



THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

Third Sunday of Advent
8:30 am • December 15, 2024

ABBREVIATIONS: **BCP** Book of Common Prayer | **CG** A Child's Guide to the Holy Eucharist | **LEVAS II** Lift Every Voice and Sing II | **WLP** Wonder, Love and Praise

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 355 | CG 3

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;
People **His mercy endures for ever.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

THE SONG OF PRAISE: Trisagion

BCP 356 | CG 5

Celebrant Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,
People **Have mercy upon us.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Zephaniah 3:14–20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O

Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 9: The First Song of Isaiah. *Ecce Deus*

We will recite the canticle antiphonally by whole verse.

Surely, it is God who saves me; *

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, *

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *

for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

THE SECOND LESSON

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Grey Maggiano

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358 | CG 9

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

This Advent season, we pray expectantly for the return of Christ, waiting patiently in the darkness for a great light to lead us, guide us, and show us the way. Let us pray.

O Root of Jesse, we remember that the Church has its roots in you. We pray for all believers around the world today, remembering that we are all branches off of a common tree, with common ancestors and a common story. **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.**

O Bright morning star, we give thanks for the gift of light today. We lift up caregivers, parents, teachers, community leaders, and all those who bring light to the world. May we similarly turn from darkness and the shadows of night and seek to walk in the light of Christ together. **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.**

O Holy Spirit, Wisdom from on high, help us to order our common life to direct our attention towards you. In this season of renewal, help us to pare down the distractions, distortions and despair that pull us away from you, and instead prepare the way for us. **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.**

O Emmanuel, God with us, we ask that you be with those who are held captive in this day—those who mourn, those in exile, those struggling with addiction, loneliness, pain or hurt of any kind. We especially lift up those in our church community: Alice, Becky, Betty, Bill, Carl, Diane, Ilia, Jan, Jane, Karen, Liz, Margaret, Marion, Maxine, Michelle, Nancy, Norris, Robin, Roy, and Steve. **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.**

We also remember our families, friends, and neighbors, especially Anthony, Charles, Danielle, Diane, Edward, Evonne, Fori, Florence, Gemma, Gina, Jane, Jeff, John, Kate, Ken, Kerry, Licia, Michael, Michelle, Richard, Ron, Roy, Sandy, Sara, Shannon, Tim, and Valeria. **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.**

We pray for all those expecting a child, especially Hannah and David. **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.**

O Key of David, open wide the doors for those who have died and are seeking a way towards our heavenly home. Make safe the path for them and comfort their rest at the last. We remember especially Stephen Denz, Pam Clos Parks, and William Bullington. **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.**

O come, O King of nations, and bind in one the hearts of all mankind. Bid all our sad divisions cease and be to us and to all people our King of Peace. **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.**

The People may add their own petitions, after which the Celebrant offers a concluding collect.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer B BCP 367 | CG 29

SANCTUS BCP 371 | CG 43

THE LORD'S PRAYER: Traditional Version BCP 364 | CG 45

FRACTION ANTHEM: Christ our Passover BCP 364 | CG 47

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

THE SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Celebrant In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go 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, one cup. Amen.**

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER BCP 366 | CG 27

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteriesthat 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.

THE BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon or Celebrant dismisses the People, and the People respond

Thanks be to God.

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God; and by Chris and Patsy Christiansen in remembrance of their parents, grandparents, and brother.



CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY VESTRY 2024

- Wardens* George Douglas (Senior) and Dave McKinnon (Junior)
- Members* David Dykes, Hannah Harris, Roy Immelman, Charles
Malone, Allison Martin, Sarah O'Connor, Yvette
Smith, Perry Suk, Sam Wesonga
- Officers* Matt Dutton (Treasurer), Gail Christensen (Clerk)





QUICK LINKS

Scan this QR code to fill out
a welcome card, give online,
and more.

We thank the following people for their service today:

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|--------------------------|--|
| CELEBRANT & PREACHER | The Rev. Grey Maggiano |
| LECTOR | Vicky Clay |
| LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTER | Steve Dearth |
| ALTAR GUILD | Robin Rhaney, Julia Cavalier, Mary Hillmer |
| ALTAR FLOWERS | Ailsa Tessier |
| VESTRY REPRESENTATIVE | Sarah O'Connor |

Church of the Nativity

A Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina
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CLERGY AND STAFF

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| The Rev. Grey Maggiano | Rector |
| The Rev. Ryan Parker | Priest Associate |
| Jeremy Clos | Lay Associate for Christian Formation |
| Bradley Burgess | Lay Associate for Music, Communications, and Administration |
| Monique Holmes | Business Manager |
| Eva Warren | Nursery Attendant |
| Robert Krahel | Sexton |