

# Vigil and Eucharist

for Advent 2007



University Episcopal Center  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

# Vigil around the Advent wreath

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*The Celebrant begins*

Beloved in Christ, let us prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels: For on this holy night the light of salvation has shone out of darkness; the kingdom of God has come near, as the prophets have said.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, by whose Word all things are sanctified, pour out your blessing upon this wreath, and grant us grace to prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Let us hear the tale of the coming of God's glorious reign, from the comfort spoken to God's people in exile to the glorious Redemption brought to us by this Holy Child.

## **First candle: Hope**

*The first candle is lit.*

The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.  
For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
and he is named  
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
His authority shall grow continually,  
and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onwards and for evermore.  
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

*Isaiah 9:2,6-7*



O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,  
O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy draw - ing night;



that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.



Re-joyce! Re-joyce! Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, you have given us through your prophets the promise of peace in Jesus Christ our Savior: Give us grace to hold fast to that promise until we see him return; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

## Second candle: Kingdom of God

*The second candle is lit.*

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.  
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.  
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear;  
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,  
 and faithfulness the belt around his loins.  
 The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
 the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
 the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
 and a little child shall lead them.  
 The cow and the bear shall graze,  
 their young shall lie down together;  
 and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
 The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
 and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.  
 They will not hurt or destroy  
 on all my holy mountain;  
 for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord  
 as the waters cover the sea.

*Isaiah 11:1-9*



O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from Sa-tan's ty - ran-ny  
 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - d'rest all things might - i - ly;



that trust thy might - y power to save and give them vic-t'ry o'er the grave.  
 to us the path of know - ledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.



Re-joyce! Re-joyce! Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**Third candle: Joy**

*The third candle is lit.*

Mary said,

'My soul magnifies the Lord,

and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,

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 for ever.'

*Luke 1:46–55 (the Magnificat)*



When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in splen - dor bright,  
In sor - row that the an - cient curse should doom to death a u - ni - verse,



not as a mon - arch, but the child of Ma - ry blame - less mo - ther mild.  
you came, O Sa - vior, to set free your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*Amen.*

#### **Fourth candle: Light**

*The fourth candle is lit.*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

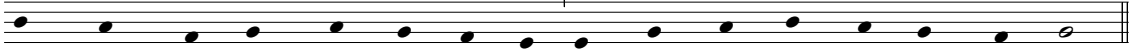
There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

*John 1:1-9,14*



Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,  
To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all, we pray you hear us when we call.  
praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Look down, O Lord, from your heavenly throne, and illumine this night  
with your celestial brightness: that by night as by day your people may  
glorify your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Liturgy of the Word

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*Celebrant* Blessed are you, holy and living One.

*People* You come to your people and set them free.

### Hymn of praise

Joy to the world vs. 1, 2, 4

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the  
true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on  
earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy  
Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

### Center candle: Incarnation

*The center candle is lit.*

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be  
registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor  
of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town  
of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was

descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!'

*Luke 2:1-14*

## **Gospel-based discipleship**

### **The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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**

*Leader*

As we celebrate the coming of God's reign of justice and peace, 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 us and all people to do justice, that serving one another we may see your peace descend on us; defend all who are poor, hungry, oppressed, or imprisoned.

Lord, in your mercy,

*Hear our prayer.*

Give us reverence for your creation, that we may share its resources for the good of all and to your greater glory.

Lord, in your mercy,

*Hear our prayer.*

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit.

Lord, in your mercy,

*Hear our prayer.*

Send your blessings on those who have died, that trusting in the hope of the resurrection they may see you face to face.

Lord, in your mercy,

*Hear our prayer.*

*The Celebrant concludes*

Glory to you, O God, who hears our prayers and whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine; glory to you from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever. **Amen.**

### **The Peace**

*Celebrant* The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People* And also with you.

### **Offertory Hymn**

O come, all ye faithful vs. 1, 5, 6

Hymnal 83

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

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*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Celebrant*

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

*Celebrant and People*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hymnal S130

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*The Celebrant continues*

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself; yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.

Then the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you. On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, 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. Again, he gave thanks to you, 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."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with blessed Mary and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

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.*

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

*Celebrant and People*

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.

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

This is the true bread which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.  
*Whoever eats this bread will live for ever.*

### **Communion hymn**

Silent Night

Hymnal 111

### **Prayer after Communion**

Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Blessing**

Holy eternal Majesty,  
Holy incarnate Word,  
Holy abiding Spirit,  
Bless you for evermore. *Amen.*

### **Closing hymn**

Hark! the herald angels sing

Hymnal 87