

# St. Luke's Table

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

A virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel: God with us.

*Matthew 1.23*



Isaiah's Prophecy About Immanuel,  
J. E. Nuttgens, Church of St. Etheldreda, London

Good Morning and Welcome!

Leading & Reflection: Clair MacInnis    Musician: Peter Grant  
IT Support: Brandon Bremner    Deacon: Jerry Cavanaugh

Scripture Readers: Catherin Chandler, Lyda Miller

Slides adapted from 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent December 22<sup>nd</sup>,  
2019, by Shelly Hubley

Liturgical Elements from:

The Book of Alternative Services of the Anglican Church of  
Canada slides 1, 16, 31-33, 43-47

Connections Worship Companion, Year A Vol 1- slide 36

Church of England.org slides 3, 13, 35, 50

Pray Without Ceasing Seasonal MP and EP GS2016 – slide 5,6,14,15

# The Gathering of the Community

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you.

**And also with you.**

Opening Hymn

**The 1<sup>st</sup> Noel**

#139



O Lord, open our lips  
**and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**  
Reveal among us the light of your presence  
**so that we may behold your power and glory.**

Blessed are you, Sovereign God of all,  
to you be praise and glory for ever.  
In your tender compassion  
the dawn from on high is breaking upon us  
to dispel the lingering shadows of night.

As we look for your coming among us this day,  
open our eyes to behold your presence  
and strengthen our hands to do your will,  
so that the world may rejoice and give you praise.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

## Fourth Sunday of Advent: LOVE

Last Sunday we lit the Candle of Joy.  
We light it and the candles of Hope  
and Peace again as we remember that Christ,  
who was born in Bethlehem,  
will come again to fulfill all of God's promises  
and bring us everlasting peace and joy.

***(The candles of Hope, Peace and Joy are lit)***

The fourth candle of Advent is the Candle of Love. God's love is a perfect love. It holds nothing back.

The Bible says that

“God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life.”



We light the Candle of Love  
to remind us that Jesus  
brings us God's love  
and shows us how  
to love others.

***(The Candle of Love is Lit)***



Atonement of Mary Magdalene, detail of candle and book  
Georges du Mesnil de la Tour, Wrightsman Collection, New York, NY

Love is like a light shining in a dark place.  
As we look at this candle  
we celebrate the love we find in Jesus Christ.

Hymn of Prayer:

These Candles Shine with Glorious Light

These Candles Shine with Glorious Light  
*(to the tune of On Jordan's Bank)*

**These candles shine with glorious light,  
give peace and hope to those in night.  
The joy they bring gives hope today,  
and peace through Christ, in all our ways.**

**Give Love, O Lord, to us this day,  
make in our hearts a ready way.  
That Christ, our Hope, our King, may show  
His love and grace from heav'n above.**

# Confession and Assurance

When the Lord comes,  
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,  
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.  
Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

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 that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done  
and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore and strengthen us  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
so that we may abide in your love  
and serve only your will. Amen.**

May the God of love and power  
forgive us and free us from our sins,  
heal and strengthen us by the Holy Spirit  
and raise us to new life in Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

# Kyrie Eleison

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.



# The Proclamation of the Word

## First Reading: Isaiah 7: 10-16



Emmanuel, God With Us, Anonymous  
Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C.

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or as high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be destroyed.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80: 1-7, 16-18, (alternating verses)

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;  
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,  
stir up your strength and come to help us.**

Restore us, O God of hosts;  
show the light of your countenance,  
and we shall be saved.

**O Lord God of hosts,  
how long will you be angered  
despite the prayers of your people?**

You have fed them with the bread of tears;  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

**You have made us the derision of our neighbours,  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

Restore us, O God of hosts;  
show the light of your countenance,  
and we shall be saved.

**Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand,  
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.**

And so will we never turn away from you;  
give us life, that we may call upon your name.

**Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;  
show the light of your countenance,  
and we shall be saved.**

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ, our good shepherd;  
you have led us to the kingdom of your Father's love.  
Forgive our careless indifference to your loving care  
for all your creatures, and remake us in the likeness of  
your new and risen life.  
We ask this in your name. Amen**



# Second Reading

## Romans 1: 1-7



Isaiah Prophecy the Adoration of Christ  
Cathédrale d'Amiens, Amiens, France

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith

among all Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, to all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

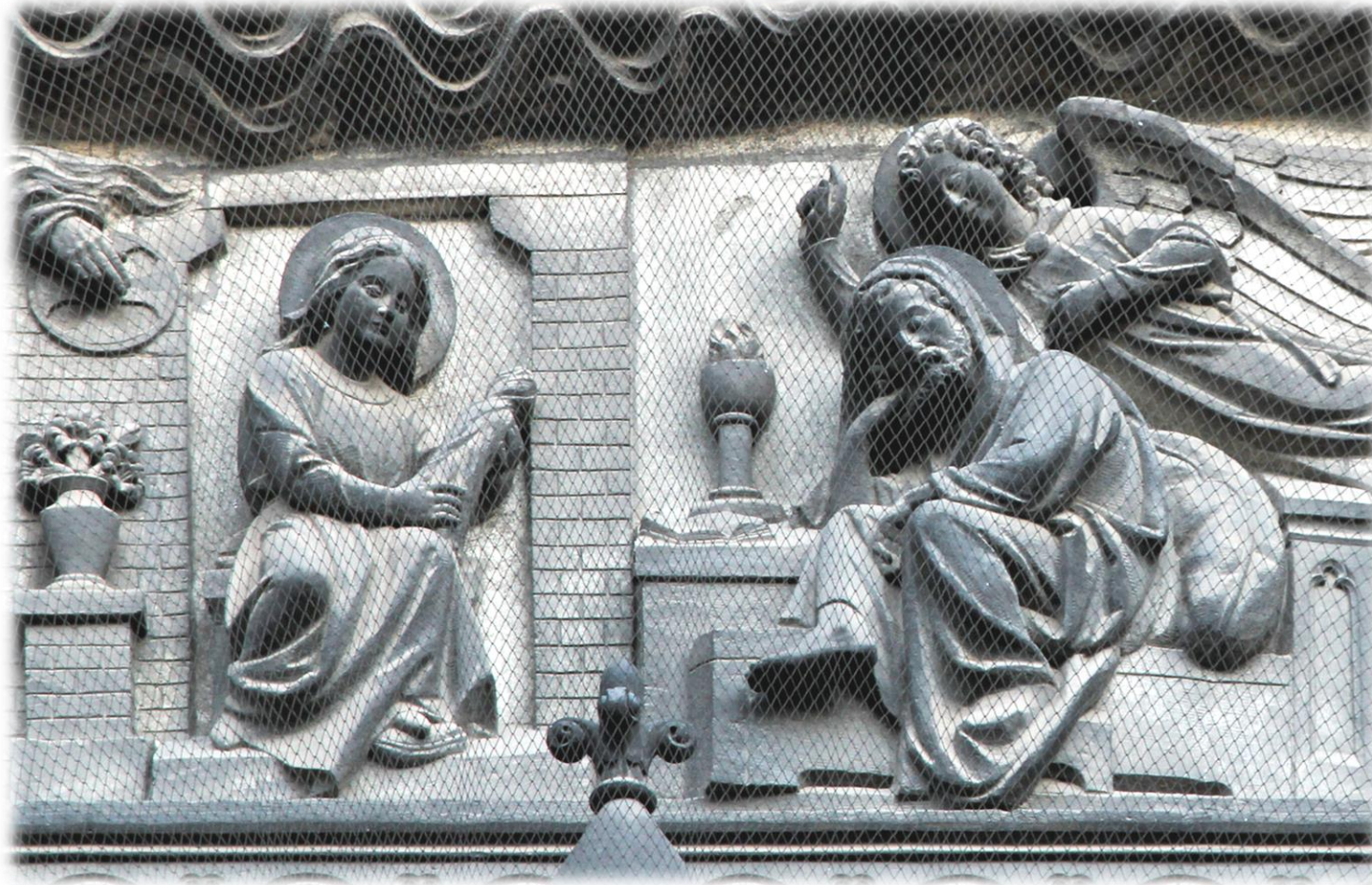
**O come O come  
Emmanuel**

# 89





# The Good News: The Holy Gospel of Matthew 1: 18-25



Joseph's Dream  
Cathédral Notre-Dame de la Treille et Saint-Pierre, Lille, France



# Reflection



Joseph is betrothed to Mary  
Cathédrale d'Amiens, Amiens, France

## The Apostles' Creed

Let us confess the faith of our baptism,  
as we say,

**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



Messenger of Peace, Barbara Pearson,  
Manchester, England

# The Peace

May the God of peace make you completely holy,  
ready for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

# The Offertory

The greatest gift is on its way.  
May we respond to that gift  
with our own gifts,  
offering our lives to the Lord.

Offertory Hymn

**Bethlehem of the Heart**  
(On the Screen)



Bethlehem of the Heart, (5 verses)

*(to the tune of Breathe on Me Breath of God)*

**Bethlehem of the heart**

**where peace and love still reign.**

**A place that warfare cannot touch;  
where hope is born again.**

**2. Bethlehem of the heart.  
Angelic voices sing  
of peace on earth, good will to all,  
their joyful tidings ring.**



**3. Bethlehem of the heart  
the star still brightly beams  
reminding us that Bethlehem  
fills all our hopes and dreams.**

**4. Bethlehem of the heart  
our Lord is always near.  
Jesus is born within our hearts.  
Incarnate God is here.**

- 5. Bethlehem of the heart.  
There's room for all within.  
Open the door so all can find  
a place inside the Inn.**

## Prayer over the Gifts

**Gracious God,  
by the power of the Spirit  
who sanctified the mother of your Son,  
make holy all we offer you this day.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.**

Collect for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

Let us pray

**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 forever. Amen.**

# The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us,  
we are bold to pray

**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,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**



## Doxology

Glory to God,

**whose power, working in us,  
can do infinitely more  
than we can ask or imagine.**

**Glory to God, from generation to generation,  
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,  
for ever and ever. Amen**

# Announcements



St. Luke's, Hubbards

## Anglican Parish of St. Luke's Hubbards



St. Mark's, Mill Cove

Closing Hymn

**Joy to the World**

# 154



Sending out

As we await our coming  
Saviour, go in peace to  
love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ.**  
**Amen.**



"Love is the Only Solution", Dorothy Day  
Mural in San Francisco, CA

Joseph's Dream, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56270> [retrieved November 27, 2022]. Original source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/paullew/23745541071>.

Joseph is betrothed to Mary, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=51547> [retrieved November 27, 2022]. Original source: Image donated by Jim Womack and Anne Richardson.

Love is the Only Solution, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56342> [retrieved November 27, 2022]. Original source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/thomashawk/5653108193> – Thomas Hawk.