



**ST. ELIZABETH'S**  
ANGLICAN CHURCH  
聖公會頌主堂

Sunday, December 20, 2020  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Morning Prayer Service

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## This Sunday Roster

Celebrant & Preacher: **Rev. Maria**

Worship Leader: **Paul**

Reader & Intercessor: **Carol**

Host: **Benjamin**

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## Introduction before starting service – Paul

We invite parishioners joining the live online service to join in on responses as you would in regular worship, but please note that all will be muted except for those scheduled to serve in the worship. This service will be recorded and subsequently posted to our website.

## Opening Sentence (P. 271) – Paul

I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to his word.

*Luke 1:38*

## Lighting of the Advent Candles – Rev. Maria

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent: Peace

Celebrant: “A virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel: God with us.” Matthew 1:23

We light this purple candle in the direction of the north, the place of sweeping winter winds, and northern lights, the time of year when stories are told on long evenings. We light this candle remembering that we ourselves bear witness to “God with us” through the example of love in our lives. We light this candle representing the time of our lives when we are elders and our stories are told with wisdom and experience. We bear witness to our Creator’s promise to be *Emmanuel*: God with us.

**Prayer:** Creator, you gave us the gift of Emmanuel, God with us. May we bear witness to the presence of Jesus in our lives and in our communities. May we share the good news of Jesus’ promise to be with us always to the very end of the age.

People: **Amen.**

## The Peace (P.192) – Rev. Maria

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

## Grace (P.185) – Rev. Maria

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

## Confession (P.45) – Paul

Leader: Dear friends in Christ, as we prepare to worship almighty God, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

All: **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 neighbours 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 (P.46) – Rev. Maria

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

## A Reading from Luke 1:46b-55 – Carol

Reader: **Mary's Song of Praise**

<sup>46b</sup> *'My soul magnifies the Lord,*

<sup>47</sup> *and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,*

<sup>48</sup> *for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.*

*Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;*  
<sup>49</sup> *for the Mighty One has done great things for me,*  
*and holy is his name.*  
<sup>50</sup> *His mercy is for those who fear him*  
*from generation to generation.*  
<sup>51</sup> *He has shown strength with his arm;*  
*he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.*  
<sup>52</sup> *He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,*  
*and lifted up the lowly;*  
<sup>53</sup> *he has filled the hungry with good things,*  
*and sent the rich away empty.*  
<sup>54</sup> *He has helped his servant Israel,*  
*in remembrance of his mercy,*  
<sup>55</sup> *according to the promise he made to our ancestors,*  
*to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'*

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Hymn – *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
 his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;  
 "All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary,  
 most highly favoured lady," Gloria!

"For know a blessed Mother thou shalt be,  
 all generations laud and honor thee,  
 thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,  
 most highly favored lady," Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,  
 "To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,  
 "my soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name."  
 Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born  
 in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,  
 and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say--  
 "Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

*Music: Ancient Basque carol*  
*Text: Sabine Baring-Gould*

## Gospel Luke 1:26-38 – Rev. Maria

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Luke.**

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

Reader: ***The Birth of Jesus Foretold***

*<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' <sup>29</sup> But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. <sup>31</sup> And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> 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. <sup>33</sup> He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' <sup>34</sup> Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' <sup>35</sup> 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. <sup>36</sup> 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. <sup>37</sup> For nothing will be impossible with God.' <sup>38</sup> 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.*

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Sermon – Rev. Maria

### The Apostles' Creed (P.52) – Paul

Leader: Let us confess our faith, as we say,

All: **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.**

## Prayers of the People (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent) – Carol

### Parish Cycle of Prayer

Parish: Rev. Maria Ling's transition to St. E, 2021 ministry planning

Anglican: Pray for mission agencies and their ministry throughout the Anglican Communion, including the Mothers' Union around the world

Diocesan: Anglican Church Women (Enid Corbett, Diocesan President)

Infirm: Esther Chen, Susan Xu's mother Dian-lan Feng

*Please join in the response indicated by the Intercessor*

Intercessor: God's promised kingdom, announced both to King David in ancient times and to Mary by the angel Gabriel, will go on forever.

Gathered as the Church of God in this place let us pray together for the coming of the kingdom.

Intercessor: Lord of heaven, may the Church be quiet enough to hear your voice, humble enough to move your way and excited enough to spread the good news.

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer**

Intercessor: Lord of heaven, bless all who lead with integrity and respect for others; bless all in positions of authority with humility and a sense of right; may unjust practices be changed for good and conflicts of great tension be peacefully resolved.

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer**

Intercessor: Lord of heaven, make our homes places of loving acceptance and developing faith; teach us in our friendships to grow in generosity of spirit.

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer**

Intercessor: Lord of heaven, give patience and courage to all who have to wait, when the waiting is long and painful; bring healing to all who are wounded, whether physically or emotionally, and give them the assurance of your presence.

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer**

Intercessor: Lord of heaven, welcome into your eternity those who have died to this life and whose hope is in you. Comfort those who mourn them and reach into their pain with your love.

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer**

Intercessor: Lord of heaven, we thank you for your faithful promise to us, fulfilled in the coming of Jesus. We welcome his kingship in our lives.

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer**

Intercessor: Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

People: **Amen.**

### Collect of the Day (P. 272) – Carol

Intercessor: Let us pray.

All: **Heavenly Father,  
who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace,  
to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour,  
now fill us with your grace,  
that we in all things may embrace your will  
and with her rejoice in your salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer (P.54) – Rev. Maria

Celebrant: Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

All: **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.**

## Blessing (P.683 ii) – Rev. Maria

Celebrant: 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.

People: **Amen.**

## Announcements

<https://www.stechurch.com/announcements>

*For more info about the Advent Prayers from today refer to “Advent: Readings and Prayers for Advent at Home” Compiled by the Rev. Dr. Kara Mandryk with prayers from Bishop William Cliff.*

*As posted on the Anglican Journal Facebook Page:*

<https://www.facebook.com/bill.cliff1/posts/10105419457830441>

## Dismissal – Paul

Leader: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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## Dec 25 11am Christmas Day Joint Online Service Roster

Celebrant & Preacher: **Rev. Maria**

Lay Reader: **Wilson Loo**

Intercessor: **Grace Liu**

Reader: **Margaret Loo**

PPT Compiler & Clicker: **Fenella Chiu**

Host: **Paul Seto**

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Next Sunday Dec 27 10:15am

## English Online Morning Prayer Service Roster

Celebrant & Preacher: **Rev. Maria**

Worship Leader: **Fenella**

Reader: **Belle**

Intercessor: **Amy**

Host: **Terence**

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