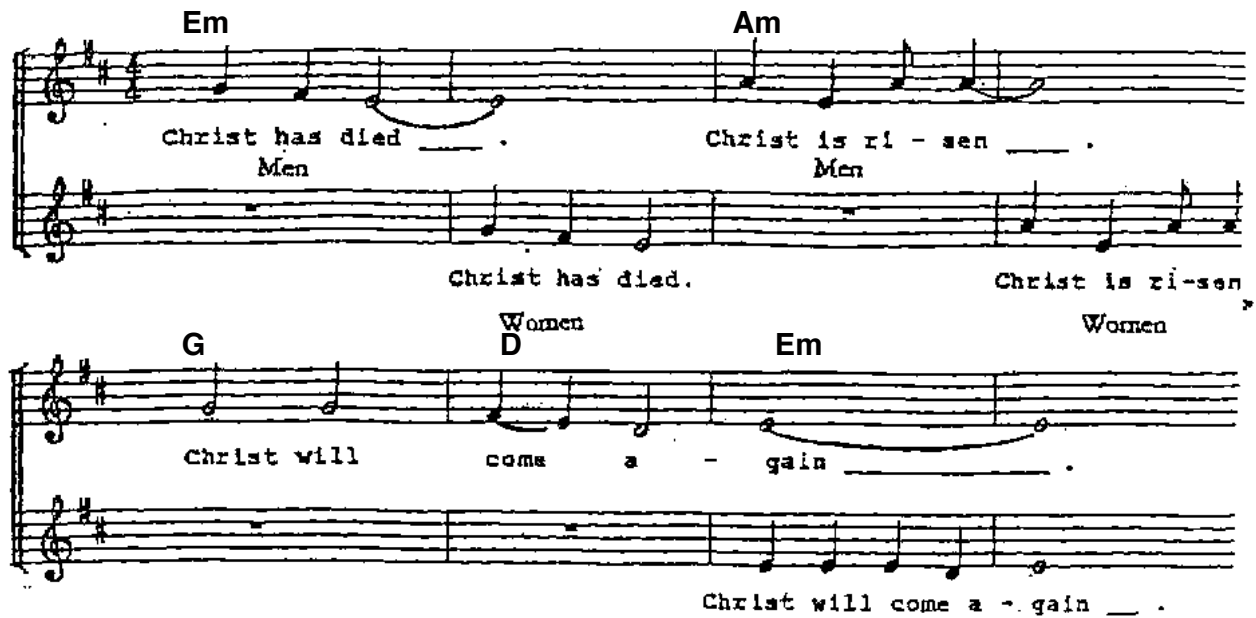
Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 let us now sing the words of the mystery of the faith:

***Mysterium Fidei (Mystery of the Faith)***  
***Music: R. Bethancourt; Lyrics: 2nd Century***



**EPICLESIS** *"Epiclesis" comes from the Greek word ἐπίκλησις meaning "to call down upon", because we call the Spirit down upon the elements during this portion of the liturgy.*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. ✠ Sanctify us also, ✠ that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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.** ✠

## THE LORDS PRAYER

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

*Minister & People:*

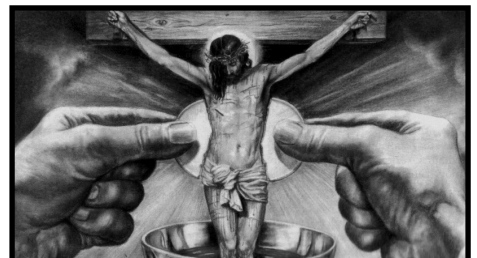
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil ✠. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

*Minister:* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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



*Please sit or kneel*

## THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

*People:* We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies.

We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord whose character is always to have mercy.

Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

*Minister:* Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.

*John 1:29, Revelation 19:9*

*You May Be Seated*

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE EUCHARIST

The Eucharistic elements on the altar are open to all who would consider themselves baptized Christians, regardless of tradition or background. There are multiple ways to participate:

- You can take the host and dip it in the cup (This is called intinction) or you may partake of only the wafer (This is called communion in one kind. We believe the body and blood of Christ will still manifest in a mystical manner).
- You may also drink from the cup of wine, but if you do, please wait near the end of the communion line.
- There is also a second chalice with grape juice in it for those unable to partake of the wine.
- If you or your children would like to come forward to witness the table, but not partake, you are welcome to do so. Just cross your arms, and the minister will pray a blessing over you.

You don't have to know all the answers, nor do you need "perfect" faith. God has faithfully met people throughout the ages by way of these words and elements. Whatever struggles or doubts you may have, He will faithfully meet you through these means of grace. If you find yourself unsure of your standing with God, please take advantage of this time to consider all God has done for you through Jesus Christ.

### Prayer For Spiritual Communion (For those watching Online):

Dear Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to possess you within my soul. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, together with all your faithful people gathered around every altar of your Church, and I embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

## *Prayers of Meditation* Please feel free to use the following prayers to help you draw closer to The Lord.

### ***Prayer for Those Searching for Truth***

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise.

Amen.

### ***Prayer of Belief***

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

### ***Prayer of Commitment***

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

**If you have any questions about your Faith or need to talk or pray with someone,  
please contact any member of our pastoral team.**

*The ministers receive the Sacrament, and then immediately deliver it to the people with these words:*

The Body of Christ, the bread of Heaven **Amen.** ✚

The Blood of Christ, the cup of Salvation **Amen.** ✚

*After Communion, the Minister says:*

Let us pray.

*Minister and People:*

**Heavenly Father,**

**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**

*Please stand in body or spirit as we sing the Gloria Patri*

*The Gloria Patri contains the oldest known words, outside of scripture, that followers of Christ have sung or recited, for over 1900 years. Traditionally, when the Trinitarian Formula (Father, Son, and Holy Ghost) is used, worshippers either bow their heads or make the sign of the cross.*

### ***Gloria Patri***

Source unknown, 2nd century

HENRY W. GREATOREX

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the

Ho - ly Ghost: as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and

ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men, A - men.

***Please Be Seated***

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **CLOSING BLESSING**

*Minister:* The peace of God which passes 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 Spirit, ☩ be among you, and remain with you always.

*(Philippians 4:7)*

*People:* **Amen.**

# CLOSING SONG

## Mary Had A Baby

-Traditional Spiritual

Mary had a baby (My Lord)  
Mary had a baby (Oh My Lord)  
Mary had a baby (My Lord)  
The people keep coming but the train has gone

Where did she lay him (My Lord)  
Where did she lay him (Oh My Lord) Where  
did she lay him (My Lord)  
The people keep coming but the train has gone

Laid him in a manger (My Lord)  
Laid him in a manger (Oh My Lord)  
Laid him in a manger (My Lord)  
The people keep coming but the train has gone

What did she name him? (My Lord)  
What did she name him? (Oh My Lord)  
What did she name him? (My Lord)  
The people keep coming but the train has gone

Named him King Jesus (My Lord)  
Named him King Jesus (Oh My Lord)  
Named him King Jesus (My Lord)  
The people keep coming but the train has gone

Who heard the singing? (My Lord) Who heard  
the singing? (Oh My Lord) Who heard the  
singing? (My Lord) The people keep coming  
but the train has gone

Shepherds heard the singing (My Lord)  
Shepherds heard the singing (Oh My Lord)  
Shepherds heard the singing (My Lord)  
The people keep coming but the train has gone

Star keeps shining (My Lord)  
Star keeps shining (Oh My Lord)  
Star keeps shining (My Lord)  
The people keep coming but the train has gone

Moving in the elements (My Lord)  
Moving in the elements (Oh My Lord)  
Moving in the elements (My Lord)  
The people keep coming but the train has gone

Jesus went to Egypt (My Lord)  
Jesus went to Egypt (Oh My Lord)  
Jesus went to Egypt (My Lord)  
The people keep coming but the train has gone

Traveled on a donkey (My Lord)  
Traveled on a donkey (Oh My Lord)  
Traveled on a donkey (My Lord)  
The people keep coming but the train has gone

Angels went around him (My Lord)  
Angels went around him (Oh My Lord)  
Angels went around him (My Lord)  
The people keep coming but the train has gone

## DISMISSAL

*Minister:*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People:*

**Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

*Anyone wanting prayer or anointing are encouraged to come to the altar at the close of service*



# FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

**Thursday Morning Prayer.** Join us to pray the Daily Office at the Fig Tree (217 Vernon St) at 9:30 am.

## **Jespers**

Evening prayer led by Jessica Cullen in Rocklin (temporarily in Rancho Cordova). It will be on the 2nd and 4th **Thursdays** at 6:30. Appetizers will be served. For more information please contact Jessica.

916-642-5184 [JessicaKcullen@gmail.com](mailto:JessicaKcullen@gmail.com)

Next Date: No Jespers for December

**Leadership Meetings** The Vestry is the leadership team of the church; all are welcome to join our meetings on the 4th Sunday of each month. We meet at after church at the Fig (217 Vernon St); for info: Riss @ [larissa@incarnationmission.org](mailto:larissa@incarnationmission.org)  
Jan 25

## **Pledge Campaign**

Our pledge campaign for 2026 giving has begun. Please visit the website for more information and fill out the google form so we can properly steward our resources.

## **Serve Monday Lunch at First UMC**

Join Pastor Phoenix in serving the homeless at the Monday noon lunch at First UMC church. Contact Phoenix if you would like more information.

## **Socks and coats**

We are collecting donations of new socks and gently used coats to be handed out at the First UMC's Monday lunch. You can give them to Rachel

## **My Mother's Voice**

We are collecting donations for "My Mother's Voice" They are most in need of canned and non perishable food specifically, canned beans, rice, canned tomatoes, seasonings, flour, Maseca (corn flour), peanut/almond butter, new socks (all sizes) and hairbrushes. you have any questions please contact Elena.

## **Longest Night Service**

Dec. 21 6pm

Join us as we hold space for the darkness of the season. Christmas is not always joyful for those who are mourning, depressed, or feel alone.

This interactive service will help us reflect on the light of Christ amid that darkness.

If you have any questions please reach out to Mother Kendra.

## **CHRISTMAS EVE**

Join us at our 11 pm Candle light Christmas Eve service

## **Epiphany Party**

Sun Jan 11 5pm

White Elephant Gift Exchange and Pot Luck  
At the Fig Tree



Episcopal Free Fellowship  
of America



Rt. Rev. Joshua Lickter (he/him), Bishop/Rector

Rev. Kendra Dickinson (she/her), Asst. Priest

Larissa Roe (she/her), Sr Warden

Rachel Lickter (her/she), Admin

Jessica Watanabe (she/her) Postulant

Phoenix Piazzisi (she/her) Postulant

[joshua@incarnationmission.org](mailto:joshua@incarnationmission.org)

[kendra@incarnationmission.org](mailto:kendra@incarnationmission.org)

[larissa@incarnationmission.org](mailto:larissa@incarnationmission.org)

[rachel@incarnationmission.org](mailto:rachel@incarnationmission.org)

[JessicaKcullen@gmail.com](mailto:JessicaKcullen@gmail.com)

[phoenixpiazzisi@gmail.com](mailto:phoenixpiazzisi@gmail.com)

530.559.1864

541.740.1590

916-642-5184

605-490-2493

(916) 884-0064

[www.Incarnationmission.org](http://www.Incarnationmission.org)

[Www.Facebook.Com/IncarnationMission](https://www.facebook.com/IncarnationMission)

Meeting at Bethel Lutheran Church

1050 Douglas Blvd

Roseville, CA 95678

11:00 AM



## OLD TESTAMENT (1)

### Isaiah 35:1-10 NRSVue

1 The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus 2 it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and shouting. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

3 Strengthen the weak hands  
and make firm the feeble knees.

4 Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you."

5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened;

6 then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert;

7 the burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp;

the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

8 A highway shall be there,  
and it shall be called the Holy Way;  
the unclean shall not travel on it,  
but it shall be for God's people;  
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

9 No lion shall be there,  
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.

10 And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
they shall obtain joy and gladness,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord

*People:* **Thanks be to God**

## PSALM. (2)

### **Psalm 146:4-9**

4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! \*  
**whose hope is in the Lord their God;**

5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; \*  
**who keeps his promise for ever;**

6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \*  
**and food to those who hunger.**

7 The Lord sets the prisoners free;  
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; \*  
**the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;**

8 The Lord loves the righteous;  
the Lord cares for the stranger; \*  
**he sustains the orphan and widow,  
but frustrates the way of the wicked.**

9 The Lord shall reign for ever, \*  
**your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
Hallelujah!**

## NEW TESTAMENT (3)

### James 5:7-10 NRSVue

7 Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. 8 You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. 9 Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! 10 As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord

*People:* **Thanks be to God**

## GOSPEL

*Reader:* Reading the Holy Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ ✠,  
according to Luke chapter 3 ✠.

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

### **Matthew 11:2-11 NRSVue**

2 When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his[b] disciples 3 and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” 4 Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: 5 the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. 6 And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

7 As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? 8 What, then, did you go out to see? Someone[c] dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. 9 What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet?[d] Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. 10 This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way before you.’

11 “Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

*Reader:* The gospel of the Lord.

*Congregation:* **Praise to you, Lord Christ!**