

Welcome to
St. Michael's University Church

An inclusive and caring community
in the heart of Isla Vista



Sunday, December 5, 2021
The Second 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 “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

O, come, our Dayspring from on high
And cheer us by your drawing nigh
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight

CHORUS

O, come, our Wisdom from on high
Who ordered all things mightily
To us the path of knowledge show
and teach us in her ways to go

CHORUS

READING: Malachi 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

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

People: **Thanks be to God!**

CANTICLE 16 Song of Zechariah, Luke 1 (Read antiphonally by *)

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;
God has come to the people and set them free. *

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way, *

To give the people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins. *

In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us, *

To shine on those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

GOSPEL HYMN: "O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

O Lord, hear my prayer/ O Lord, hear my prayer
When I call, answer me
O Lord, hear my prayer/ O Lord, hear my prayer
Come and listen to me

GOSPEL: Luke 3: 1–6

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

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

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.
Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

GOSPEL HYMN: "O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

SERMON

SONG

“I Shall Be Released”

They say everything can be replaced
Yet every distance is not near
So I remember every face
Of every man who put me here

CHORUS:

I see my light come shining
From the west unto the east
Any day now, any day now
I shall be released

They say everyone needs protection
They say everyone must fall
Yet I swear I see my reflection
Some place so high above this wall
CHORUS

Standing next to me in this lonely crowd
Is a man who swears he's not to blame
All day long I hear him shout so loud
Crying out that he was framed
CHORUS

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

Anyone who feels inspired may read one of the following prayers.

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

The Peace

Announcements

The Offertory: *After the offering, all who are able stand and sing:*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God above ye heavenly host

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

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 It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Loving God. By water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Miriam, Hannah, and Mary, with every nameless and unremembered child of God, and with all the company of heaven, singing:

Celebrant and People sing "Santo, Santo, Santo"

Santo, santo, santo
Mi corazón te adora
Mi corazón te sabe decir:
"Santo eres, Señor"

Holy and gracious God:

You made us in your infinite love, and when we turned away from that love, you sent Jesus Christ to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, and to draw us near to you.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, Jesus took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ:

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. AMEN.

And now, as Christ has taught us, we pray:

**Our God, 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**

The Breaking of the Bread

SILENCE

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.
Everyone is welcome at God's table.

Holy Eucharist

The Body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven. **Amen.**
The Blood of Christ, the Cup of Salvation. **Amen.**

*If you want to receive communion, please join us as we form a circle.
If you would like a blessing, place your arms across your chest.
Please note that we use gluten free bread for communion.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand if you are able.

Let us pray.

**Eternal God,
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

SONG "Freedom Highway" (by the Staples Singers)

CHORUS:

March down freedom highway
Marchin' each and every day (REPEAT)

Made up my mind that I won't turn around
(REPEAT LINE)

There is just one thing
I can't understand, my friend
Why some folks think freedom
Is not designed for all men
There are so many people
Living their lives perplexed
Wonderin' in their minds
What's gonna' happen next?
CHORUS

Children in the desert
Their parents taken away
The whole world is wonderin'
What's wrong with the United States?
Yes, we want peace
If it can be found
We're marching freedom highway
And we're not gonna' turn around
CHORUS

SENDING

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

IN THE NAME OF THESE REFUGEES

