

**Holy Trinity Church Dec 19, 2021**  
**Advent 4**

**Opening hymn:**

**Jesus loves me! This I know,  
 For the Bible tells me so;  
 Little ones to Him belong,  
 They are weak but He is strong.**

*Yes, Jesus loves me!  
 Yes, Jesus loves me!  
 Yes, Jesus loves me!  
 The Bible tells me so.*

**Jesus loves me! He who died  
 Heaven's gate to open wide;  
 He will wash away my sin,  
 Let His little child come in.**

**Jesus loves me! He will stay  
 Close beside me all the way;  
 He's prepared a home for me,  
 And some day His face I'll see.**

**Welcome and Children Time**

**Fourth Sunday in Advent: LOVE**

**L:** Love is a gift of God.

**P:** Love burns in our hearts.

**L:** Love is warmth in a world that is often bitter and cold.

**P:** In Jesus Christ, we receive God's gift of love.

*The candle is lit.*

**L:** Let us pray:

**P:** Source of light, shine in our lives and in your world with your unending love. Through Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

**The Penitential Rite**

**Seek the Lord while he wills to be found, call upon him when he draws near; let the wicked forsake their ways, and the evil ones their thoughts; and let them return to the Lord, and he will have compassion, and to our God, for he will richly pardon.**

**Isaiah 55.6, 7**

Invitation

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.

Confession

**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

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. Amen.

**Officiant:** Lord, open our lips,

(BAS pg.47)

**People:** And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

**Officiant:** O God, make speed to save us.

**People:** O Lord, make haste to help us.

**All:** 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.

**Venite (BAS p. 49)**

**Come, let us sing to the Lord;\* let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving\* and raise a loud shout to him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God,\* and a great king above all gods. In his hand are the caverns of the earth,\* and the heights of the hills are his also. The sea is his for he made it,\* and his hands have moulded the dry land. Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,\* and kneel before the Lord our maker. For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.\* Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

**The Proclamation of the Word****A READING FROM THE BOOK OF MICAH**

**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 labour 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.**

**MICAH 5:2-5A**

**Leader:** This is the Word of the Lord

**All:** Thanks be to God

PSALM 80:1-7

**REFRAIN: Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

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.

**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.

**Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

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.

**Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

**Leader:** This is the Word of the Lord

**All:** Thanks be to God

### **Gradual Hymn**

Be still and know, that I am God;

Be still and know, that I am God;

Be still and know, that I am God.

I am the Lord, that healeth thee;

I am the Lord, that healeth thee;

I am the Lord, that healeth thee.

In Thee O Lord, I put my trust;

In Thee O Lord, I put my trust:

In Thee O Lord, I put my trust.

### **The Gospel Reading**

**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

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 fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

[And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour 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."]

LUKE 1:39-45 (46-55)

**Reader:** The Gospel of Christ

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

Sermon

### Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed

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.

### **Offertory Hymn**

**1. I have decided to follow Jesus,  
I have decided to follow Jesus,  
I have decided to follow Jesus,  
No turning back, no turning back.**

**2. The world behind me, the cross before me;  
The world behind me, the cross before me;  
The world behind me, the cross before me;  
No turning back, no turning back.**

**3. Tho' none go with me, I still will follow,  
Tho' none go with me, I still will follow,  
Tho' none go with me, I still will follow,  
No turning back, no turning back.**

**4. Will you decide now to follow Jesus?  
Will you decide now to follow Jesus?  
Will you decide now to follow Jesus?  
No turning back, no turning back.**

**5. Sing glory, glory and hallelujah!  
Sing glory, glory and hallelujah!  
Sing glory, glory and hallelujah!  
No turning back, no turning back.**

### **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.**

### **Prayers of the People**

(In joyful expectation let us pray to our Saviour and Redeemer, saying, "**Lord Jesus, come soon!**")

O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Lord, and head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Branch of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Morning Star, splendour of the light eternal and bright Sun of righteousness: come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O King of the nations, you alone can fulfil their desires: Cornerstone, you make opposing nations one: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us, Lord our God.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!****Collect of the Day**

**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.**

**Lord's Prayer**

**Officiant:** And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**All:** 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.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn:

*When the sun comes up tomorrow  
Lord, I'll be praising you  
I'll give You all the glory  
In everything that I do  
I know that you love me  
And Lord, I love You too  
When the sun comes up tomorrow  
Lord, I'll be praising You*

**You took my sins to Calvary  
And died that I might live  
I know that I'm not worthy  
Of blessings that You give  
I know that You still love me  
And Lord, I love you too  
When the sun comes up tomorrow  
Lord, I'll be praising You**

*When the sun comes up tomorrow.....*

**I may be on the mountain  
Or in the valley low  
I may be full of heartaches  
Or burdened as I go  
Until my journey's ended  
And my life on earth is through  
When the sun comes up tomorrow  
Lord, I'll be praising You**

*When the sun comes up tomorrow.....*