

The First Sunday of Advent: November 30, 2025

Eucharist Liturgy

Opening Song:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gzJv2oTIGfk&list=RDgzJv2oTIGfk&start_radio=1 (City of God)

Opening Prayer: Let us begin as we begin all things: In the name of the Creator, the Word, and Holy Wisdom + Let us pray:

O Come, O Come Emmanuel! These are the words that we use to initiate Advent. We invite God to come anew, as innocent as a child and as wise as a prophet. Teach us how to love, to be students of love since we know that You are the Source of all love. May we seek the light to open our eyes to deeper truths. This we pray as Advent People. **AMEN.**

Penitential Rite:

God, our Mother and Father of compassion, through his living, dying, and rising, Jesus has revealed that nothing can separate us from the infinite love of God. May God give us pardon and peace, and may we forgive each other our failures to care for one another and for our earth in the name of God our creator, and of Jesus our brother, and of the Holy Spirit our wisdom. Amen.

Gloria:

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. O God, heavenly Being, all loving God and Mother, we praise you, we give you thanks, we honor all creation. Jesus Christ, blessed Son of the Creator, Our God, help us to become a loving people: for you have loved us from the beginning and you dwell within us always. For you, Eternal Word, are Whole and Holy, you are the light of our faith, one with the Trinity, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God our Father. Amen.

(Choose Readers)

FIRST READING: A Reading from the Book of Revelation 12:1-6

A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. She was pregnant and in labor with the pangs of childbirth.

Then a second sign appeared in the sky: a great, red dragon. With his tail, he swept down a third of the stars of the cosmos, hurling them to Earth. The dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, waiting to devour the child as soon as it was born. But when she gave birth, the child was swept up to God. The woman fled to the desert, to a place prepared for her by God, where she would receive care for one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

The Word of a Visionary known as John.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 122:1-2 (inspired and adapted by Nan Merrill) + Lk 1:76-80 + Ps 122:6-9

The Psalm response is: May peace be ours. May we live in peace.

R: May peace be ours. May we live in peace.

My spirit soared when a voice spoke to me:

"Let us go to the House of God."

Our feet are standing at the gates

of the path that leads to the Heart, the path that leads to peace.

R: May peace be ours. May we live in peace.

And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Holy,
for you will lead us, preparing the way.

You will give all people knowledge of their holiness
through forgiveness, by making what is wounded whole.

For the tenderness of God turns the earth towards a healing dawn,
a light to shine on those living in fear, in the shadow of death,
a light to guide our feet into the path of peace.

R: May peace be ours. May we live in peace.

Pray for the peace of the world! Pray all nations prosper as one!

Pray that peace reign among all peoples
and integrity dwell in every heart!

Then will friends and neighbors and former enemies
cry out in gratitude, "Peace is ours, we live in peace!"

For the sake of the House of God, for the sake of the Cosmos,
we will seek each other's good.

R: May peace be ours. May we live in peace.

**SECOND READING: A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans
13:8-12a**

Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another; the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not kill; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this saying: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no evil to the neighbor. Love is the fulfillment of the law.

Love, also, because the time has come. It is time for you to awaken from sleep. Our completion is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is late. Daybreak is near.

The Word of the Apostle Paul.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL: A Reading from the Gospel attributed to Matthew 25:1-13

Glory to you, O God.

When the Chosen One comes, the Reign of Heaven will be like this:

There were ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. The foolish took no extra oil with them for their lamps, but the wise brought extra oil for their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept.

Their lamps continued to burn oil. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him."

Then all the virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise replied, "No! There will not be enough for you and for us. Quick, go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves."

While they went to buy it, the bridegroom came. Those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was closed. Later the other virgins arrived, saying, "Please! Please open to us." But the bridegroom replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you."

Keep awake. You do not know the day nor the hour.

The Gospel of God.

Praise to you Jesus the Christ.

Homily

Profession of Faith

ALL: We believe in God, the Creator of the Universe, the fountain of life, flowing through every being. We believe in Jesus, the Christ, who reflects the face of God and the fullness of humanity. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God in the cosmos, who calls us to love and serve without counting the cost. We believe in our global communion with all in the circle of life. Amen to loving actions on behalf of justice, healing, compassion and equality for all in our world! We believe we are light to the world! Amen.

Prayers of the Faithful:

We invite you to give voice to any concerns, needs and thanksgivings. After each petition, please say, "Hear our prayer." **Our response: Amen.**

We believe that you hear our prayers and join us in our time of need and gratitude. For these and the requests we carry in the silence of our hearts, be near and fill us with your grace. **Amen.**

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Gifts: Please join me in the preparation of the gifts: Blessed are you, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life. **All: Blessed be God forever.**

Blessed are you, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink. **All: Blessed be God forever.**

My siblings, let us pray that these gifts may be acceptable to God, our Creator. + **All: Creator God, accept these gifts from our hands for the praise and glory of your name, for our good and the good of all your people.**

Ever-gentle God, Jesus accepted all who came to him as an example for us. Accept our gifts, our intentions and ourselves. We offer our lives in service to you and your people. Fill us with the spirit of humility and love. We ask this through Jesus our hope. **Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER IV [Diarmuid O'Murchu]

Gracious God, source and sustenance of life, redeeming presence to the pain and brokenness of our world, Holy Spirit, who enlivens and inebriates all that exists, we beseech Your healing power upon us and upon all we pray for today.

Down through the ages, You rescue us from darkness. You light up our ways with wise and holy people. You restore our lost fortunes, and You revive our dwindling hope.

For all You bring to our lives, and for all we seek amid pain and suffering, we acclaim Your love and greatness, and we join with all creation to proclaim our hymn of praise:

Holy, holy, holy, God of gentleness and light. Heaven and Earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God. Hosanna in the Highest.

Source of our health and wholeness, healer of body, mind and spirit, we bring before You the darkness of our world, and the pain and suffering of Your people. We seek to be healed and made whole; we seek to be reconciled and united; we seek peace in our hearts and in our world.

We ask You to awaken anew in our hearts the empowering grace of Your abundant Spirit, who infuses these gifts of bread and wine with the transforming energy of life, to nourish and sustain us in our time of need.

That same bread, Jesus took and broke, to restore the unity of our broken world. Jesus blessed You, God of healing and hope, then, along with the cup, Jesus shared the bread with those at table saying:

(Please extend your hands and say these words together)

Take this all of You and eat: This is my body which will be given up for You.

Then offering the cup of libation, poured out for the liberation of all, Jesus gave thanks and shared the cup in a spirit of mutual solidarity saying:

(Please extend your hands and say these words together)

Take this all of You and drink from it; This is the cup of my life-blood, the life of the new and everlasting covenant. In prophetic solidarity, it is poured out for you and for all. Sustain one another in the power of sacred memory.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

In faith and hope we are sustained, in grace our dignity reclaimed, In praise we thank our God.

As we gather around this Eucharistic table, we recall God's blessing and love from ages past, and we celebrate anew the gift of life which we share among us at this Eucharistic feast. May the Spirit of life and wholeness, who transforms the gifts we present, transform us, too, that we may be refreshed in our inner being and be empowered to bring mercy, love and healing to those whose lives we touch.

The bread we break and the cup we share are symbols of our world of abundance where all are invited to partake of the fullness of life. But that life we often impede by our greed and selfishness, and by our exploitation of other people.

So grant, that in union with all peoples, living and dead, we may strive to create a world where suffering and pain are diminished, where justice and peace are restored, and where all people can live in health and wholeness, united in acclaiming the God of life, whose abundance is offered to each and to all, 'til the Kingdom arrives in the fullness of time.

This prayer we make in the name of our healing and nurturing God, through, with and in whom we offer these gifts, sources of life, love and goodness, now and forever. Amen.

Kiss of Peace

The peace of Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Let us offer each other a sign of Christ's peace.

Now let us offer the prayer Jesus taught us to pray:

Our Father, Our Mother

**Who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin-dom 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. AMEN.

Communion: This is Jesus, the Bread of Life and the Wine of Salvation.
How blessed are we who are called to this table.

**All: God, by your invitation, we delight in our worthiness to receive
you.** (The Body and Blood of Christ. AMEN.)

Communion Meditation: Paul also tells them, "the God of peace will be with us." This happens when we deliberately focus our thoughts on goodness. We are encouraged to dwell on what is good and noble, right and pure, lovely and admirable, excellent and praiseworthy. Regardless of how chaotic the world is, regardless of how much we are suffering, we can choose where we direct our thoughts and energy. When we carefully, logically, reasonably focus our mind on God's goodness, the God of peace accompanies us. (Rev. Jennifer Gingras, UCC)

Announcements: MK not here on Dec. 14

Final Prayer: O Dispeller of the Night, Come.

Clothe us with the armor of the day. Enkindles us to be a beacon of hope to those living in the despair of poverty, homelessness, hunger, of war, danger, natural disaster, of loneliness, grief, illness.

Fill our hearts with the burning love of Christ, whose fiery compassion brought new life to those who are hopeless. Grant that, through our acts of mercy, our prayers of petition, and our words of care, we may offer this light as hope to the cold, bleak places in our world. **AMEN.** (Susi Kawolics)

Sending Forth: May our loving God bless you, in the name of the Creator, the Word and Holy Wisdom + Our mass has ended but our service has just begun. Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.