



## The Fourth Sunday of Advent

18 December AD 2016

11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist

(The Rev.) Randy Lord-Wilkinson, *Rector*  
The Rev. Javier García Ocampo, *Assistant to the Rector*  
Jason Cutshall, *Seminarian*  
Jerrold Tidwell, *Minister of Music*

Welcome to Ascension!

For more information about our community, fill out a welcome card, found at either end of the pews, or take one of our welcome packets from the table next to the church office door.

We meet for coffee, tea, and snacks in the Narthex after each service.

The Nursery in Room 2 is open from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Within the service, the people read the parts in **bold** print.

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### Welcome and Announcements

Hymnal 1982 56

**O come, O come, Emmanuel**

The Lord is here.

**God's Spirit is with us.**

Let us pray.

**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.**

### Romans 1:1-7

From Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for God's good news. God promised this good news about his Son ahead of time through his prophets in the holy scriptures. His Son was descended from David. He was publicly identified as God's Son with power through his resurrection from the dead, which was based on the Spirit of holiness. This Son is Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him we have received God's grace and our appointment to be apostles. This was to bring all Gentiles to faithful obedience for his name's sake. You who are called by Jesus Christ are also included among these Gentiles. To those in Rome who are dearly loved by God and called to be God's people.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

Gather 506

**I Am for You**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew [1:18-25]

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. When Mary his mother was engaged to Joseph, before they were married, she became pregnant by the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband was a righteous man. Because he didn't want to humiliate her, he decided to call off their engagement quietly. As he was thinking about this, an angel from the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because the child she carries was conceived by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you will call him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Now all of this took place so that what the Lord had spoken through the prophet would be fulfilled:

*Look! A virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son,  
And they will call him, Emmanuel.*

(*Emmanuel* means "God with us.")

When Joseph woke up, he did just as an angel from God commanded and took Mary as his wife. But he didn't have sexual relations with her until she gave birth to a son. Joseph called him Jesus.

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

**Meditation**

Barb Mansfield

**The Affirmation of Faith\***

You, O God, are supreme and holy,  
You create our world and give us life.  
Your purpose overarches everything we do.  
You have always been with us.  
You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous,  
Good beyond all measure.  
You came to us before we came to you.  
You have revealed and proved  
Your love for us in Jesus Christ,  
Who lived and died and rose again.  
You are with us now.  
You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.  
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.  
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.  
You are our God. We worship you.

\*From *A New Zealand Prayer Book*, p. 481

**The Prayers of the People**

*Prayers are invited, either silently or aloud. After each spoken prayer, a gong will sound.*

**Concluding Prayer**

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.**

**Gather 598**

**Shepherd of Our Hearts**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord is here.  
**God's Spirit is with us.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

\*It is right indeed to give you thanks most loving God, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, the first born from the dead, the pioneer of our salvation, who is with us always, one of us, yet from the heart of God. For with your whole created universe, we praise you for your unfailing gift of life. We thank you that you make us human, and stay with us even when we turn from you to sin.

**God's love is shown to us:  
While we were yet sinners,  
Christ died for us.**

In that love, dear God, righteous and strong to save, you came among us in Jesus Christ, our crucified and living Lord. You make all things new. In Christ's suffering and cross you reveal your glory and reconcile all peoples to yourself, their true and living God.

In your mercy you are now our God. Through Christ you gather us, new-born in your Spirit, a people after your own heart. We entrust ourselves to you, for you alone do justice to all people, living and departed.

**Now is the acceptable time, now is the day of salvation.**

Therefore with saints and martyrs, apostles and prophets, with all the redeemed, joyfully we praise you and sing:

*Celebrant and People*

Gather #168

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

*The Celebrant continues*

All glory to you, giver of life sufficient and full for all creation. Accept our praises, living God, for Jesus Christ, the one perfect offering for the world, who in the night that he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup, 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, to forgive sin. Do this as often as you drink it to remember me.

Therefore, God of all creation, in the suffering and death of Jesus our redeemer, we meet you in your glory. We lift up the cup of salvation and call upon your name. Here and now, with this bread and wine, we celebrate your great acts of liberation, ever present and living in Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come.

**Amen! Come Lord Jesus.**

May Christ ascended in majesty be our new and living way, our access to you, Father, and source of all new life. In Christ we offer ourselves to do your will.

Empower our celebration with your Holy Spirit, feed us with your life, fire us with your love, confront us with your justice, and make us one in the body of Christ with all who share your gifts of love.

**Through Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Creator God. Amen.**

*\*From A New Zealand Prayer Book, p. 467*

*As our Savior Christ has taught us,  
we are bold to say:*

**Our Father in heaven,  
holy is your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today 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 for ever. Amen.**

*As our Savior Christ has taught us,  
we now pray:*

**Eternal Spirit,  
Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,  
Source of all that is and that shall be,  
Father and Mother of us all.  
Loving God, in whom is heaven:  
The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe!  
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples  
of the world!  
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom  
sustain our hope and come on earth.  
With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.  
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,  
now and forever. Amen.**

*From A New Zealand Prayer Book, p. 181*

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread, and a period of silence is kept.*

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

*People:* **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

*The Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died and lives in you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given with these words*

**The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.**

**The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.**

**Administration of the Sacrament:** *All are welcome to the Lord's Table at Ascension. To receive communion, come to the communion station. Receive the bread in the palm of your hand. Eat the bread and then drink from the cup when it is offered to you, or you may hold the bread and dip it into the wine when the cup is offered to you. Gluten-free wafers are also available. Make your need known to the Clergy by holding up three fingers. If you wish to receive a blessing rather than receive communion, please join in the movement to the communion station and cross your arms over the front of your chest - this will alert the Clergy of your desire to be blessed. If you need communion brought to you please let a member of the Welcome Team know.*

**Healing Prayers:** *If you would like to receive the laying on of hands for healing for yourself or another, go to the prayer annex to the right of the pulpit after receiving communion. A healing minister will be there to pray with you.*

*When there is a Eucharistic Visitor present*

We send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those whom you visit may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

**People:** We who are many are one body because we all share one bread and one cup.

Let us pray.

God of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in Jesus and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Amen.

Gather 342

Canticle of the Sun

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
And also with you.

**PRAY FOR COMFORT, HEALING, COURAGE, AND HOPE:**

Sandy Boynton, Monica Koenig Caphart, Joann Gertig, Diane Goldman, Sarah Rubin, Roz Silver-Marcotte, Lou and Janet Spenser, Fran Spina and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

We pray for peace in the world and all who are serving our country here and abroad, especially those in harm's way, and their families.

Equip us and empower us to be witnesses to your love – as advocates and as servants, as ministers of welcome and of hope for refugees and all affected by natural disasters, violence, and war.

We pray for all special intentions, and those on our extended Healing Prayer List.

We give thanks for the live of Clara A. Thomas, in whose memory the altar flower was given by her daughter Enid Cole.

**PERMISSIONS**

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## Worship Leaders

### This Week

<b>Reader:</b>	<b>7:45 am</b>	Leslie Sanya
	<b>9:00 am</b>	Andrew Greene Suzyn Gonzalez
	<b>11:15 am</b>	Anne Brink
<b>Prayers:</b>	<b>7:45 am</b>	Leslie Sanya
	<b>9:00 am</b>	Betsy Hasegawa
<b>Chalicians:</b>	<b>7:45 am</b>	Jason Cutshall Sharon Hayden
	<b>9:00 am</b>	Nancy Carman Cynthia Perley
	<b>11:15 am</b>	Peg Ruppel Kirk Flitch
<b>Healing Prayer Ministers:</b>		
	<b>7:45 am</b>	Meredith Horan
	<b>9:00 am</b>	Major Clemens
	<b>11:15 am</b>	Jason Cutshall
<b>Acolytes:</b>	<b>7:45 am</b>	Raymond Chin Aidan Douglas
	<b>9:00 am</b>	Alfred Waskiye Manny Johnson Nuelle Johnson
<b>Welcome Team:</b>		
	<b>7:45 am</b>	Herald Douglas Lisa Murdock
	<b>9:00 am</b>	Dorett Sutherland James Black Jonathan Black
	<b>11:15 am</b>	Avin Lalmansingh Karl Didavi Clark Didavi
<b>Flower Delivery:</b>		
		Adome Baffoe Hawa Clemens
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	<b>7:45 am</b>	Leslie Sanga Wadai Dennis
	<b>9:00 am</b>	Nancy Carman Cynthia Perley Liz Lennon
	<b>11:15 am</b>	Laura Shay
<b>Weekly Altar Guild Team:</b>		
		11:15 Team
<b>Eucharistic Visitor:</b>		
		Randy Lord-Wilkinson
<b>Song Leader</b>	<b>11:15 am</b>	Sue Snay
<b>Hospitality Angels</b>	<b>7:45 am</b>	Yvonne Lartey
	<b>9:00 am</b>	Nathalie Scott
	<b>11:15 a,m</b>	Rose Buck

## LEADERSHIP AT ASCENSION

### *Clergy*

The Rev. Randy Lord-Wilkinson, *Rector*  
The Rev. Javier García Ocampo, *Assistant to the Rector*  
Jason Cutshall, *Seminarian*

### *Musicians*

Jerrold Tidwell, *Minister of Music*  
Howard Hanson, *Musician, Service for Families with Small Children at 10:15 a.m.*  
Samuel Munguia, *Musician, Spanish Language Service at 11:00 a.m.*  
Eric O'Loughlin, *Musician, 5:00 p.m. Service*

### *Wardens*

Betsy Hasegawa, *Senior Warden*  
Janet King, *Junior Warden*

### *Vestry*

2017: Denise Lionetti, Najma Stubblefield, Paul Whitmore  
2018: Berenice Rodriguez, Avin Lalmansingh, Gary McLaughlin  
2019: Rose Buck, Zadinga Ogada, John Pruessner  
Sari Stoddard, *Clerk of the Vestry*  
Howard Holland, *Treasurer*

### *Ministry Area Leaders*

Zadinga Ogada, *Christian Formation for Children*  
Angie Hight-Walker, *Christian Formation for Youth*  
Ted Bedell, *Facilities*  
Howard Holland, *Finance*  
Paul Boynton, *Mission*  
Randy Lord-Wilkinson, *Pastoral Care*  
Jean Cohn, *Personnel*  
Carleton MacDonald, *Worship*

### *Delegates to Diocesan Convention*

Kristen Keating, Carleton MacDonald, Sue Snay  
Alternate: Mardia Dennis

### *Staff*

Kathy Van Arnum, *Parish Administrator*  
Eleni Hailu, *Media Specialist*  
Brenda Alvarez, *Nursery Attendant*

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