

Voluntary *Divinum mysterium* *Prudentius (348-410)*

Hear the words of Jesus: You shall love God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first Law of God, and the second is like it:

You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two laws hang the whole of scripture.

The Peace

Here is food that satisfies, the taste of communion. Here is wine pouring free, the washing away of fear. Here is life abundant, a table of peace for all. May this peace be in us and among us, a sign of hope for a world renewed.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

The Confession and Absolution

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 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.

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

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

God of impossible love, you needed Mary to give consent, to bear the scandal, to carry your word within herself: may her courage give hope to women and men who yearn to sing new songs of justice and find the world a dwelling place for God; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. *Amen.*

The First Lesson

Micah 5:2-5a

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.

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

Thanks be to God.

The Gradual *Canticle 15 (read responsively by whole verse)*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

*my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; **

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *

the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

*He has mercy on those who fear him **

in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, *

he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

*He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, **

and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, *

and the rich he has sent away empty.

*He has come to the help of his servant Israel, **

for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, *

to Abraham and his children for ever.

*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 Second Lesson

Hebrews 10:5-10

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.

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

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 265 *The angel Gabriel from heaven came*

Gabriel’s Message

The Holy Gospel

Luke 1:39-55

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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.”

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Bob Donnell

The Nicene Creed

Book of Common Prayer, p. 358

The Prayers of the People

The Mighty One has done great things for us. And so we appeal to God once again, praying, “Stir up your strength, O God; *and come to help us.*”

Prepare in us a mansion for yourself, O Christ.

Silence

Stir up your strength, O God;

And come to help us.

Restore us, O God of hosts. May we know security. May we know peace. May we know the benefits of the reign of your Christ.

Silence

Stir up your strength, O God;

And come to help us.

Show the strength of your arm, O God: lift the lowly. Fill the hungry with good things. Look on your children with favor.

Silence

Stir up your strength, O God;

And come to help us.

Have mercy on all captives and prisoners, O God. Remember them and come to their aid. Fill our hearts with mercy. May we learn to forgive even as you forgive us.

You are invited to add your own thanksgivings.

Silence

Stir up your strength, O God;

And come to help us.

Hear the prayers of your people, O God of hosts. May those who have fed on the bread of tears, feed instead on your strength, O God. Show them the light of your countenance and be their salvation.

You are invited to add your own petitions.

Silence

Stir up your strength, O God;

And come to help us.

Great Shepherd, gather your flock into your eternal kingdom. Bless the dying, embrace the dead, and comfort those who mourn.

Silence

Stir up your strength, O God;

And come to help us.

Concluding Collect

O God, your mercy endures forever. Hear the prayers of your people. And grant us the strength and the courage to walk in your ways, all the days of our lives.

In the name of Jesus, we pray. *Amen.*

Walk in love as Christ loved us, and gave himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God.

All are welcome to receive the bread and wine at the altar. You may stand or kneel at the altar rail. The bread is received in the open palm. The wine is taken by drinking from the chalice (please help guide it to your mouth by holding the base of the chalice). Gluten-free wafers are available by request, by placing one hand across your chest. If you do not wish to receive the sacrament, you are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. Please cross your arms across your chest to receive it.

The Offertory

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer 1, from Enriching our Worship

Sursum Corda and Proper Preface

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus

Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Sanctus S-124

David Hurd (b.1950)

The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life. On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with [_____ and] all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

The Lord's Prayer

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

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be 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.

Fraction Anthem S-161

David Hurd

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

Eternal God, we thank you that in Christ you give yourself into our hands: may we who have tasted life proclaim the coming feast when many will come from east and west, from north and south to greet the Lord of all; we ask this in his name. Amen.

The Blessing

May the God who brings heaven close to earth give truth to our judgment and flame to our longing, that our hearts might be ready to be born again in love;

and the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ!

Thanks be to God!

For the Procession *My Soul doth magnify*

Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

Please remain in place until the procession is completed.

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God,
and in loving memory of David and Cecelia Williams, and Anne Shaver.*

Breakfast will follow in Stirling Hall.

Serving today:

Lector: Nic Wood
Intercessor: Carolyn Taylor
Chalice: Bob Allen
Usher: Mary Louise Durant
Altar Guild: Mary Robert
Bread Baker: Martha Durant
Doorkeeper: Baldwin Sanders
Breakfast: Michael Johnson, Brian Allison
Flowers: Flower guild
LEV: Foy & Woody Hannum

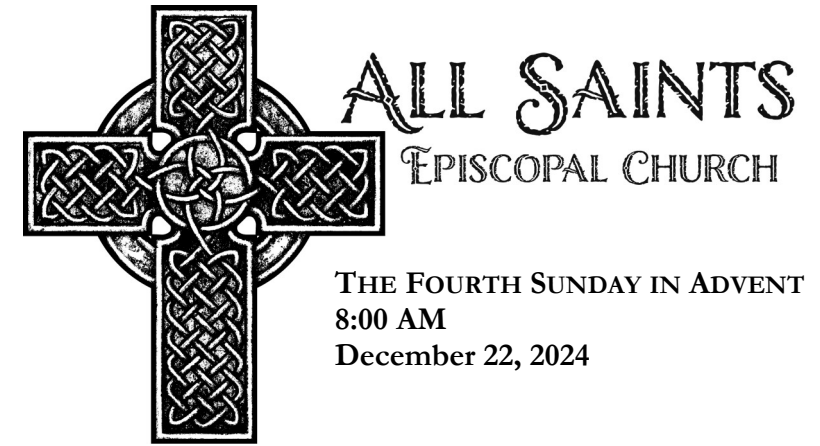
This morning's schedule:

Sun, Dec 22 7:45a Nursery opens
8a Holy Eucharist, church
9a Breakfast, Stirling Hall
9:15a Adult choir rehearsal, Choir Rm
9:15a-10:15a Godly Play classes, Parish House (upstairs)
9:30a Adult Sunday School, Smith Rm
10:30a Holy Eucharist, church
Reception follows, Parish House

Holiday schedule:

Sun, Dec 22 5p Lessons & Carols, church
Celebratory supper follows, Stirling Hall
Tue, Dec 24 Church office closed for Christmas holiday
5p Choral prelude, church
5:30p Christmas Eve eucharist, church
Church office closed
Wed, Dec 25 9a Christmas Day worship, church
Thu, Dec 26 9a Church office reopens
Tue, Dec 31 Church office closed for New Year holiday
Wed, Jan 1 2025 New Year's Day, church office closed
Thu, Jan 2 9a Church office reopens

All Saints Episcopal Church
151 South Ann Street, Mobile, Alabama 36604
www.allsaintsmobile.net (251)567-0798
The Rev. James B. Flowers, Jr., Rector
The Rev. Bob Donnell, Associate Priest
The Rev. Mary Robert, Associate Priest
Dr. Jeannie Kienzle, Principal Parish Musician
Arletha Clemons, Nursery Staff



THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

8:00 AM

December 22, 2024

Welcome to All Saints!

We are a community of faith who seek to continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers; who seek to serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbor as ourselves; who strive for justice and peace among all people; and respect the dignity of every human being.

Baptismal Covenant, BCP, p.304

If you are visiting please make yourself known to us either face to face, via the information cards in the pew racks, or via email: office@allsaintsmobile.org

Sign up for our parish newsletter! <https://www.allsaintsmobile.net/the-herald/>

New to The Episcopal Church? Here are a few websites that can help explain our style of worship and any unfamiliar terminology (watch any videos later!):

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/dfms/what-to-expect-when-you-visit/>

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/who-we-are/lgbtq/>

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/racial-reconciliation/>

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/glossary/>

We begin worship in holy silence.

*Please turn OFF all cell phones. The red Book of Common Prayer (BCP) & the blue Hymnal 1982 are in the book rack in front of you. Hymn numbers preceded by "S" are found in the front section of the hymnal. Words written in ***Bold Italics*** are said by the congregation.*

Please keep in your prayers . . .

For healing for: Jane Gordon, Mary Hunter Slaton, Chip Deupree, Clayton Ryan, Renee K. Dillard, Dana Pollock, Cora Lou Robinson, Elva Goldman, Paul and Tracy, Geneva Piloto, Richard Tillman, Karen Bullock, Buck Baker, Albert Corte, Robin Steele, Lequita Adkins, Wes Wise, Phyllis Smith, Ruth LaMonte, Bryan LaPorte, Emily Callaway, Will Strickland, Sue Elledge, Bruce Barrett, Lister Thomas, David Powers, Sue Aiken Zundel, Nick Nichols, Meg Stojanik, Jan Cade, Chuck Salmon, Serena Willcox, Claudia McClure, Caden Gray, Mary, Richard Cade, Jr., Hannah Pullins, Cora Cade Lemmon, Becky Wilson, Rose Ellen Stanbery, Adele Smith, Marcia Wyatt, Jacky Bell, Eve Morrison, Colleen, Ann Wesley, Staci Smith, Andi Barrett, Ken Buford, Dottie Dunnam, Gwyn Brantley, Mark Kidd, Lynn Koors, Mary Rose, Preston Griffith, Jan Irving, Frieda Kennedy, Hoagy, Tom Root, Shannon, Regina, Brian Davidson, Monica McCaskey, Debra Guyton, John Gibson Baylor, Jr., Ruth Rivers, Donna Bowcock, Rita Foust, Haley, Jill, Jennifer Smith, Garn Menell, Shannon Cook

For those who serve in the armed forces: especially Bernie Waters, David Palmer, David L. Ritter II, Ethan Roberts, Thomas Roberts, Nyirou Kuot, Matt Abbot, Stephen Rollins, Trevor Thiel

For those who have died, especially Bryant Blake.

**Please notify the church office by the last Wednesday of the month if you wish your prayer concern to continue to be listed.*