

Welcome to
St. Michael's University Church

An inclusive and caring community
in the heart of Isla Vista



Sunday, December 20, 2020
The Fourth Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE
RINGING OF ISAIAH THE BELL

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

After the bells ring, the congregation stands and sings the following as an appointed person lights the Advent Wreath:

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart.

COLLECT

God is with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. (The celebrant says the collect, to which the people respond **Amen.**)

WELCOME

SONG

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Angels we have heard on high
Singing sweetly o’er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains

CHORUS:

Gloria, in excelsis Deo (REPEAT)

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?
CHORUS

READING: Luke 1: 26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

CANTICLE: The Song of Mary (*Magnificat*) (Read antiphonally by verse)

My soul magnifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel,
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children for ever.

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.

GOSPEL HYMN: "O Come O Come Emmanuel"

O come, o come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

CHORUS:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!

GOSPEL: Luke 1: 39-45

Leader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: **Glory to you, Lord 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 leapt 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 leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

GOSPEL HYMN: "O Come O Come Emmanuel" (cont.)

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel

SERMON

MUSTARD SEED

SONG

"Let It Be"

When I find myself in times of trouble
Mother Mary comes to me
Speaking words of wisdom, let it be
And in my hour of darkness
She is standing right in front of me
Speaking words of wisdom, let it be
Let it be, let it be, let it be, let it be
Whisper words of wisdom, let it be

And when the broken-hearted people
Living in the world agree
There will be an answer, let it be
For though they may be parted
There is still a chance that they will see
There will be an answer, let it be

Let it be, let it be, let it be, let it be
There will be an answer, let it be
Let it be, let it be, let it be, let it be
Whisper words of wisdom, let it be
Let it be, let it be, let it be, yeah, let it be
Whisper words of wisdom, let it be

And when the night is cloudy
There is still a light that shines on me
Shine on until tomorrow, let it be
I wake up to the sound of music,
Mother Mary comes to me
Speaking words of wisdom, let it be

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With hope and expectation, we turn our hearts to God in prayer.

For all victims of poverty, violence, desperation, and other forms of suffering, we pray.

God of Love, hear the prayers of your people.

For leaders and nurturers of many kinds, that they may lead with character, kindness, and compassion.

God of Love, hear the prayers of your people.

For the expansive beauty of your creation and our renewed care for this planet, we pray.

God of Love, hear the prayers of your people.

For the good work of this community.

May we bring God's healing to Isla Vista and beyond.

God of Love, hear the prayers of your people.

For what and for whom else would we like to pray today?

(Pause)

For all of these, we pray to God,

God of Love, hear the prayers of your people.

Prayer Collect

And now, as Christ has taught us, we 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, and the power, and the glory
For ever and ever. Amen**

BLESSING

SONG “Soon and Very Soon”

Soon and very soon we are going to see the king (REPEAT)
Hallelujah, Hallelujah—we are going to see the king

No more crying there, we are going to see the king (REPEAT)
Hallelujah, Hallelujah—we are going to see the king

We will all be there, we are going to see the king (REPEAT)
Hallelujah, Hallelujah—we are going to see the king

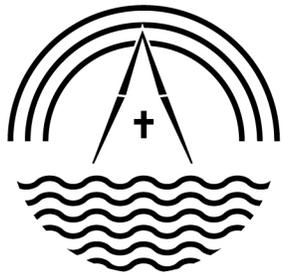
A SIGN OF PEACE

SENDING

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!!!

POSTLUDE



ST. MICHAEL'S
UNIVERSITY CHURCH

IN THE NAME OF
THESE REFUGEES

