



**Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
**10:00 AM + December 20, 2020**

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Welcome! You are invited to participate fully in our worship.  
Whoever you are, wherever you are on your journey of faith, welcome!

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**Morning Prayer: Rite Two**

Prelude: *O come, o come, Emmanuel*

C. Klein (b. 1963)

## Welcome

### Opening Sentences

*Officiant:* Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. *Philippians 1:2*

The hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. *John 4:23*

Hymn: *O come, o come, Emmanuel* tune: *Veni Emmanuel* vs. 1

Hymn 56

O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
here un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

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### Confession

*The Officiant says to the people*

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*Silence may be kept*

*Officiant and People together*

**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.**

*The Officiant says*

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.

## The Invitatory

*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. Alleluia.**

Trisagion

S102

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,  
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

## The Lessons

### A Reading from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Book of Samuel 7:1-11, 16

When the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

*People's response after the reading*      **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

- 1 Your love, O LORD, for ever will I sing; \*  
**from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.**
- 2 For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; \*  
**you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**
- 3 "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; \*  
**I have sworn an oath to David my servant:**
- 4 'I will establish your line for ever, \*  
**and preserve your throne for all generations.'"**
- 19 You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people: \*  
**"I have set the crown upon a warrior and have exalted one chosen out of the people.**
- 20 I have found David my servant; \*  
**with my holy oil have I anointed him.**
- 21 My hand will hold him fast \*  
**and my arm will make him strong.**
- 22 No enemy shall deceive him, \*  
**nor any wicked man bring him down.**
- 23 I will crush his foes before him \*  
**and strike down those who hate him.**
- 24 My faithfulness and love shall be with him, \*  
**and he shall be victorious through my Name.**

- 25 I shall make his dominion extend \*  
**from the Great Sea to the River.**
- 26 He will say to me, 'You are my Father, \*  
**my God, and the rock of my salvation.'**

### A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans 16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith-- to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

*People's response after the reading*

**Thanks be to God.**

### Canticle: The Third Song of Isaiah (Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19)

Arise, shine, for your light has come, \*  
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.

For behold, darkness covers the land; \*  
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.

But over you the Lord will rise, \*  
and his glory will appear upon you.

Nations will stream to your light, \*  
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.

Your gates will always be open; \*  
by day or night they will never be shut.

They will call you, The City of the Lord, \*  
The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

Violence will no more be heard in your land, \*  
ruin or destruction within your borders.

You will call your walls, Salvation, \*  
and all your portals, Praise.

The sun will no more be your light by day; \*  
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.

The Lord will be your everlasting light, \*  
and your God will be your glory.

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 according to Luke 1:26-38

*People*     *Said before the reading*  
**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

*Said after the reading*  
**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he

came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

## The Homily

The Rev. Dr. Paul Kolbet

### 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.**

## Announcements

### The Prayers

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

*Officiant 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 Prayers of the People – Form IV**

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy  
**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.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

*Officiant says the Collect of the Day:*

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*A Collect for Sundays*

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.*

*A Collect for Mission*

Almighty God, whose will it is to be glorified in your saints, Shine, we pray, in our hearts, that we also in our generation may show forth your praise, who has called us out of darkness into your marvelous light; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### **The Peace and Greetings**

*Officiant:* The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

*(Worshippers unmute themselves and exchange the Peace and greet one another).*

### **The General Thanksgiving**

*Officiant and People:* 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.*

*Officiant:* Let us bless the Lord.

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

### **Blessing and Dismissal**

*Officiant:* May Almighty God, by whose loving care our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. *Amen.*

*People:* **Amen.**



**Postlude:** *Saviour of the Nations, Come*    tune: *Nun komm der Heiden Heiland*  
Dieterich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

## **Ministers for Today's Service**

Officiant: The Rev. Dr. Paul Kolbet

Music Minister: Dr. Carl Klein

Lay Reader: Lynn Gresock

Lay Reader: Mike Brodeur

Litanist: Lois Freeman

Congregational respondent: Amy Hunter

Canticles: Stacey & Lily Herlihy

Psalms: Parish Choir

Zoom Greeter & Usher: Rohini Pola, Laura Barry & Laura Marshall

## **Prayers for December 20, 2020**

**PRAY FOR THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION** Pray for the Falkland Islands (Extra-Provincial to Canterbury), The Rt Revd Timothy Thornton - Bishop to the Forces and Bishop to the Falkland Islands.

We pray for our Presiding Bishop Michael; Alan and Gayle, our Bishops, for Paul, our Interim Rector and for Valerie Cowart, Deacon.

**In our Diocese:** Episcopal Chaplaincy at Harvard, Cambridge, Lutheran Episcopal Chaplaincy at Mass. Institute of Technology, Cambridge, The Society of St. John the Evangelist, Cambridge, and for Hospital Chaplaincies & Healthcare Chaplains.

**We also pray for the faith communities in Chelmsford,** especially for Trinity Lutheran Church.

**PRAY FOR THOSE JOINING GOD'S MISSION IN OUR PARISH** especially for all who are donating clothing and blankets to the RIM families.

### **PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH IN NEED OF HEALING:**

Alex & Lois Barry	health concerns
Karen Kowalski	recovering from total knee replacement surgery
Carol Gilchrist	recovering from fall resulting in a broken femur
Mia Terris	daughter of Jessica & Richard, pray for a correct diagnosis of her condition
Denise Seyffert	health concerns
Mike Thompson	recovery from surgery
Elizabeth Sandoval	health concerns
John MacKenzie	cancer treatments at home
Molly Loder	Brain cancer
Nate Barrow	Medical concerns

**PRAY FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS OF OUR PARISHIONERS:**

Joe	Kate Blount's nephew - in the ICU with complications from multiple seizures
Tony Ganchi	Paige LaRoche's friend's grandfather - undergoing cancer treatment
Carolyn	friend of Lois Freeman – tumor in her lung
Anna & Family	friends of the LaRochelles - being evaluated for a possible heart transplant
Dan Willman	son of Barbara Willman – beginning the bone marrow transplant process for multiple myeloma
Sampath S	friend and work colleague of Scott Bempkins - cancer
Hugh Fossum	friend of Katie LaRoche - Hugh is having a recurrence of myeloma, prayers for Hugh & his wife Carol as they deal with healing and treatment while also being quarantined from their children and grandchildren.
Dan	friend of Katy Belanger – stage 4 lung cancer
Chris Gobron	brother of Deb Collins – recurrence of esophageal cancer
Jennifer	Sister of Lissie Bates-Haus - Cancer
Joanna Nickerson	Deacon Bruce's wife - Parkinsons
Erismath M. Kintu	Rowena's father – health concerns

**PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE AT HOME, IN NURSING HOMES, OR LIVING WITH CHRONIC**

**ILLNESSES:** Terry Hunter, Brian Hunter's brother, Chaz Freeman, Lois Freeman's son, Vinnie and Jeanette Freeman, Larry Van Walters, Ken Lager, twin brother of Kate Friesner, Katherine Luetters, Garrett Burgess, Ginny Wright, D'Youville, Lowell

**PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES AND THEIR FAMILIES:** Especially for those who have been deployed overseas, and for all others serving our country.

**PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS AND FAMILY WHO ARE HEALTH CARE WORKERS:**

Theresa Camacho, Chris Pyne, Linda Cahill, Pam Meinhardt, Larisa Ducharme, Lois Freeman, Nancy St. Onge, Kiyomi Hammoumi, Gail Carmichel, sister of Linda Coles, Leigh Lovely, sister of Lynn Gresock, Kathryn Harrington, Ben, Dave, & Marlene Hillman, Michelle & Dave Colton, Dr. Amanda Kowalski, daughter-in-law of Karen Kowalskim Cherie & Scott Hamelin, Christy Brodeur, Jessica McSheehy Del Llano, Sean Olbert, Laura Andrews.

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*Join us for online coffee hour at 11am on Sunday! The Zoom link is found in an email invitation sent on Sunday mornings along with the links to other ways to join us during the week.*

***Christmas Eve Services: 4:30 PM, Prayers, Pageant, & Carols at 300 Apollo Drive Chelmsford***

***7:30 PM, Live Zoom Festive Holy Eucharist***

***+ Prerecorded Holy Eucharist with Christmas Hymns available at***

***[www.allsaintschelmsford.org](http://www.allsaintschelmsford.org) and broadcast on Chelmsford Telemedia (Comcast channel 8 or Verizon channel 38 as "Stone Church Worship")***

