

**Liturgy – Advent 4**  
**December 21, 2024 at 5pm, Light of Christ ECC**  
**Theme: Nurturing the Word, The Word Nurtures Us**  
 Responses of the people are in *bold*

**Welcome:**

**Opening Song: Maranatha**

**Maranatha (III)**

Anselm Hollingsworth, O.S.B.



1. Re - joice, be glad Je - ru - sa - lem; The  
 2. John Bap - tist help us to fol - low the way; The  
 3. The Vir - gin Ma - ry car - ries the word; The

8  
 Lord is near, the Lord is near. Your Sa - rior quick - ly  
 Lord is near, the Lord is near. Make straight His path for that  
 Lord is near, the Lord is near. Be still, be calm so His

11  
 comes to you; The Lord is near.  
 glo - ri - ous day; The Lord is near.  
 voice can be heard; The Lord is near.

14 1-2  
 Come Lord; come Lord; Al - le - lu - ia. Be -  
 Come Lord; come Lord; Al - le - lu - ia.

18  
 hold, the Most High King shall come; The Lord is near.  
 Turn to the Lord with joy in your heart; The Lord is near.

22 Final  
 3. Come Lord; come Lord; Al - le - lu - ia. Lift up your voice Je -

27  
 ru - sa - lem; The Lord is near!

Teri: Let us continue as one expression of God's people. + Father,  
Son, Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Teri: May the Love of God, the care and compassion of the Incarnation,  
and the Fire of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## **Penitential Rite**

### KYRIE

Refrain

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy.

Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen. © 1984, GIA Publications, Inc.

## **Putting On Our Advent Ritual/Opening Prayer**

(NOTE: For the 4 Weeks of Advent, please bring your own prayer shawl from home. For those in the sanctuary, we will have a variety of scarves to borrow for those who don't have a prayer shawl. For those at home, you could use a blanket if you don't have a prayer shawl.)

Teri: (Also, winter solstice)

Teri: Let us pray....

Dear Lord,

that I may wear a shawl of strength, faith,  
health, and love.

Give this shawl the ability to comfort,  
the ability to heal,  
the ability to give strength where it is needed,  
and by Your will it will be.

Amen.

In Your Good Name we Pray, **Amen.**

**First Reading:** Irene

Our First Reading is from the Prophet Baruch (4:1, 36-5:4, 7-9)

She, Wisdom, is the book of the instruction of God, the  
law that endures forever;  
All who cling to Her will live,  
but those will die who forsake Her.

[Wisdom dwelt with God's people in exile, and will journey with them  
home.] Look East!

See Wisdom's joy that is coming to you from God!  
Look! Here come your children, from whom you were parted!  
From east to west they are gathered by the word of the Holy One,  
rejoicing in God's glory.

Take off your garment of sorrow and distress.  
Put on forever the splendor of God's glory.  
Wrap the mantle of justice around you.  
Place on your head the diadem of the Holy One's brilliance.

God will reveal your splendor to all under the heavens.  
You will be named by God forever:  
"The Peace of Justice" and "Divine Glory."

This has been a reading from Baruch.

***Thanks be to God.***

**Psalm: #66 Come, Lord! Maranatha**

**COME, LORD! MARANATHA**

*Come Now, Emmanuel*

Ricky Manalo, CSP

Verses

Week 1

1. Now is the time to wake from sleep; sal - va - tion is
2. Cast off the deeds of the dark. Put on the
3. Con-stant - ly watch, stay a - wake. No one can
4. In-crease in faith; a - bound in love. Strength-en our

1. close at hand.	Mov - ing from night
2. ar - mor of light.	Turn to the source
3. know the time.	Wheth - er at dusk
4. hearts this day.	So be on your guard and

1. in - to day,	lift up your voic - es and pray:
2. of the day.	Lift up your voic - es and pray:
3. or at dawn,	we sing this prayer and song:
4. stay a - wake.	Come, lift up your voic - es and pray:

Refrain

Advent Weeks 1-3	Come, Lord! Ma - ra - na - tha!	Come and bring us your
Advent Week 4	Come now, Em - man - u - el!	Come and bring us your

peace.	Come, Lord, Ma - ra - na - tha!	Come to us;
peace.	Come now, Em - man - u - el!	Come to us;

set us free.	Come, Lord, and bring us your peace.
set us free.	Come now and bring us your peace.

Week 2

1. Now is the time; prepare the way; salvation is close at hand. Make straight the paths of the Lord. Lift up your voices and pray:	2. Now is the time; reform your lives. The reign of God is at hand! On that day a shoot shall sprout, blossoming; so let us pray:
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**Second Reading: Irene**

The Second Reading is from Hebrews (10:5-7, 15-16, 18)

Reminding us of the law's meaning, Jesus spoke to us with words from the Psalms, saying:

*“Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, O God,  
but a body You prepared for me.  
In holocausts and sin offerings, You took no delight.”*

It is written of me in the scroll, ‘Behold, I come to do the desire of your heart, O God.’”

The Holy Spirit also speaks to us through our Hebrew Scriptures, saying:

*“This is the covenant I will establish with them. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them upon their minds”.*


For where there is forgiveness, sacrifice for sin is no longer necessary.

This has been a Reading from Hebrews.

***Thanks be to God.***


## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Cantor:*




1, 5. Praise the God of all cre - a - tion, God of  
2. Tree of life and end-less wis - dom, be our  
3. Liv - ing wa - ter, we are thirst - ing for the  
4. Come, O Spir - it, kin - dle fire in the

*All:*



mer - cy and com - pas - sion:  
root, our growth and glo - ry: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
life that you have prom - ised:  
hearts of all your peo - ple:



lu - ia! Praise the Word of truth and life!

Text: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen  
Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen  
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### Gospel:

The Word of Christ be with you all. ***And also with you.***  
A Reading from the Gospel According to Luke (1:57-80)  
***Glory to you, O God+***

When the time arrived for Elizabeth to give birth, she bore a son. Elizabeth had kept to herself till now; but her neighbors and relatives heard that God had lavished love on her, and they shared her joy.

On the eighth day after the birth of her child, it was time to have him circumcised. They decided to name him Zechariah after his father. But his mother said, "No. He is to be called John." They said to her, "None of your relatives has this name." They began motioning to Zechariah to find out what he wanted the child to be named. The father asked for a writing-tablet and wrote: "His name is John." They were all astonished. At that instant,

Zechariah's mouth was opened and his tongue freed. He began to speak, praising God.

Awe overcame all their neighbors, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. Everyone who heard about them pondered them and said, "What, then, will this child be?"

Then Zechariah his father, filled with the holy Spirit, prophesied, saying:

Blessed be God, Who visits humanity bringing healing and wholeness to all, raising a horn for liberation and wholeness within the house of David and Bathsheba, God's servants of old, as promised through the holy prophets of the ages.

You reconcile us with our enemies and all who hate us.

You show compassion to our ancestors.

You remember Your holy covenants and the oath sworn to Abraham and Sarah, our ancestors in faith.

You swore that, once reconciled with our enemies, we might worship You in holiness and righteousness all our days.

And you, John, will be called a prophet of the Holy.

You will lead us, preparing the way.

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

God's tenderness will turn Earth towards a healing sun enlivening those who dwell in the shadow of fear and death.

You will guide our feet in a path of peace.

And indeed, the hand of God was with John. The child grew and became strong in spirit. He lived in the desert until the day he appeared openly to Israel.

This has been a reading from the Gospel of Luke. ***Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.***

## Homily - Teri

### Prayers of the People - Irene

Teri: I'd like to invite "Irene" back to lead us in the prayers that have been prepared for today. The rest of you may remain seated.

Irene : Our response today is: Holy One, nurture us. ***Holy One, nurture us.***

For people of every nation, across the globe. That the light of justice may shine brightly in our world, illuminating the way toward peace and understanding. We pray: ***Holy One, nurture us.***

For our church and our faith leaders. that we may be beacons of faith, hope and love, sharing God's grace abundantly. We pray: ***Holy One, nurture us.***

For those who are sick (especially \_\_\_\_\_). For those who feel alone or have no one to pray for them, especially all those who call the streets their home. That they may know that God is with them. We pray: ***Holy One, nurture us.***

Irene: For those who have died, especially Natalie Steele. That they may experience the joy of everlasting life. And for those who mourn the loss of loved ones. That God's peace may bring them solace during this time. We pray: ***Holy One, nurture us.***

Irene : Fr. Teri will now read the prayers that have been typed in the comments (PAUSE until Teri tells you to go on.) For these and for all the prayers we share through our hearts, we pray: ***Holy One, nurture us.***

Irene : In addition, Prayer Partners will be available after Mass here in the Sanctuary by the back altar. For those at home, or those who have a prayer to share during the week, you can email our Prayer Companion Team at [prayercompanionteam@lightofchristecc.org](mailto:prayercompanionteam@lightofchristecc.org) and someone will reach out to you. These prayer ministries welcome and invite you, in



confidence, to share your concerns in more detail or depth, or even to pray for you when you can't find the words.

Teri: Collect (*adlib*)

**Sign of Peace**

**Offertory Song: # 76 Bread of Life**

**BREAD OF LIFE (ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SETTING)**

Bernadette Farrell

Refrain

Bread of life, hope of the world, Je-sus Christ, our broth - er:

feed us now, give us life, lead us to one an - oth - er.

\*Verses

1. Be with your peo-ple, Lord, send us your sav-ing Word: Je - sus  
 2. Bring to our world of fear the truth we long to hear: Je - sus  
 3. A child is born for us, a son is giv'n to us, In our  
 4. With our own eyes we see, with our own ears we hear The sal-  
 5. You are the hope of all, our prom-ise and our call, Ra-diant

to Refrain

1. Christ, light of glad - ness, come a-mong us now.  
 2. Christ, hope of a - ges, come to save us now.  
 3. midst, Christ, our Lord and God comes as one who serves.  
 4. va - tion of all the world, God's in - car - nate Word.  
 5. light in our dark - ness, truth to set us free.

\*Verses 1-2, Advent; verses 3-5, Christmas. © 1982, 1987, Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

## **Liturgy of the Eucharist:**

Teri: Blessed are you, Loving God of all Creation, through your goodness we have this bread and this wine to place on your table. Work of earth and human hands. May these become our spiritual food and drink. ***Blessed be God forever.***

Teri: Blessed are you, Loving God of all Creation, through your goodness we have these gifts to place on your table. They represent our entire lives, and all that we have to offer. These gifts have traveled through purses, pockets, and even the mail. May they become the Light of Christ in your world. ***Blessed be God forever.***

Teri: Pray my sisters and brothers, my family, that these our gifts, our lives may continue to be blessed by our Loving God.

***May God accept the sacrifice at our hands, for the praise and glory of God's name, for our good and the good of all God's world.***

Teri: The peace of our God be with you all.  
***And also with you.***

Teri: Let us open up our hearts.  
***We open them up to God.***

Teri: Let us give thanks to our Loving God.  
***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

## **Eucharistic Prayer:**

Teri: We thank you, God, for this good Earth, with all of its many diverse peoples and elements. We thank you for its wisdom, and all that it has to teach us as it spins like Your own rosary bead. Let us not only cherish, but nurture the peoples and creatures, the landscape and the waters and the atmosphere of this rich planet. Let Your Word speak shalom, peace into every corner of your Creation.

Creative God, breath of all life through whom all things are created and sustained; all sons and daughters and children, flocks and herds, all birds of the air and fish of the sea. You walked this earth as child and Creator. You touched the soil, quenched your thirst, embraced this world, shared joy and light, love and laughter. You moved toward those who lived in shadows to shine your Loving Light. Creative God, breath of all life through whom all things are created and sustained, we delight in You. Now with all of creation, with the angels and shepherds, and all the holy ones who have passed the thin veil before us, we are glad to sing of your glory:

### **Holy, Holy:**

#### SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
 God of pow - er, God of might, heav - en and  
 earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is  
 he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
 Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -  
 san - na in the high - est.

Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen, © 1984, GIA Publications, Inc.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Teri: God, Goodness of the World, you prepare tables before us. Send your Holy Spirit upon us gathered around tables throughout your world and gathered as your Body that we may become signs of your love and transforming work in the world. + Let also your Spirit come upon these gifts of bread and wine, the meal before us to make them holy so that they may become for us the Body and Blood of our brother, Jesus the Christ.

Today, we gather to remember that on the night before he died, Jesus ate with his followers and his friends. We recall how he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it, he broke it, and gave it to them saying - **"Take this all of you and eat it. This is my body which will be given up for you."**

We remember also, that on the night before Jesus died, He took the cup filled with wine, and after giving thanks, passed it to his friends, saying, **"Take this all of you and drink from it. This is the cup of my blood. The blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me."**

### Memorial Acclamation:

Teri: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.....

#### MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION A

The musical notation consists of three staves. The first staff is for the Priest and contains the lyrics "Let us pro-claim the mys - ter - y of faith:". The second and third staves are for the congregation (All) and contain the lyrics "Christ has died, Christ is ris-en, Christ will come a - gain." and "Christ has died, Christ is ris-en, Christ will come a - gain!" respectively. The music is in a 4/4 time signature and a key signature of one flat (B-flat).

Text: ICEL, © 1973  
Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen, © 1984, GIA Publications, Inc.

Teri: Beloved God, Creator of all, You have invited each of us here today, And so we gather around these tables, knowing that all tables are your table, O God, and all food is sacrament.

We come from many places, differing in age, differing in race, differing in orientation and abilities, differing in politics and even religion. As we come together we discover that our differences are indeed a blessing, the more differences we bring, the more fully we experience the presence of the sacred, of You God, in our midst.

We remember in prayer our chosen Shepherds, Bishop Kae and Bishop Paul. Grant them grace for leadership each day. And bless their families who must share these loved ones with us. We are thankful for them, and the love and support they offer our bishops.

We trust that all our beloved who have died, now rest in your eternal embrace. May we one day join all the holy ones with you in the Eternal Embrace of Love.

Teri: Together now, we say.....

***Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours all loving God, forever and ever.***

**Great Amen:**

AMEN

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the 'Great Amen'. The music is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some notes beamed together. The lyrics 'A - men, a - men, a - men!' are written below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the melody and also ends with a double bar line.

Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen, © 1984, GIA Publications, Inc.

## LORD'S PRAYER

Teri: Together we turn now to words, words of prayer, as we nurture ourselves and the world. Let us pray these words that people have prayed with Jesus for centuries.

***Our Father, 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...***

***For thine is the Kin-dom, the power, and the glory...now and forever. Amen.***

## Fraction Rite:

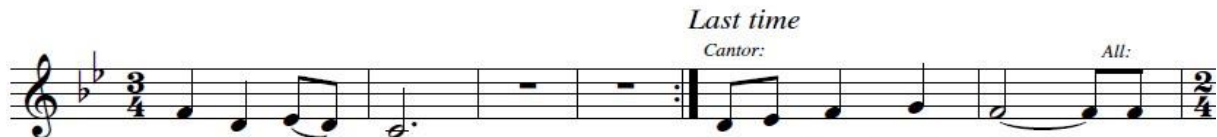
### AGNUS DEI



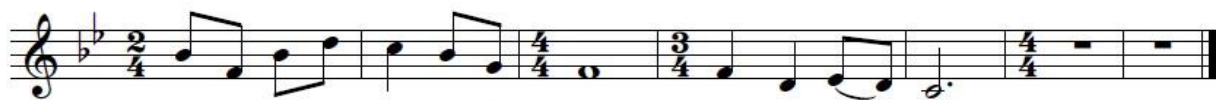
1. Je-sus, Lamb of
2. Je-sus, Bread of
3. Je-sus, Prince of



God,  
Life, you take a-way the sins of the world: have  
Peace,



mer-cy on us. Je-sus, Lamb of God; you



take a-way the sins of the world: grant us your peace.

Teri: This is the Living God. This is the Body and Blood of Christ. This is the one who transforms the world. Blessed are we who are called to this meal.

***God, I am ready to receive you. Because by your invitation, I am here.***

(Invitation to Communion)

*We are invited to these tables just as we are.*

*Wherever you are on this journey of life, you are welcome here: here in this place, here in this community, here at this table. Let us look for God in the breaking of this bread.*

# Communion Song: #325 The Body of Christ

## THE BODY OF CHRIST

Sarah Hart



1-3. This is the Bod - y of Christ,

beau - ti - ful, bro - ken and  
word be - come flesh by his  
gath - ered in hope and in



1. blessed; mir - a - cle of the great - est of loves, †  
2. grace; mir - a - cle of a mys - t'ry no tongue †  
3. faith; bound by this love, this Bod - y and Blood he



1. pres - ence of God in our midst. This is the Cup that he  
2. ev - er could ful - ly ex - plain. This is the Blood of the  
3. of - fers a - gain and a - gain. All of the hun - ger we



1. shares, end - less - ly emp - tied and poured; sac - ri - fice  
2. Lamb, gift of a heart o - pen wide; poured from the  
3. have, sat - is - fied on - ly by this; so we re -



1. made so that we might be saved † now and for - ev - er - more.  
2. Cross to the al - tar where love † com - forts and fills and pro - vides.  
3. ceive, we re - mem - ber, be - lieve and share so that oth - ers may live.



A - men, a - men! We are healed by the Bread of life.



A - men, a - men! We are one in the Bod - y of Christ.



We are one in the Bod - y of Christ.

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### **Prayer after Communion:**

Teri: Please rise in body or spirit.

Let us pray.....God, in this meal You have fed us with Your Presence and Your Word. May we nurture that Word in ourselves and in our lives as we prepare for Your new coming this Christmas. ... In Jesus' nurturing name we pray, **Amen.**

### **Closing Rite:**

Teri: May the Love of God be with you. **And also with you.**

Teri: Let us open our hearts to receive God's blessing.

God of Day and God of Night,  
Bless us with just enough light and just enough night to know you in the sun and in the moon, in the stars and in one another. We ask for this blessing now, + in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Please repeat our sending forth after me:

We are Light of Christ.... **We are Light of Christ**  
Let us go forth as such..... **Let us go forth as such**  
Loving and serving God..... **Loving and serving God**  
As we get to love and serve in God's world....**As we get to love and serve in God's world.**


And the people respond together, **Thanks be to God.**

# Closing Song: # 58 Emmanuel

## EMMANUEL

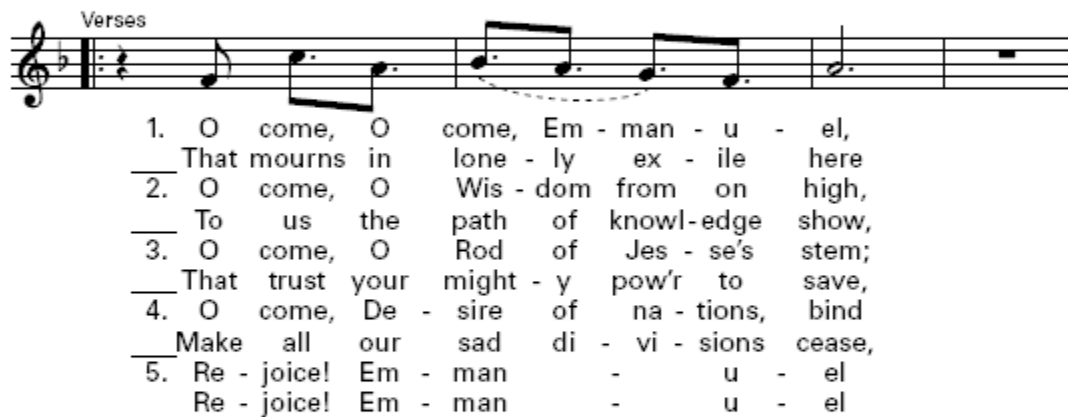
Steve Angrisano

Refrain



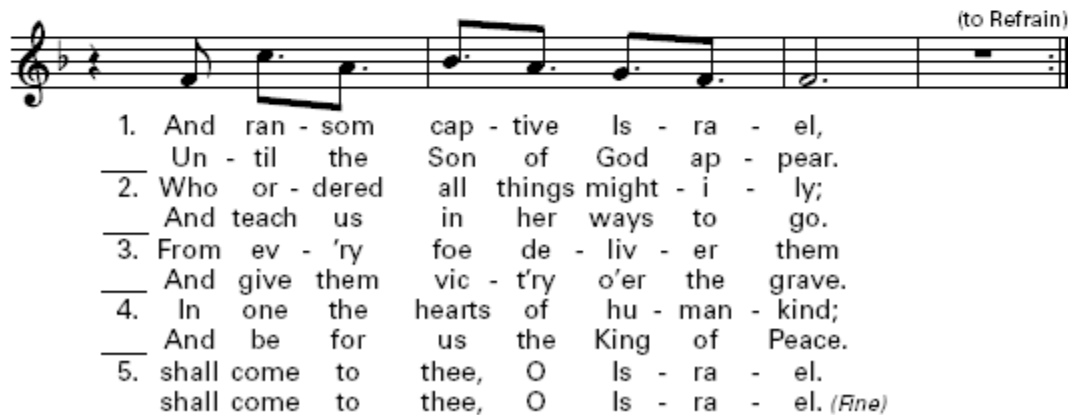
Come, come, Em-man - u-el! Son of God, ap-pear. Heav-en and  
earth, re-joice! Sal - va-tion is draw-ing near.

Verses



1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el,  
That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
2. O come, O Wis - dom from on high,  
To us the path of knowl-edge show,
3. O come, O Rod of Jes - se's stem;  
That trust your might - y pow'r to save,
4. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind  
Make all our sad di - vi - sions cease,
5. Re - joice! Em - man - u - el  
Re - joice! Em - man - u - el

(to Refrain)



1. And ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,  
Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
2. Who or - dered all things might - i - ly;  
And teach us in her ways to go.
3. From ev - 'ry foe de - liv - er them  
And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
4. In one the hearts of hu - man - kind;  
And be for us the King of Peace.
5. shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.  
shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el. *(Fine)*

Text: Refrain, Steve Angrisano; verses based on Advent 'O' Antiphons.  
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